

Curriculum Document

Subject: Language Arts

Grade: 7

Date: August 2012

Unit Title And Pacing	Essential Questions and Standards	Student Learning Objectives	Instructional Strategies Activities/ Materials / Technology Interdisciplinary Connections Cultural Diversity	Modifications ESL / Special Education Academic Support/ G&T	Assessments Formative Summative Benchmarks
<p>Writing Launch (8 Days)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can we establish a community of strong, successful writers in our classroom? • How will mentor texts help us become strong, successful writers? • How will keeping a Writer's Notebook help us become like real-life authors? <p>(RL.7.3, RL, 7.5, RL.7.6, W.7.3, W.7.4, W.7.5, W.7.9, W.7.10, SL.7.1, L.7.2)</p>	<p>Writers will follow the writing process by formulating a plan for their own practice.</p> <p>Writers will understand the importance of keeping a Writer's Notebook by collecting ideas and using it as a tool for reflection.</p> <p>Writers will reflect on nonfiction topics and create a list of possible topics and forms to be explored by analyzing mentor texts.</p> <p>Writers will understand the importance of conflict in a successful story by examining the experiences and conflicts of authors.</p> <p>Writers will create a</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read-Alouds • Mini-Lessons • T-Charts • Life Charts • Idea Maps • Anchor Charts • Writer's Notebook Entries • Small Group Discussions • Conferences • Share Sessions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individualized Conferences • Peer Conferences • Graphic Organizers • Reduction in Writing Quantity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Link-It! Pre-assessment • Conference Logs • Writer's Notebook Entries

		<p>poem of their own and recognize craft by examining poetry</p> <p>Writers will conquer writer's block by demonstrating the use of helpful strategies.</p>			
<p>Varied Beginnings and Endings (10 Days)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why are the first several sentences and/or paragraphs of your writing absolutely crucial? • How can a writer make their endings memorable and interesting? • How does experimenting with various beginning and endings lead to the best possible final piece? 	<p>Writers will understand that authors use multiple ways of beginning and ending their writing through exposure to mentor texts.</p> <p>Writers will revise old and new notebook entries by experimenting with a variety of techniques for beginnings and endings.</p> <p>Writers will</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read-Alouds • Mini-Lessons • Anchor Charts • Small Group Discussions • Writer's Notebook Entries • Conferences • Share Sessions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individualized Conferences • Graphic Organizers • Peer Conferences • Reduction in Writing Quantity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conference Logs • Writer's Notebook Entries • Beginnings and Endings Rubric

	(W.7.3, W.7.4, W.7.5, W.7.6, W.7.9, W.7.10, RL.7.4 SL.7.1, L.7.1, L.7.2, L.7.3, L.7.5)	demonstrate their ability to begin and end their writing in new ways by crafting a new writing piece.			
Persuasive Editorials (22 Days)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why is it important to read and study many examples of a specific genre and what does it do for us as writers? • Why is it important to choose an editorial topic that is meaningful to you and how does it influence your writing? • Why is it important to choose an editorial topic that is meaningful to you and how does it influence your writing? <p>(W.7.1, W.7.4, W.7.5, W.7.6, W.7.7, W.7.9, W.7.10, RI.7.5, RI.7.6, RI.7.8, SL.7.1, SL.7.2, SL.7.3, SL.7.4, L.7.1,</p>	<p>Writers will familiarize themselves with structure and purpose of editorial writing by examining mentor texts.</p> <p>Writers will identify the language that makes an editorial successful by analyzing mentor pieces.</p> <p>Writers will demonstrate their ability of writing an editorial by successfully creating an original piece.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read-Alouds • Mini-Lessons • Anchor Charts • Computer Lab Research • Small Group Discussions • Writer’s Notebook Entries • Conferences • Share Sessions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individualized Conferences • Graphic Organizers • Peer Conferences • Reduction in Writing Quantity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conference Logs • Writer’s Notebook Entries • Editorial Rubric

	L.7.2, L.7.3, L.7.4, L.7.6)				
<p>Experimenting with Text Structures</p> <p>(13 Days)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do writers choose the text structure for their published piece? • Why should writers try to use a variety of text structures when they write? <p>(W.7.3, W.7.4, W.7.5, W.7.6, RI.7.5, SL.7.1, L.7.1, L.7.2, L.7.3, L.7.6)</p>	<p>Writers will understand that structure is one way to craft text through exposure to three different text structures authors use.</p> <p>Writers will revise old or new notebook entries by experimenting with all three text structures.</p> <p>Writers will successfully publish an original piece by utilizing a new text structure within their writing.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read-Alouds • Mini-Lessons • Anchor Chart • Writer’s Notebook Entries • Conferences • Share Sessions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individualized Conferences • Graphic Organizers • Peer Conferences • Reduction in Writing Quantity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conference Logs • Writer’s Notebook Entries • Text Structure Rubric
<p>Poetry Workshop</p> <p>(14 Days)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why do writers write poetry? What emotions can poetry illicit? • What can I learn from other poets that I can use in my own writing? <p>(W.7.4, W.7.5, W.7.6, W.7.9, W.7.10, RL.7.4,</p>	<p>Writers will understand that poets use figurative language within their poetry through exposure to mentor texts.</p> <p>Writers will demonstrate an understanding of poetry by responding and reacting to published</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read-Alouds • Mini-Lessons • Noticing Charts • Writer’s Notebook Entries • Partnerships • Conferences • Stations • Share Sessions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individualized Conferences • Graphic Organizers • Peer Conferences • Reduction in Writing Quantity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conference Logs • Writer’s Notebook Entries • Poetry Rubric

