

Meeting the Standard in Connecticut

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KINDERGARTEN

Standard	Description	Merriam-Webster Offering
READING		
Concepts About Print 2, 4	Recognize sentences made of separate words. Distinguish letters from words.	<i>Merriam-Webster's Primary Dictionary</i> is a beginning dictionary with alphabet letters highlighted in yellow, words in each alphabet section in contrasting red, and short sentences built around those words in blue.
Phonological Awareness 8	Produce rhyming sounds orally in response to spoken words.	<i>Merriam-Webster's Alphabet Book</i> offers unique opportunities for students to identify rhyming words and to produce their own when the lively and engaging alphabet rhymes are read aloud to them.
Phonological Awareness 10-11	Identify spoken words with similar initial sounds. Identify spoken words with similar ending sounds.	Students hear lots of words that begin or end with the same sound when they listen to the rhymes in <i>Merriam-Webster's Alphabet Book</i> and (in the opening page for every new letter) <i>Merriam-Webster's Primary Dictionary</i> .
Phonics 17-18	Demonstrate letter-sound correspondences for all single consonants. Identify letters matched to short vowel sounds.	The entertaining poems and colorful illustrations in <i>Merriam-Webster's Alphabet Book</i> and <i>Merriam-Webster's Primary Dictionary</i> aptly describe and demonstrate the sound-letter correspondences of each letter of the alphabet.
High-Frequency Words 21	Recognize some high-frequency words taught in context.	The many illustrations along with the simple vocabulary throughout <i>Merriam-Webster's Primary Dictionary</i> help students learn to recognize words by sight.
Fluency 23	Identify patterns in books, rhymes, and songs.	Students will hear both rhyme and alliteration when <i>Merriam-Webster's Alphabet Book</i> is read aloud to them.
Vocabulary 25	Confirm meanings of unknown words, using prior knowledge, context, photos, illustrations, and diagrams.	The profuse, detailed illustrations and simple explanations in <i>Merriam-Webster's Primary Dictionary</i> help students with meanings of words and concepts (for example, two equal piles of candy illustrate the entry for <i>divide</i>).
Reading Comprehension: After Reading 8	Answer literal and easy inferential questions about texts read aloud.	<i>Merriam-Webster's Primary Dictionary</i> , with its entries filled with things to know about words, offers lots of material for questions and answers about the meanings, uses, and history of words.
ORAL LANGUAGE		
Speaking 9	Recite short poems, rhymes, and songs.	<i>Merriam-Webster's Primary Dictionary</i> is generously interspersed with original and classic rhymes and poems to inspire student recitations.

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KINDERGARTEN, *continued*

Standard	Description	Merriam-Webster Offering
WRITING		
Writing Conventions 1	Use periods, question marks, and exclamation marks at the end of sentences.	Students see the different kinds of end punctuation in <i>Merriam-Webster's Primary Dictionary</i> amidst its variety of things to read, such as clever comments that end with exclamation points and riddles that end with question marks.
Writing Conventions 5	Use capital letters to begin sentences, names, and the word "I."	<i>Merriam-Webster's Primary Dictionary</i> often shows entry words at the beginning of example sentences as well as within them, so students can see the capitalization process in action. Some entries also use the entry word as part of a name (for example, <i>Mother Goose</i> at the entry for <i>mother</i>).
Writing Conventions 8	Spell high-frequency words, e.g., <i>I, a, it, go, the, and</i> .	A special spelling help section in the back of <i>Merriam-Webster's Primary Dictionary</i> features common sight words.

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GRADE ONE

Standard	Description	Merriam-Webster Offering
READING		
Concepts About Print 2	Distinguish words from sentences.	<i>Merriam-Webster's Primary Dictionary</i> is especially written for students in grades K–2. Its nearly 1,000 entry words are big, bold, and red; within each entry there are sentences in blue that feature the entry word in boldface.
Phonological Awareness 5	Identify initial, medial, and final sounds in words.	The lively rhymes in <i>Merriam-Webster's Alphabet Book</i> and (in the opening page for each letter) in <i>Merriam-Webster's Primary Dictionary</i> give students exposure to words that share beginning, middle, and ending sounds.
Phonological Awareness 6	Distinguish long and short vowel sounds in spoken one-syllable words, e.g., <i>bit/bite</i> .	The alphabet rhymes in <i>Merriam-Webster's Alphabet Book</i> and in <i>Merriam-Webster's Primary Dictionary</i> give short and long sounds of featured vowels.
Phonics 11	Identify uppercase and lowercase letters when shown out of order.	<i>Merriam-Webster's Alphabet Book</i> and <i>Merriam-Webster's Primary Dictionary</i> offer colorful full-page illustrations showing the shapes of both capital and lowercase letters.
Phonics 12	Match sounds to letters to make words.	The alphabet rhymes in <i>Merriam-Webster's Alphabet Book</i> and <i>Merriam-Webster's Primary Dictionary</i> help students with phonics, because they show how letters can make different sounds depending on their placement and combination within a word.
Phonics 13	Know sounds for common letter patterns, e.g., <i>sh, th, ch, oo, ee, igh, ing, ed</i> .	The alphabet rhymes in <i>Merriam-Webster's Alphabet Book</i> and in <i>Merriam-Webster's Primary Dictionary</i> use words spelled with blends and digraphs. A special page at the end of the Alphabet Book features the diphthong <i>oo</i> .
Phonics 16	Decode compound words, contractions, and words with common inflectional endings, e.g., <i>-s, -es, -ed, -ing</i> .	<i>Merriam-Webster's Primary Dictionary</i> gives many examples of compound words formed from entry words (for example, <i>lunchbox</i> and <i>lunchroom</i> at the entry for <i>lunch</i>). Most entries give inflected forms of entry words.
Phonics 17	Use context clues and pictures to aid in the decoding of new words when letters are not sufficient.	<i>Merriam-Webster's Primary Dictionary</i> offers students opportunity for new vocabulary acquisition from context and pictures (for example, students can use context and the illustration in the word history at the entry for <i>coach</i> to understand the meaning of <i>carriage</i>).
Vocabulary 22	Recognize words that have more than one meaning.	Explanations in <i>Merriam-Webster's Primary Dictionary</i> introduce students to the concept of multiple meanings and uses of words; for example, at the entry for <i>high</i> , the senses of a <i>high</i> sound, a <i>high</i> price, <i>high</i> waves, and <i>high</i> winds are all explained.
Vocabulary 25	Identify common antonyms and synonyms.	Many entries in <i>Merriam-Webster's Primary Dictionary</i> include information about synonyms and antonyms.
Reading Comprehension: During Reading 30	Ask and answer questions about text.	<i>Merriam-Webster's Primary Dictionary</i> , with its entries filled with things to know about words, offers material for questions and answers about the meanings, uses, and history of words.

