

ABOUT *Romeo and Juliet*

CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS

1. All grades: Language/English (Listening to Understand, Speaking to Communicate, Reading for Meaning)
2. All grades: Drama, Music, Visual Art
3. Grades 4–12: Health and PE (Healthy Living: Bullying, Abuse and Violence)
4. Grades 4–12: Health and PE (Human Development and Sexual Health: Emotional, Social Impact; Personal Stresses; Understanding Healthy Relationships; Conflict Management; Mental Health)
5. Grade 12: Canadian and World History (Communities, Conflicts and Cooperation)

TOPICS

Shakespeare

- Who he was, his body of work, his significance in English drama and literature
- Dramatists of the Renaissance
- Early modern drama

Elizabethan England

- Social and economic structure (class systems, playhouses, plays and players)
- Values and beliefs (humours, the Great Chain of Being, etc.)
- Conventions of early English drama (tragedy, five-act structure)

Language

- Imagery, blank verse, rhetoric, sonnet form

THEMES AND MOTIFS

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| • Young love, courtship and marriage | • Adults versus adolescents (generation gap) |
| • Fate vs. free will | • Light vs. dark |
| • Rebellion and retribution | • Love vs. hate |
| • Language and communication | • Public vs. private |
| • Social graces | • Life vs. death |
| • Freedom and choice | |

