

Eighth Grade Year-Long Plan
English Language Arts- Writing, Grammar and Conventions

August	September	October	November	December
Unit 1: Bullying Unit <i>1 week (8 school days)</i> “What is bullying, and how can we deal with it as a classroom community in a positive, healthy way?” August 22-30	Unit 2: Narrative Writing <i>four weeks (20 school days)</i> “What elements must be present for a successful narrative?” September 1-28	Unit 3: Descriptive Writing <i>five weeks (25 school days)</i> “How do we use figurative language and description to convey a picture to a reader?” October 1- November 2	Unit 4: Expository/ Research Writing <i>seven weeks (34 school days)</i> “How do you find and organize information to communicate and teach an audience?” November 5- December 21 *Thanksgiving Break & Christmas Break	
January	February	March	April	May/ June
Unit 5: Short Answer Response <i>four weeks (19 school days)</i> “How do you change your style of writing to respond to questions about informational and fiction texts?” January 7 – February 1	Unit 6: Poetry and Writing in Response to Literature <i>six weeks (30 school days)</i> “How do you identify, respond to, analyze, and compare the elements of poetry?” February 4 – March 15 *Terra Nova Testing March 11-15	Unit 7: Writing, Speaking, and Listening to Persuade and Argue <i>six weeks (25 school days)</i> “In what ways are arguments effectively communicated orally?” Mar. 17 – April 26 *Easter Break March 29- April 5	Unit 8: Drama and Imaginative Writing <i>five weeks (25 school days)</i> “How can I better understand narrative structure through creating drama?” April 29 – May 31	

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS for Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics- integrated into each unit
 What are the Standard English conventions?
 Why is it important to use correct spelling and grammar?