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GRADE ONE, *continued*

Standard	Description	Merriam-Webster Offering
ORAL LANGUAGE		
Speaking 10	Use vocabulary that is accurate and reasonably specific.	Students can use <i>Merriam-Webster's Primary Dictionary</i> to get help with more precise word choice; for example the names for parts of a leg at the entry for <i>leg</i> , and the names of parts of a castle at the entry for <i>castle</i> .
WRITING		
Capitalization/ Punctuation/ Usage 3	Use periods, question marks, and exclamation points.	Students see the different kinds of end punctuation in <i>Merriam-Webster's Primary Dictionary</i> amidst its variety of things to read, such as clever comments that end with exclamation points and riddles that end with question marks.
Capitalization/ Punctuation/ Usage 4	Use nouns, verbs, and adjectives.	<i>Merriam-Webster's Primary Dictionary</i> gives a part-of-speech label for each entry word, and many entries show and explain the entry word as more than one part of speech—for example, <i>itch</i> as both a noun and a verb.
Capitalization/ Punctuation/ Usage 5	Use simple singular and plural nouns, e.g., <i>house/houses</i> , <i>girl/girls</i> .	<i>Merriam-Webster's Primary Dictionary</i> shows plural forms at most noun entries.
Capitalization/ Punctuation/ Usage 6	Use a capital letter for the first word in a sentence.	<i>Merriam-Webster's Primary Dictionary</i> often shows entry words at the beginning of example sentences as well as within them, so students can see the initial-word capitalization process in action.
Writing Genres, Traits, and Crafts: Descriptive 15	Use adjectives.	Certain entries in <i>Merriam-Webster's Primary Dictionary</i> offer suggestions for descriptive adjectives that can be applied to an entry word (for example, words to describe a fox at the entry for <i>fox</i>).
Writing Genres, Traits, and Crafts: Narrative 17	Use action verbs.	The thousands of clearly rendered illustrations by acclaimed children's artist Ruth Heller in <i>Merriam-Webster's Primary Dictionary</i> help students understand and remember action verbs.

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GRADE TWO

Standard	Description	Merriam-Webster Offering
READING		
Phonemic Awareness 1	Understand that sounds of language contribute to fluency of texts, e.g., rhyme and rhythm of poetry, books by Dr. Seuss.	Students will not soon tire of hearing the clever rhymes in <i>Merriam-Webster's Alphabet Book</i> by acclaimed children's author Ruth Heller.
Phonemic Awareness 2	Add, delete, and change targeted sounds to modify or change words, e.g., <i>c<u>a</u>t</i> to <i>c<u>o</u>t</i> .	<i>Merriam-Webster's Alphabet Book</i> and <i>Merriam-Webster's Primary Dictionary</i> help students with phonemic awareness. The entertaining poems show how words change when beginning, middle, and ending sounds change.
Phonics/Word Study 3	Identify sounds automatically for all long and short vowels.	The alphabet rhymes in <i>Merriam-Webster's Alphabet Book</i> and in <i>Merriam-Webster's Primary Dictionary</i> give short and long sounds of featured vowels.
Phonics/Word Study 7	Decode multisyllabic words, using strategies, i.e., dividing compound words or syllables and separating suffixes and prefixes.	<i>Merriam-Webster's Primary Dictionary</i> gives many examples of compound words formed from entry words. The dictionary also introduces students to common prefixes and suffixes.
Phonics/Word Study 9	Read irregularly spelled words, e.g., <i>ocean</i> , <i>angel</i> .	The thousands of clearly rendered illustrations in <i>Merriam-Webster's Primary Dictionary</i> help students recognize and remember irregularly spelled words.
Vocabulary 15	Explain common antonyms and synonyms.	Many entries in <i>Merriam-Webster's Primary Dictionary</i> include information about synonyms and antonyms.
Vocabulary 16–17	Explain multiple meanings of common words, e.g., <i>fly</i> , <i>duck</i> . Use glossaries and dictionaries to identify word meanings.	<i>Merriam-Webster's Primary Dictionary</i> , especially written for students in grade K–2, introduces students to the different ways words are used, for example, <i>spring</i> as a noun or a verb. Information is presented in explanations that are easy for very young students to understand, with examples and illustrations. <i>Merriam-Webster's Elementary Dictionary</i> is a young student's first full-featured dictionary, with an expanded vocabulary and more formal entries, which students can refer to when in doubt about the meaning of a word.
Vocabulary 18	Use prefixes, suffixes, inflectional endings, and abbreviated words to determine the meaning of unknown words.	<i>Merriam-Webster's Primary Dictionary</i> gives examples of prefixed and suffixed forms of entry words to show how prefixes and suffixes change word meanings. It incorporates inflected forms into explanations and example sentences.
Reading Comprehension: During Reading 28	Use text features such as titles, tables of contents, and chapter headings to locate information in nonfiction texts.	<i>Merriam-Webster's Primary Dictionary</i> incorporates text features such as boxes, shading, and icons to point students to word histories, synonyms, word riddles, fun word facts, and more.
Reading Comprehension: During Reading 33	Read nonfiction materials for answers to specific questions or for specific purposes.	<i>Merriam-Webster's Primary Dictionary</i> , with its entries filled with things to know about words, offers answers to language, usage, and word history questions.