	RL, 7.5, SL.7.1, SL.7.6 L.7.3, L.7.5)	poems. Writers will create original poetry by emulating the structures and techniques demonstrated by published authors.			
Nonfiction Feature Articles (29 Days)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What makes an effective feature article? • How do writers find topics they are passionate about and turn them into feature articles? • How can incorporating personal experiences into non-fiction writing make your writing stronger? (RI.7.5, RI.7.6, RI.7.8, RI.7.9, W.7.1, W.7.2, W.7.4, W.7.5, W.7.6, W.7.7, W.7.8, SL.7.1, SL.7.2, SL.7.3, SL.7.4, L.7.1, L.7.2, L.7.3, L.7.4, L.7.6)	Writers will understand the purpose and structure of feature articles through exposure of exemplars. Writers will appreciate the genre through the study of effective mentor texts. Writers will produce an effective and realistic feature article by using ideas in Writers' Notebooks and knowledge gained through mentor texts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read-Alouds • Mini-Lessons • Exemplars • Anchor Charts • Small Group Discussions • Writer's Notebook Entries • Noticing Charts • Conferences • Topic Research • Share Sessions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individualized Conferences • Graphic Organizers • Peer Conferences • Reduction in Writing Quantity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conference Logs • Writer's Notebook Entries • Feature Article Rubric

<p>Adding Spice to Your Writing (14 Days)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are ways to make sentences stronger and more vivid? • What are ways to avoid/improve upon conventional sentence structure? • How do using new techniques improve your overall writing piece? <p>(RL.7.4, W.7.3, W.7.4, W.7.5, W.7.9, W.7.10, SL.7.1, L.7.1, L.7.2, L.7.3, L.7.4, L.7.5, L.7.6)</p>	<p>Writers will identify unique sentence beginnings, middles, and language usage by participating in a treasure hunt.</p> <p>Writers will be able to improve upon conventional sentence structure by experimenting with sentence variety.</p> <p>Writers will create a personal piece by utilizing the techniques learned in the unit.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read-Alouds • Mini-Lessons • Anchor Charts • Small Group Discussions • Writer’s Notebook Entries • Conferences • Scavenger Hunt • Share Sessions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individualized Conferences • Graphic Organizers • Peer Conferences • Reduction in Writing Quantity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conference Logs • Writer’s Notebook Entries • Adding Spice Rubric • Link-It! Benchmark Assessment
<p>Writing to the Prompt (10 Days)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⤴ How does careful planning help you respond to a timed prompt? ⤴ How does understanding how writing is assessed improve my writing? <p>(W.7.1, W.7.2, W.7.3, W.7.4, W.7.5, W.7.9, W.7.10 SL.7.1 L.7.1, L.7.2, L.7.3, L.7.5)</p>	<p>Writers will demonstrate mock NJASK testing procedures by responding to a prompt under time constraints.</p> <p>Writers will understand how prompt writing is assessed by analyzing student exemplars.</p> <p>Writers will demonstrate improvement to their</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exemplars • Modeling • Real time teacher demonstrations • Partnerships • Small Groups • Conferences 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individualized Conferences • Graphic Organizers • Peer Conferences 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conference Logs • Kid Friendly Rubrics • NJ State Rubrics

		prompt writing by attempting compositional risks.			
Autobiography (26 Days)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can reading and enjoying portions of others' autobiography inspire my writing? • How is writing about our personal lives both challenging and rewarding? • What elements of fiction and nonfiction writing can be combined to produce autobiographies that are both informational and interesting to read? <p>(RL.7.6, RI.7.5, W.7.2, W.7.3, W.7.4, W.7.5, W.7.6, W.7.7, W.7.9, W.7.10, SL.7.1, SL.7.10, L.7.1, L.7.2, L.7.3, L.7.6)</p>	<p>Writers will identify how both our cultural and ethnic background make us who we are today through exposure to mentor texts.</p> <p>Writers will create their own chapters by using personal experiences in writing.</p> <p>Writers will publish their own autobiographies by writing in a variety of genres while sharing with the reader his/her life experiences.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read-Alouds • Exemplars • Mini-Lessons • Writer's Notebook Entries • Conferences • Share Sessions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individualized Conferences • Graphic Organizers • Peer Conferences • Reduction in Writing Quantity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conference Logs • Writer's Notebook Entries • Autobiography Rubric • Link-it! Post Assessment

