



Mini-Map for ELA.EE.RI.8.4

Subject: ELA

Reading Informational Text

Grade: 8

Learning Outcome

DLM Essential Element	Grade-Level Standard
ELA.EE.RI.8.4 Determine connotative meanings of words and phrases in a text.	ELA.RI.8.4 Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone, including analogies or allusions to other texts.

Linkage Level Descriptions

Initial Precursor	Distal Precursor	Proximal Precursor	Target	Successor
The student can make judgments about pairs of words with similar or different meanings.	After reading or hearing a sentence, the student can determine the literal meaning of words and phrases using the surrounding context.	The student can identify a singular meaning of a multiple-meaning word by using contextual and textual clues.	After reading or hearing a text, the student can identify the commonly understood cultural and/or emotional meaning of words and phrases in the text.	After reading or hearing an informational text, the student can determine the figurative meaning of words and phrases, such as idioms, analogies, and figures of speech.

Initial Precursor and Distal Precursor Linkage Level Relationships to the Target

How is the Initial Precursor related to the Target?

As students work toward understanding the connotative meaning of words in text, they can begin to recognize words that have meanings that are the same or different. Teachers can work on this using the DLM Familiar Texts aligned with this linkage level. These texts intentionally use words that have similar and different meanings so teachers can work with students to begin to identify them.

How is the Distal Precursor related to the Target?

As students work toward understanding the way words make them feel or the connotative meaning of words in text, they have to identify the literal meaning of words. Students at the Distal Precursor linkage level should be working to use context to determine the literal meaning of words they encounter during shared reading or reading comprehension instruction.

Instructional Resources

Linkage Level	DLM Familiar Texts
Initial Precursor	Pirates Love Treasure People at School Camping Supplies Rafts Alaska Animals
Distal Precursor	N/A
Proximal Precursor	N/A
Target	N/A
Successor	N/A
For more comprehensive information, see Familiar Text Information – Grade 8 .	
Released Testlets	
See the Guide to Practice Activities and Released Testlets .	
Using Supporting (SP) and Untested (UN) Nodes	
See the document Using Mini-Maps to Plan Instruction .	

[Link to Text-Only Map](#)

ELA.EE.RI.8.4 Determine connotative meanings of words and phrases in a text.