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GRADE TWO, *continued*

Standard	Description	Merriam-Webster Offering
Reading Comprehension: After Reading: General Understanding 37	Identify rhythm, rhyme, alliteration, and assonance in poetry.	Students will be able to identify both rhyme and alliteration in <i>Merriam-Webster's Alphabet Book</i> .
ORAL LANGUAGE		
Speaking 7	Use varied language to describe events or ideas, including multiple meaning words and figurative language.	<i>Merriam-Webster's Primary Dictionary</i> is the ideal source for students to find wonderful words for oral presentations, with its generous offerings of synonyms and descriptive words and phrases. It even offers figurative language such as <i>under the weather</i> at the entry for <i>sick</i> .
WRITING		
Spelling 3	Spell regular and common irregular plurals correctly.	Many noun entries in <i>Merriam-Webster's Primary Dictionary</i> use plurals of entry words (both regular and irregular) in explanations and example sentences.
Spelling 7	Recognize when words may be misspelled.	When in doubt, students can check their spelling in <i>Merriam-Webster's Primary Dictionary</i> or <i>Merriam-Webster's Elementary Dictionary</i> .
Capitalization/ Punctuation/ Usage 8-11	Use commas in a series, after greeting and closing of a letter, in a date, between city and state. Use quotation marks in dialogue. Capitalize names, pronoun "I," proper nouns, days, months, holidays, and salutation and closing of a letter. Form contractions; use apostrophes.	Students can get help with the punctuation and capitalization rules they need to know from "A Guide for Writers," a section included in the back of <i>Merriam-Webster's Elementary Dictionary</i> . The various sections dealing with commas, quotation marks, apostrophes, capitals for proper nouns, and more, offer examples to illustrate the rules.
Capitalization/ Punctuation/ Usage 12	Use nouns in sentences, e.g., singular, plural, common, proper, possessive.	<i>Merriam-Webster's Primary Dictionary</i> shows plural forms at most noun entries.
Capitalization/ Punctuation/ Usage 13	Use verbs in sentences, e.g., past and present tense, agreement, linking verbs, common irregular verbs.	<i>Merriam-Webster's Primary Dictionary</i> shows verb tense forms by incorporating them into the explanations and example sentences at the entry.
Capitalization/ Punctuation/ Usage 14	Use adjectives in sentences, e.g., descriptive, comparative, superlative.	<i>Merriam-Webster's Elementary Dictionary</i> gives comparative and superlative forms of adjectives.
Writing Process 21	Revise a completed draft by adding, deleting, and/or rearranging words, phrases, or sentences; use specific words to replace common nouns and overused verbs.	Students can use <i>Merriam-Webster's Primary Dictionary</i> to get help with more precise word choice; for example, words for different kinds of footwear at the entry for <i>shoe</i> ; <i>spy</i> as a substitute for <i>see</i> .

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GRADE THREE

Standard	Description	Merriam-Webster Offering
READING		
Phonics/ Word Study 4	Infer word meanings from roots, prefixes, and suffixes.	<i>Merriam-Webster's Elementary Dictionary</i> features word root paragraphs that introduce students to Greek and Latin roots to aid understanding of unfamiliar words. The dictionary includes separate entries for all common prefixes and suffixes.
Phonics/ Word Study 8	Explain common homophones, e.g., <i>fair/fare</i> or <i>made/maid</i> , and homographs, e.g., a <i>lead weight</i> vs. <i>lead the way</i> .	<i>Merriam-Webster's Elementary Dictionary</i> has separate entries for homographs, making it easier for students to distinguish them. Usage examples within definitions help students with meanings of homographs and homophones. The dictionary even gives extra help with some common homophones (e.g., <i>there, their, they're</i>).
Vocabulary 15	Use glossary, dictionary, and thesaurus to find and confirm word meanings.	<i>Merriam-Webster's Elementary Dictionary</i> is a 36,000-word dictionary designed for students in grades 3–5. <i>Merriam-Webster's How to Use Your Dictionary</i> is an easy-to-read guide to the features of a dictionary and includes a guide to using a thesaurus.
Vocabulary 18	Define words and concepts necessary for understanding math, science, social studies, literature, and other content area text.	The grade-level-appropriate definitions in <i>Merriam-Webster's Elementary Dictionary</i> assure that students will understand terms they encounter in every subject.
Reading Reflection/ Behaviors 43	Listen to, read, and discuss a variety of literature representing different perspectives of family, friendship, culture, and tradition.	Entries in <i>Merriam-Webster's Elementary Dictionary</i> include nearly 1,300 quotations from classic and contemporary children's literature to encourage interest in reading.
ORAL LANGUAGE		
Listening 1	Recognize the difference between standard and nonstandard English.	<i>Merriam-Webster's Elementary Dictionary</i> includes thousands of words used in context to illustrate standard English, and labels and "Hints" warn against offensive usage.

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GRADE THREE, *continued*

Standard	Description	Merriam-Webster Offering
WRITING		
Capitalization/ Punctuation/ Usage 26	Use resources to find correct spelling for words identified as misspelled, e.g., word walls, student dictionaries.	<i>Merriam-Webster's Elementary Dictionary</i> provides correct spellings for more than 36,000 commonly used words, including many proper nouns, variant spellings, and open, closed and hyphenated compounds. Students can use the special geographical names section to check spelling of hundreds of place-names.
Writing Process 31	Edit drafts for complete sentences, capitalization, punctuation, and usage.	Students can get help with the punctuation and capitalization rules they need to know from "A Guide for Writers," a section included in the back of <i>Merriam-Webster's Elementary Dictionary</i> . The various sections dealing with commas, quotation marks, apostrophes, abbreviations, capitals, and more, offer abundant examples to illustrate the rules. The dictionary includes thousands of examples of words used in context and "Headscratchers" and "Hints" to further help with confusing usage.
Writing Genres, Traits, and Crafts: Descriptive 34	Select a topic and use specific words to "paint a picture."	More than 120 synonym paragraphs in <i>Merriam-Webster's Elementary Dictionary</i> describe and illustrate the differences among synonyms to encourage students to use specific words appropriately.

