

Texas

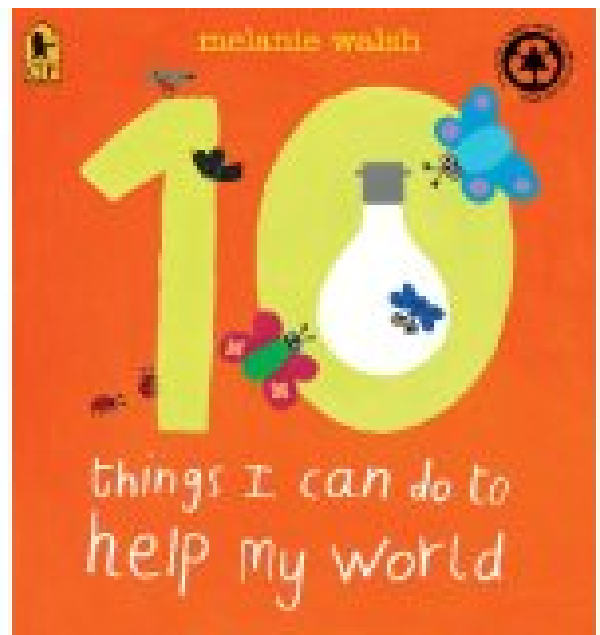
10 Things I Can Do to Help My World

By Melanie Walsh

Lexile 530 - 620



Building Communities that
Support Children's Reading



Kindergarten - Unit 1: I Can Make a Difference

Other books in this unit include:

City Green

This grant is managed by
The Three Rivers Education Foundation

<http://threeriverseducationfoundation.org>

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Farmington, NM 87401

Kindergarten Unit of Study

I Can Make A Difference Unit

Purpose for Reading & Learning:

The overall unit purpose is to explore the essential question:

What kind of world do I want to live in?

In addition, each book will explore its own guiding question:

10 Things I Can Do to Help My World - How can I make the world a better place?

City Green - How can I make my community a better place?

Pacing Guide:

This unit is designed to be completed in 3-4 instructional days. The individual assessment may be completed following reading and instruction for each text **or** after the study of both texts - at the teacher's discretion.

10 Things I Can Do to Help My World 1-2 days of instruction

City Green 1-2 days of instruction

Student Texts

1. 10 Things I Can Do to Help My World, by Melanie Walsh (2008)

Lexile 530-620

Nonfiction

Book Jacket Synopsis:

Here are ten simple things we can all do to improve the world we live in.

2. City Green, by DyAnne DiSalvo-Ryan (1994)

Lexile 480

Narrative fiction

Book Jacket Synopsis:

Right in the middle of Marcy's city block is a vacant lot, littered and forlorn. Sometimes just looking at it makes Marcy feel sad. then one spring, Marcy has a wonderful idea: Instead of a useless lot, why not a green and growing space for everyone to enjoy?

With her warm, hopeful text and inviting illustrations, Dyanne DiSalvo-Ryan shows how a whole neighborhood blossoms when people get involved.

Unit Focus

10 Things I Can Do to Help My World

TEKS 9 - Comprehension of Informational Text/Culture and History. Students analyze, make inferences and draw conclusions about the author's purpose in cultural, historical, and contemporary contexts and provide evidence from the text to support their understanding.

City Green

TEKS 6.A. 6.D. - Reading/Comprehension of Literary Text/Theme and Genre. Students analyze, make inferences and draw conclusions about theme and genre in different cultural, historical, and contemporary contexts and provide evidence from the text to support their understanding. identify elements of a story including setting, character, and key events; (B) discuss the big idea (theme) of a well-known folktale or fable and connect it to personal experience; (C) recognize sensory details; and (D) recognize recurring phrases and characters in traditional fairy tales, lullabies, and folktales from various cultures.

Additional Teacher Resources

Accompanying this unit are sets of documents entitled

Resources for Effective Instruction and Resources: Forms and Reproducibles.

In these resources you will find:

- Curriculum Design Theory
- Differentiation
- Think Alouds
- Vocabulary Instruction Protocol
- Partner Reading Routines
- Question Stems for Partner Reading
- Character Analysis Charts
- Sentence Webs
- Vocabulary Word Map Examples

Citations

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www.readingrockets.org

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Kindergarten Unit of Study: I Can Make A Difference 10 Things I Can Do to Help My World & City Green

10 Things I Can Do to Help My World

Assessment Preview

[Student Copy in Resources](#)

1. What is this story about? What information is the author telling sharing with us?

Possible Answers:

The author is telling us how to make the world a better place.

TEKS 10 - Comprehension of Informational Text/Expository Text. Students analyze, make inferences and draw conclusions about expository text, and provide evidence from text to support their understanding.

TEKS 10.A. - Identify the topic and details in expository text heard or read, referring to the words and/or illustrations; and 10.B. - Retell important facts in a text, heard or read.

