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# Grade 4 ELA Module 1A Updates

August 2014



## Summary

Module 4M1A has been rewritten to incorporate contemporary authentic images and text about the Haudenosaunee (Iroquois), and a series of brief videos developed by the NYS Education Department in partnership with the Onondaga Nation and NYS Museum. The instructional arc has shifted to incorporate the themes of community-building, oral tradition and global cultures, resulting in a new performance task and reworked assessments. While students will be assessed using the new tests starting in the 2012-13 school year, educators who are interested in starting early on aligning their classroom practices to the new standards should check the EngageNY.org website for the most up-to-date information on the transition.

## Texts

All of the replacement informational texts are provided within the lessons and will not require separate text purchases with the exception of a classroom copy of *The Keeping Quilt* by Patricia Polacco for Unit 3. The central text for Unit 2 is still *The Iroquois: The Six Nations Confederacy*. *Eagle Song* is also included but is now the central text of an optional independent reading unit.

## Other changes

The rewritten module provides room for local decision around lesson delivery and assessment practice. To accommodate the varying needs of students and teachers, 4M1A is designed to give teachers time to include additional instruction and activities. The module also provides additional research-based, CCSS-aligned, ELL and SWD-friendly strategies for working with vocabulary in complex text (see Unit 1, Lesson 3).

We recommend reprinting the entire module.