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GRADE FOUR

Standard	Description	Merriam-Webster Offering
READING		
Word Study 1	Know sounds for letter patterns common to multisyllable or low frequency words, e.g., <i>ch</i> as in <i>machinery</i> , <i>chemistry</i> , and <i>chip</i> .	<i>Merriam-Webster's Elementary Dictionary</i> includes "sounds paragraphs" at the beginning of each letter that describe and illustrate all the sounds a letter can make, including when the letter is part of a digraph (such as <i>ch</i>).
Word Study 2	Know sounds and meanings for a wide range of suffixes and prefixes, including those relevant to specific content areas.	<i>Merriam-Webster's Elementary Dictionary</i> includes separate entries for all common prefixes and suffixes. <i>Merriam-Webster's Notebook Thesaurus</i> provides a list of prefixes and suffixes and their meanings, with examples of words formed from them.
Vocabulary 9	Explain common homophones, homographs, e.g., <i>maid/made</i> ; <i>to/two/too</i> ; <i>pencil lead vs. lead the way</i> , words with multiple meanings, and meanings of words specific to various content areas, e.g., <i>product</i> in math.	<i>Merriam-Webster's Elementary Dictionary</i> has separate entries for homographs, making it easier for students to distinguish them. Usage examples within definitions help students with meanings of homographs and homophones. The dictionary even gives extra help with some common homophones (e.g., <i>their</i> , <i>they're</i> , <i>there</i>).
Vocabulary 10	Infer word meanings from common roots, prefixes, suffixes, e.g., <i>port</i> : <i>transportation</i> , <i>porter</i> , <i>import</i> , <i>report</i> .	<i>Merriam-Webster's Elementary Dictionary</i> features word root paragraphs that show how Greek and Latin roots are found in families of words.
Vocabulary 13, 14	Define words and concepts necessary for understanding math, science, social studies, literature, and other content area text. Explain that some words have a different meaning in different content areas, e.g., concept of <i>shade</i> in science and art.	The grade-level-appropriate definitions in <i>Merriam-Webster's Elementary Dictionary</i> assure that students will understand terms they encounter in every subject. Abundant usage examples help students distinguish different meanings of words (for example, "the <i>shade</i> of a tree" versus "four <i>shades</i> of brown").
Reading Comprehension: Before and During Reading 21	Use appropriate resources to locate information, e.g., index, glossary, dictionary, thesaurus, directory, website on a specific topic or for a specific purpose.	<i>Merriam-Webster's Elementary Dictionary</i> , written for students in grades 3–5, contains more than 36,000 entries, many with usage examples and multiple definitions, and 900 full-color illustrations. It includes an easy-to-follow "Using Your Dictionary" section. <i>Merriam-Webster's Intermediate Thesaurus</i> is a thesaurus designed for students which features brief definitions for shared meaning and a usage example for every synonym. <i>Merriam-Webster's Notebook Thesaurus</i> is a handy source for synonyms, antonyms, and related words. <i>Merriam-Webster's How to Use Your Dictionary</i> provides grade-level-appropriate instructions in how to use a dictionary and a thesaurus. <i>WordCentral.com</i> , a Web site designed for students, offers a free dictionary and thesaurus where students can look up words online.

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GRADE FOUR, *continued*

Standard	Description	Merriam-Webster Offering
Reading Reflection/Behaviors 41	Choose a variety of genres to read for personal enjoyment.	Entries in <i>Merriam-Webster's Elementary Dictionary</i> include nearly 1,300 quotations from classic and contemporary children's literature to encourage interest in reading.
ORAL LANGUAGE		
Listening/Speaking 3	Make oral presentations that show appropriate consideration of audience, purpose, and information to be conveyed.	<i>Merriam-Webster's Elementary Dictionary</i> gives students grade-level-appropriate guidance in word choice and grammar for oral presentations and provides complete pronunciation guidance. The free dictionary at WordCentral.com for students offers audio pronunciations.
WRITING		
Capitalization/Punctuation/Usage 14	Use resources to correct capitalization.	Students can get help with the capitalization rules they need to know from "A Guide for Writers," a section included in the back of <i>Merriam-Webster's Elementary Dictionary</i> .
Capitalization/Punctuation/Usage 16, 20	Cite sources, e.g., list titles and authors alphabetically. Use italics, underlining, or quotation marks for titles.	"A Guide for Writers" in <i>Merriam-Webster's Elementary Dictionary</i> has specific instructions on styling titles in the section on capitals and italics. Students can also use <i>Merriam-Webster's Notebook Guide to Punctuation</i> as a reference.
Capitalization/Punctuation/Usage 26	Use resources to find correct spelling for words identified as misspelled, e.g., electronic spellers, dictionaries, personal dictionaries..	<i>Merriam-Webster's Elementary Dictionary</i> provides correct spellings for more than 36,000 commonly used words, including many proper nouns, variant spellings, and open, closed and hyphenated compounds. A special geographical names section features hundreds of place-names. Students can also use the free online dictionary at WordCentral.com , a Web site designed especially for them.
Writing Process 29	Revise a completed draft, incorporating feedback from peers and teacher, e.g., ...Use a better word for...	More than 120 synonym paragraphs in <i>Merriam-Webster's Elementary Dictionary</i> describe and illustrate the differences among close synonyms to help students come up with the best word. <i>Merriam-Webster's Intermediate Thesaurus</i> and <i>Merriam-Webster's Notebook Thesaurus</i> offer students more word choices.
Writing Process 30	Edit: use multiple resources, e.g., dictionary, glossary, thesaurus, for proofreading and editing.	<i>Merriam-Webster's Elementary Dictionary</i> provides language information that helps writers edit for spelling, grammar, and other conventions. "Headscratchers" and "Hints" help students with confusing usage. "A Guide for Writers," a section at the back of the book provides help with punctuation.