2. What is one thing you already do to help your world?
Answers will vary.

Comprehension Skills. Students use a flexible range of metacognitive reading skills in both assigned and independent reading to understand an author's message - ask and respond to questions about text.

3. What is one thing that you can start doing to help your world?

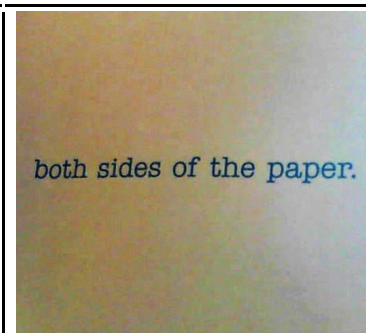
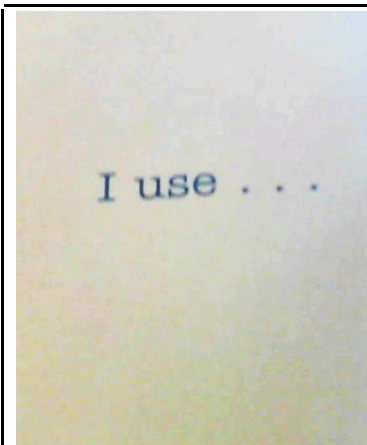
Answers will vary.

TEKS 10.A. - Identify the topic and details in expository text heard or read, referring to the words and/or illustrations

4a. The author's point is that we should use both sides of the paper. What reason does the author give to support her point?

The author says that if we use both sides of the paper, we can keep trees from getting cut down.

4b. Which of these pages from the text show the author's reason for using both sides of the paper? How do you know?



TEKS 10.A. - 10.B. - identify the topic and details in expository text heard or read, referring to the words and/or illustrations; 10.B. - Retell important facts in a text, heard or read; and 10.C. discuss the ways authors group information in text.

10 Things I Can Do to Help My World

by Melanie Walsh

West Virginia Phonics Lesson

Phonemic Awareness Warm-up

ELA Literacy K – Demonstrate understanding of spoken words, syllables, and sounds.

Recognize and produce rhyming words.

2-minute Review Activity:

Rhyming words for the short vowel sound / i/

Have students come up with a list of rhyming words for short vowel sound /i/. Use the word list below to get you started.

Word List: bit, sit, rid, fit, mitt, bid, hit, sniff, whiff, lift, swift

2-minute Activation of Phonemic Awareness:

Thumbs Up/Down

If the students hear /th/ they will give a thumbs up. If not, they will give thumbs down. Use the words provided.

Teacher checks students' articulation during this exercise.

Articulation: The teacher will ask students to watch his/her mouth as the voiceless /th/ is made. To make the sound, place the tip of the tongue between the teeth. Force the air through the front of the tongue without vibration. Explain that the tongue is between the teeth and air is pushed out. Students will use individual mirrors to imitate the teacher.

Next the teacher will demonstrate the voiced /th/ and place his or her hand on the throat to show students that they will feel a vibration when they say voiced /th/. To make the sound, place the tip of the tongue between the teeth. Force the air through the front of the tongue while the tongue vibrates. Students will use a mirror and practice the voiced /th/ while placing a hand on the throat to feel the vibration.

Word List: thin, think, broth, Beth, cloth, with, then

Other words: Josh, fish, ship, shell, fresh, cash, mesh, wish, gush, shop

Repeat with additional words from the text

things the this	teeth throw them	both they than something
-----------------------	------------------------	-----------------------------------

Phonics Practice

ELA Literacy K – Know and apply grade-level phonics and word analysis skills in decoding words.

- Materials:**
- -th word list on paper to highlight
 - highlighters
 - a list or set of cards including words (for students) from the text

Letter sound Correspondence: The teacher will show students the spelling of “th” on a card. Students will practice the voiced and voiceless /th/. Students will then use individual word lists on paper and use highlighters to highlight “th.”

Word List: thin, think, broth, Beth, cloth, with, then

Other words: Josh, fish, ship, shell, fresh, cash, mesh, wish, gush, shop

I Do: Place word cards on the table. Blend the first word (thin) orally with a think aloud. Repeat this procedure with “broth” and “with.”

We Do: Let's read one together. Ask student to silently sound out the next word and say it aloud on cue. (think) Next word (Beth)

You Do: Ask students to take turns reading all of the words with a partner as you listen and provide feedback as necessary.

Partner Practice

Teacher selects 3 more words, students talk with an elbow partner to highlight the th in the following words. If possible, decode the words together.

things the this	teeth throw them	both they than something
-----------------------	------------------------	-----------------------------------

Day 2 Instruction

Phonemic Awareness Warmup

*ELA Literacy K – Demonstrate understanding of spoken words, syllables, and sounds.
Recognize and produce rhyming words.*

2-minute Review Activity:

Rhyming words for the short vowel sound / e/

Have students come up with a list of rhyming words for short vowel sound /e/. Use the word list below to get you started.