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GRADE FIVE

Standard	Description	Merriam-Webster Offering
READING		
Vocabulary 2	Use structural analysis to understand meanings and concepts.	<i>Merriam-Webster's Elementary Dictionary</i> features word root paragraphs that show how English words are formed from Greek and Latin roots. <i>Merriam-Webster's Notebook Thesaurus</i> provides lists of Greek and Latin roots and their meanings and prefixes and suffixes and their meanings.
Vocabulary 3	Use dictionaries, thesauruses, and glossaries to find or confirm word meanings, pronunciations, syllabication, synonyms, antonyms, and parts of speech.	Students can find meanings, pronunciations, syllabication, and parts of speech for more than 36,000 words in <i>Merriam-Webster's Elementary Dictionary</i> , written for students in grades 3–5. They may also use <i>Merriam-Webster's Intermediate Dictionary</i> , a slightly more advanced dictionary with 70,000 entries. <i>Merriam-Webster's Intermediate Thesaurus</i> is a thesaurus designed for students which features brief definitions for shared meaning and a usage example for every synonym. <i>Merriam-Webster's Notebook Thesaurus</i> is a handy source for synonyms, antonyms, and related words. <i>Merriam-Webster's How to Use Your Dictionary</i> provides grade-level-appropriate instructions in how to use a dictionary and a thesaurus. <i>WordCentral.com</i> , a Web site designed for students, offers a free dictionary and thesaurus where they can look up words online.
Reading Reflection/ Behaviors 31	Choose a variety of genres to read, hear, view, and write for personal enjoyment. Recommend books to others and explain the reason for the recommendation.	Entries in <i>Merriam-Webster's Elementary Dictionary</i> include nearly 1,300 quotations from classic and contemporary children's literature to encourage interest in reading. A list of quoted works can be used by students, parents, and teachers as a source of recommended books.
ORAL LANGUAGE		
Listening/ Speaking 2	Make oral presentations that show appropriate consideration of audience, purpose, and information to be conveyed.	<i>Merriam-Webster's Elementary Dictionary</i> gives students grade-level-appropriate guidance in word choice and grammar for oral presentations and provides complete pronunciation guidance. The free dictionary for students at <i>WordCentral.com</i> offers audio pronunciations.
WRITING		
Capitalization/ Punctuation/ Usage 4, 6, 7	Use capitalization, punctuation, and usage rules from previous grades. Capitalize brand names. Capitalize geographic regions, e.g., the <i>West</i> .	Students can get help with the capitalization rules they need to know from "A Guide for Writers" section included in the back of <i>Merriam-Webster's Elementary Dictionary</i> , with examples, among many others, of capitalized trademarks and brand names. "Cap" labels at entries in the dictionary indicate when a particular meaning of a word requires capitalization (such as <i>West</i> in the "region" sense). An easy-to-follow "Using Your Dictionary" section shows students what these labels and other features of the dictionary mean.

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GRADE FIVE, *continued*

Standard	Description	Merriam-Webster Offering
Capitalization/ Punctuation/ Usage 9–15	<p>Use commas to set off interjections or explanatory phrases.</p> <p>Use comma after date or address within text.</p> <p>Use quotation marks in dialogue.</p> <p>Use hyphen in numbers, e.g., twenty-three.</p> <p>Use hyphens to join numbers.</p> <p>Use ellipsis to show omitted words and to show a pause.</p> <p>Use semicolon between two independent clauses.</p>	<p>“A Guide for Writers” at the back of <i>Merriam-Webster’s Elementary Dictionary</i> has a section on punctuation that covers commas, quotation marks, hyphens, ellipses, semicolons, and more, with abundant examples. Students can also use <i>Merriam-Webster’s Notebook Guide to Punctuation</i> as a reference. <i>Merriam-Webster’s Intermediate Dictionary</i> includes “A Handbook of Style” section that covers the same topics in more depth.</p>
Capitalization/ Punctuation/ Usage 19	<p>Use resources to find correct spelling for words identified as misspelled.</p>	<p><i>Merriam-Webster’s Elementary Dictionary</i> provides the correct spelling for more than 36,000 commonly used words, including many proper nouns, variant spellings, and open, closed, and hyphenated compounds. A special geographical names section features hundreds of place-names. Students can also use the free online dictionary at WordCentral.com, a Web site designed especially for students.</p>
Writing Process 23	<p>Edit: use multiple resources, e.g., dictionary, glossary, thesaurus, for proofreading and editing.</p>	<p><i>Merriam-Webster’s Elementary Dictionary</i> provides language information that helps writers edit for spelling, grammar, and other conventions. “Headscratchers” and “Hints” help students with confusing usage. “A Guide for Writers” at the back of the book provides help with punctuation. <i>Merriam-Webster’s Notebook Thesaurus</i> and <i>Merriam-Webster’s Pocket Thesaurus</i> are handy sources to check for synonyms, antonyms, and related words.</p>
Writing Genres, Traits, and Crafts: Descriptive 29	<p>Integrate descriptive writing into other modes, using literary techniques, e.g., ... specific word choice.</p>	<p>Synonym paragraphs in <i>Merriam-Webster’s Elementary Dictionary</i> and <i>Merriam-Webster’s Intermediate Dictionary</i> help students choose words with precision. <i>Merriam-Webster’s Intermediate Thesaurus</i> offers example sentences for every synonym to help students use adjectives, adverbs, and verbs effectively. <i>Merriam-Webster’s Dictionary and Thesaurus</i> integrates thesaurus entries with dictionary entries to help guide word choice.</p>
Writing Genres, Traits, and Crafts: Poetic 40–43	<p>Write a rap.</p> <p>Write words to the music of an already existing song.</p> <p>Write a ballad.</p> <p>Write a lyrical poem.</p>	<p>Students will enjoy using <i>Merriam-Webster’s Rhyming Dictionary</i> with its alphabetical listing of rhyming sounds for writing original rhyme.</p>

Meeting the Standard in Connecticut

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GRADE SIX

Standard	Description	Merriam-Webster Offering
READING		
Vocabulary 1	Use word origins to determine the meaning of unknown words.	<i>Merriam-Webster's Intermediate Dictionary</i> , especially written for students in grades 6–8, exposes students to nearly 3,000 etymologies. It also features nearly 300 word history paragraphs that tell the story behind a word's adoption into English.
Vocabulary 2	Use abstract, derived root words, prefixes, and suffixes from Greek and Latin to analyze the meaning of complex words, e.g., <i>process</i> , <i>procession</i> .	<i>Merriam-Webster's Notebook Thesaurus</i> features handy lists of prefixes and suffixes and their meanings and common Greek and Latin roots and their meanings with examples of words that contain them.
Vocabulary 3	Define vocabulary critical to the meaning of content-area texts and use that knowledge to interpret the texts, e.g., <i>property</i> in science or social studies.	<i>Merriam-Webster's Intermediate Dictionary</i> is up-to-date with new words from the fields of science, technology, social sciences, and health. Examples that show how words are used help students understand and use specialized content-area vocabulary accurately.
Reading Reflection/ Behaviors 21	Choose a variety of genres to read, hear, view, and write for personal enjoyment.	<i>Merriam-Webster's Intermediate Dictionary</i> can help students determine the meaning of the unfamiliar words they encounter while reading, and use words correctly in writing, with nearly 70,000 entries and definitions with usage examples.
ORAL LANGUAGE		
Listening/ Speaking 1	Speak with clarity, voice, and fluency to communicate ideas, judgments, and opinions in oral presentations, speeches, and performances.	<i>Merriam-Webster's Intermediate Dictionary</i> can help students choose the right words to communicate their ideas, and pronounce everything correctly using the pronunciation symbols that are explained in the front of the book and presented in a key on every two-page spread. Students can also use the free student dictionary at WordCentral.com which offers audio pronunciations.
WRITING		
Capitalization/ Punctuation/ Usage 3	Use capitalization, punctuation, and usage rules from previous grades.	<i>Merriam-Webster's Notebook Guide to Punctuation</i> and <i>Merriam-Webster's Pocket Guide to Punctuation</i> present all the rules of punctuation and capitalization in a way that is easy for students to follow, with lots of examples of correct application of the guidelines. "A Handbook of Style," a section in the back of <i>Merriam-Webster's Intermediate Dictionary</i> , gives the rules in more compact form. <i>Merriam-Webster's Pocket Guide to English Usage</i> contains brief discussions of more than a thousand sticky usage issues.
Capitalization/ Punctuation/ Usage 4	Capitalize languages, races, nationalities, and religions.	<i>Merriam-Webster's Notebook Guide to Punctuation</i> and <i>Merriam-Webster's Pocket Guide to Punctuation</i> have separate sections that cover all aspects of the capitalization rules, including sections on capitalization of languages, races, nationalities, and religions.

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GRADE SIX, *continued*

Standard	Description	Merriam-Webster Offering
Capitalization/ Punctuation/ Usage 5–9	Use commas in appositives. Use commas to set off direct address. Use apostrophe to show quotation within a quotation in dialogue. Use parentheses. Use a semicolon between two independent clauses connected by a conjunctive adverb.	<i>Merriam-Webster’s Notebook Guide to Punctuation</i> and <i>Merriam-Webster’s Pocket Guide to Punctuation</i> have separate sections that cover all aspects of the punctuation rules, including sections on commas, apostrophes, parentheses, and semicolons, with abundant examples. Students can also refer to “A Handbook of Style” in the back of <i>Merriam-Webster’s Intermediate Dictionary</i> for help with punctuation rules.
Capitalization/ Punctuation/ Usage 10	Show agreement of pronoun and its referent.	Entries in <i>Merriam-Webster’s Pocket Guide to English Usage</i> include a discussion on pronoun/referent agreement and on many other grammar and usage issues. A grammar glossary in the back directs students to the usage entries in front that deal with each grammar subject.
Capitalization/ Punctuation/ Usage 15	Cite sources according to prescribed format.	In a chapter on notes and bibliographies, <i>Merriam-Webster’s Notebook Guide to Punctuation</i> and <i>Merriam-Webster’s Pocket Guide to Punctuation</i> give students the basics of citing sources.
Capitalization/ Punctuation/ Usage 16	Use resources to correct own spelling.	<i>Merriam-Webster’s Intermediate Dictionary</i> provides correct spelling for nearly 70,000 commonly used words, including variant spellings and abbreviations. Spelling can also be checked with the free dictionary at the student Web site, <i>WordCentral.com</i> .
Writing Process 20	Edit: use multiple resources, e.g., dictionary, glossary, thesaurus, for proofreading and editing.	Students can use <i>Merriam-Webster’s Intermediate Dictionary</i> in the editing process to correct spelling, grammar, and styling conventions, and <i>Merriam-Webster’s Intermediate Thesaurus</i> for word choice. <i>Merriam-Webster’s Notebook Guide to Punctuation</i> has a section on proofreading and using proofreaders’ marks.
Writing Genres, Traits, and Crafts: Poetic 32, 35	Write an ode. Write a couplet.	Students will enjoy using <i>Merriam-Webster’s Rhyming Dictionary</i> or <i>Merriam-Webster’s Pocket Rhyming Dictionary</i> with their alphabetical listings of rhyming sounds when they write odes and couplets.

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GRADE SEVEN		
Standard	Description	Merriam-Webster Offering
READING		
Vocabulary 1	Identify meanings and origins of commonly used foreign words, e.g., <i>tsunami</i> , <i>salsa</i> ; use these words while speaking, writing, and presenting.	<i>Merriam-Webster's Intermediate Dictionary</i> , which has nearly 70,000 entries, is up-to-date with the borrowed foreign words we use today so students can use these words accurately and correctly spell and pronounce them.
ORAL LANGUAGE		
Listening / Speaking 1	Deliver an oral presentation from notes, using appropriate intonation, enunciation, and phrasing that is fluent and well-modulated.	<i>Merriam-Webster's Intermediate Dictionary</i> can help students choose the right words for their oral presentations and pronounce everything correctly using the pronunciation symbols that are explained in the front of the book and presented in a key on every two-page spread. They can also use the free student dictionary at WordCentral.com , which offers audio pronunciations.
WRITING		
Writing Conventions: Capitalization/ Punctuation/ Usage 3-5	Use capitalization from previous grades. Use capitals correctly in an outline or list. Use consistent capitalization when formatting technical documents.	<i>Merriam-Webster's Notebook Guide to Punctuation</i> and <i>Merriam-Webster's Pocket Guide to Punctuation</i> have separate sections that cover all aspects of the capitalization rules. "A Handbook of Style," a section in the back of <i>Merriam-Webster's Intermediate Dictionary</i> , presents the same information in more concise form.
Writing Conventions: Capitalization/ Punctuation/ Usage 6-9	Use punctuation rules from previous grades. Use commas to separate an interrupter, e.g., <i>The teacher, however, was not impressed.</i> Use semicolons to separate groups that contain commas. Use the hyphen to prevent confusion, e.g., <i>re-elect</i> .	<i>Merriam-Webster's Notebook Guide to Punctuation</i> and <i>Merriam-Webster's Pocket Guide to Punctuation</i> have separate sections that cover all aspects of the punctuation rules, including guidance on commas, semicolons, and hyphen, with lots of examples. Students can also refer to "A Handbook of Style" in the back of <i>Merriam-Webster's Intermediate Dictionary</i> for help with punctuation rules.
Writing Conventions: Capitalization/ Punctuation/ Usage 11	Apply usage rules from previous grades.	<i>Merriam-Webster's Pocket Guide to English Usage</i> gives clear and concise answers to many basic questions about grammar and usage. <i>Merriam-Webster's Intermediate Dictionary</i> can address many usage issues with its examples of words used in context.
Writing Conventions: Capitalization/ Punctuation/ Usage 12	Use adverbs vs. adjectives correctly.	<i>Merriam-Webster's Intermediate Dictionary</i> can help with adverbs. All irregular comparative and superlative forms are shown at adverb entries. Many adjective entries give corresponding adverbs as run-ons. Other adverbs are entered as main entries with usage examples. <i>Merriam-Webster's Intermediate Thesaurus</i> , which shows part-of-speech labels, has hundreds of entries for adverbs with complete lists of synonyms, antonyms, and related and contrasted words for each one.

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GRADE SEVEN, *continued*

Standard	Description	Merriam-Webster Offering
Writing Conventions: Capitalization/Punctuation/Usage 13	Use comparative and superlative adjectives correctly.	<i>Merriam-Webster's Intermediate Dictionary</i> gives all irregular comparative and superlative forms of adjectives.
Writing Conventions: Capitalization/Punctuation/Usage 15	Cite sources according to prescribed format.	In a chapter on notes and bibliographies <i>Merriam-Webster's Notebook Guide to Punctuation</i> and <i>Merriam-Webster's Pocket Guide to Punctuation</i> give students the basics of citing sources.
Writing Process 19	Edit: use multiple resources, e.g., dictionary, glossary, thesaurus, for proofreading and editing.	Students can use <i>Merriam-Webster's Intermediate Dictionary</i> in the editing process for correcting spelling and grammar, and <i>Merriam-Webster's Intermediate Thesaurus</i> for word choice. Students can also use <i>Merriam-Webster's Dictionary and Thesaurus</i> , which combines dictionary and thesaurus entries, as well as the handy <i>Merriam-Webster's Notebook Dictionary</i> and <i>Merriam-Webster's Notebook Thesaurus</i> . <i>Merriam-Webster's Notebook Guide to Punctuation</i> has a section on proofreading and using proofreaders' marks.
Writing Genres, Traits, and Crafts: Narrative 24	Write a fictional story using various literary techniques, e.g., dialogue, humor, figurative language, first or third person, precise language.	<i>Merriam-Webster's Intermediate Dictionary</i> can help students come up with better word choices with its synonymous cross-references. There are also nearly 200 synonym paragraphs that not only suggest different word choices, but briefly explain how they differ slightly in meaning to help students choose words with precision. <i>Merriam-Webster's Intermediate Thesaurus</i> offers a treasury of synonyms, antonyms, and related and contrasted words for students to select from to make their writing more descriptive. It is unique in that it lists words under a shared meaning core, and provides an example sentence to illustrate every word in its synonym lists so students can make the right language choices.
Writing Genres, Traits, and Crafts: Expository 26	Include technical and content specific terms in writing.	<i>Merriam-Webster's Intermediate Dictionary</i> is up-to-date with new words from the fields of science, technology, social sciences, and health. Examples that show how words are used help students understand and use specialized content-area vocabulary accurately.
Writing Genres, Traits, and Crafts: Poetic 33-35	Write an epic. Write an allegory. Write a doggerel.	Students will enjoy using <i>Merriam-Webster's Rhyming Dictionary</i> or <i>Merriam-Webster's Pocket Rhyming Dictionary</i> with their alphabetical listings of rhyming sounds when they write epics, allegorical poems, or doggerels.

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GRADE EIGHT

Standard	Description	Merriam-Webster Offering
READING		
Reading Reflection/ Behaviors 13	Set goals for reading and develop a reading improvement plan.	<i>Merriam-Webster's Intermediate Dictionary</i> can help students determine the meaning of the unfamiliar words they encounter while reading, with nearly 70,000 entries and definitions with usage examples. <i>Merriam-Webster's School Dictionary</i> has even more words.
ORAL LANGUAGE		
Listening / Speaking 2	Deliver focused, coherent oral presentations, with and without notes, that clearly convey ideas and use appropriate intonation, enunciation, pace, word choice, and grammar.	<i>Merriam-Webster's Intermediate Dictionary</i> and <i>Merriam-Webster's School Dictionary</i> can help students with word choice, grammar, and correct pronunciation for their oral presentations. Students can also use the free dictionary at WordCentral.com or the free dictionary at Merriam-Webster.com , both of which offer audio pronunciations.
WRITING		
Spelling 2	Use multiple strategies to spell. Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • homophones • affixes • Greek and Latin roots • words from other languages, e.g., <i>arena</i>, <i>buffet</i>, <i>souffle</i>, <i>lariat</i> • frequently misspelled words, e.g., <i>accommodation</i>, <i>cemetery</i>, <i>receive</i> 	<i>Merriam-Webster's Notebook Thesaurus</i> has a handy list of 75 often-confused word pairs, including homophones, and it features lists of prefixes and suffixes and Greek and Latin roots. Students can check spelling with the free dictionary at the student Web site, WordCentral.com , which also offers free grade-level-appropriate games that help with spelling skills.
Capitalization/ Punctuation/ Usage 3	Use capitalization, punctuation, and usage rules from previous grades.	<i>Merriam-Webster's Notebook Guide to Punctuation</i> and <i>Merriam-Webster's Pocket Guide to Punctuation</i> present all the rules of punctuation and capitalization in a way that is easy for students to follow with lots of examples of correct application of the guidelines. "A Handbook of Style," in <i>Merriam-Webster's Intermediate Dictionary</i> , gives the rules in more compact form. <i>Merriam-Webster's Pocket Guide to English Usage</i> contains brief discussions of more than a thousand sticky usage issues.
Capitalization/ Punctuation/ Usage 4	Capitalize the title of a specific course, e.g., <i>History 9a</i> as opposed to <i>history</i> .	<i>Merriam-Webster's Notebook Guide to Punctuation</i> and <i>Merriam-Webster's Pocket Guide to Punctuation</i> have separate sections that cover all aspects of the capitalization rules, including sections on various categories of proper nouns and adjectives, with examples of each.

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GRADE EIGHT, *continued*

Standard	Description	Merriam-Webster Offering
Capitalization/ Punctuation/ Usage 5–11	Use commas to enclose titles, e.g., <i>Jennifer Longstreet, M.D., is a pediatrician.</i> Use commas for emphasis or clarity. Place commas or periods inside quotation marks. Use apostrophes to form plurals of letters or numbers. Use apostrophes in possessive compound nouns. Use a colon between title and subtitle. Use slash correctly.	<i>Merriam-Webster’s Notebook Guide to Punctuation</i> and <i>Merriam-Webster’s Pocket Guide to Punctuation</i> cover all aspects of punctuation rules, including sections on commas, quotation marks, apostrophes, colons, and slashes, with abundant examples. Students can also refer to “A Handbook of Style” in <i>Merriam-Webster’s Intermediate Dictionary</i> for help with punctuation rules.
Capitalization/ Punctuation/ Usage 15	Cite sources according to a prescribed format.	In a chapter on notes and bibliographies, <i>Merriam-Webster’s Notebook Guide to Punctuation</i> and <i>Merriam-Webster’s Pocket Guide to Punctuation</i> give students the basics of citing sources.
Writing Process 19	Edit: use multiple resources, e.g., dictionary, glossary, thesaurus, for proofreading and editing.	Students can use <i>Merriam-Webster’s Intermediate Dictionary</i> in the editing process for correcting spelling and grammar, and <i>Merriam-Webster’s Intermediate Thesaurus</i> for word choice. Students can also use <i>Merriam-Webster’s Dictionary and Thesaurus</i> , which combines dictionary and thesaurus entries, as well as the handy <i>Merriam-Webster’s Notebook Dictionary</i> and <i>Merriam-Webster’s Notebook Thesaurus</i> . <i>Merriam-Webster’s Notebook Guide to Punctuation</i> has a section on proofreading and using proofreaders’ marks.
Writing Genres, Traits, and Crafts: Descriptive 24	Write a piece selecting words for connotation and denotation, e.g., <i>plump vs. fat, shack vs. house.</i>	<i>Merriam-Webster’s Intermediate Dictionary</i> includes nearly 200 synonym paragraphs that discuss connotative and denotative differences among synonyms (with usage examples to illustrate those differences), while <i>Merriam-Webster’s Dictionary of Synonyms and Antonyms</i> and <i>Merriam-Webster’s Pocket Guide to Synonyms</i> are devoted entirely to similar discussions of synonyms. <i>Merriam-Webster’s Intermediate Thesaurus</i> lists words under a shared meaning core, and provides an example sentence to illustrate every word in its synonym lists so students can choose words with accuracy.
Writing Genres, Traits, and Crafts: Expository 27	Write an informational report, e.g., science, social studies, art history, music.	<i>Merriam-Webster’s Intermediate Dictionary</i> and <i>Merriam-Webster’s School Dictionary</i> are up-to-date with new words from the fields of science, technology, social sciences, and health to help students write reports.
Writing Genres, Traits, and Crafts: Poetic 37	Write poetry in style of choice.	Students will enjoy using <i>Merriam-Webster’s Rhyming Dictionary</i> or <i>Merriam-Webster’s Pocket Rhyming Dictionary</i> with their alphabetical listings of rhyming sounds whenever they choose to write poetry with rhyme.