Word List: bet, set, red, fell, men, bed, hem, ref, left

2-minute Activation of Phonemic Awareness:

Thumbs Up/Down

If the students hear /th/ they will give a thumbs up. If not, they will give thumbs down. Use the words provided in the next section.

Teacher checks students' articulation during this exercise.

Articulation: The teacher will ask students to watch his/her mouth as the voiceless /th/ is made. To make the sound, place the tip of the tongue between the teeth. Force the air through the front of the tongue without vibration. Explain that the tongue is between the teeth and air is pushed out. Students will use individual mirrors to imitate the teacher.

Word Building Words: thin, think, broth, Beth, cloth, with, then, sloth

nonsense words: Bith, roth, soth, slith

I Do: Spell the word "thin" with magnetic letters. How many letters do you see? (4) How many sounds do you hear? (3) Replace the "i" with "e." What is the new word? (then) How many letters do you see? (4) How many sounds do you hear? (3)

We Do: Repeat this same procedure with the following sets of words: with –Beth Remember to ask the students how many sounds and how many letters for each set of words.

You Do: Have the students build their own words with magnetic letters using the two words lists below.

(1) broth – roth - soth (2) cloth – sloth - slith

Partner Practice

THIS MAY TAKE UP TO 4 MINUTES

Teacher selects 3 more words, students talk with an elbow partner to find the following words in the text. If possible, decode the words together.

things the this	teeth throw them	both they than something
-----------------------	------------------------	-----------------------------------

Tier 2 Vocabulary Possibilities

Some vocabulary words may be taught explicitly before reading, while others may be taught in context during reading of the text.

Refer to **Effective Instruction - Vocabulary Instruction Protocol** section of this unit for detailed instructions.

Categories may differ depending on intent of lesson

Noun	Adjective	Verb
energy	efficient	reduce
	valuable	

Vocabulary Activity Menu

Options for practicing new vocabulary following initial instruction

Whole group: complete one of the vocabulary maps for each word as you encounter the word in the text during the second read. Post as anchor charts for future reference.

Example	After discussing the vocabulary pictures and matching them with the vocabulary words, students come up with other examples to show the meaning of the words.
Word Relationships	Discuss synonyms for the vocabulary words. Students explain to partners what each vocabulary word means. Use vocabulary picture cards if necessary.
Generate Situations, contexts, and examples	Together, discuss situations in which the vocabulary words apply. Variation 1) Teacher provides questions including the vocabulary words for students to answer. <i>What would make a teacher call her students INDUSTRIOUS? CLEVER? DILIGENT?</i>
Writing	Students write the vocabulary word next to its picture.

Day 1: First Read

PURPOSE: Read for general understanding and enjoyment.

TEKS - Comprehension Skills: Students use a flexible range of metacognitive reading skills in both assigned and independent reading to understand an author's message. - ask and respond to questions about text.

Set the purpose for reading and ask questions following each page of text based on the **FIRST READ** column of the following chart. Highlight vocabulary in the text on sticky notes or an anchor chart as you read.

Day 2: SECOND READ

PURPOSE: Read for deeper understanding and analysis of the author's craft.

TEKS 10 - Comprehension of Informational Text/Expository Text. Students analyze, make inferences and draw conclusions about expository text, and provide evidence from text to support their understanding.

10. A. - Identify the topic and details in expository text heard or read, referring to the words and/or illustrations

Set the purpose for reading and ask questions following each page of text based on the **SECOND READ** column of the following chart. After completion of the second read, partners/triads work collaboratively to complete activity pages for this text.

	First Read	Second Read
Text Access Options	<input type="checkbox"/> teacher read-aloud, carpet time <input type="checkbox"/> choral reading with all students <input type="checkbox"/> student whisper read followed by teacher guided phrase reading <i>Teacher paces the reading to allow for questioning following each page / section read</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> teacher read-aloud, carpet time <input type="checkbox"/> choral reading with all students <input type="checkbox"/> student whisper read followed by teacher guided phrase reading <i>Teacher paces the reading to allow for questioning following each page / section read</i>
<i>Set Purpose for Reading</i>	<i>Did you know that you can do things to make the world a better place? As we read this story together the first time, we'll focus on understanding the information that the author tells about.</i>	<i>Now we know some things that we can do to make the world a better place! This time, we'll read the text again to look more closely at how the author has supported these points.:</i> → <i>How the illustrations work to add meaning to the words the author has written</i> → <i>The author's choice of specific words to achieve an effect</i>
Front Cover	This is the front cover. Here is the title of the book. The author's name is Melanie Walsh. She wrote the book.	Remember that the author has told us some things we can do to help make the world a better place. Look at this symbol. It says, "This book is made from 100% recycled material." What did the author say about recycling? (Refer to page 37).
Pages 1-4	Why might the words be making this weird shape? <i>Encourage complete sentences for response.</i> The illustrator put these little circles here. What are they supposed to be? <i>Encourage complete sentences for response.</i>	The author says we should turn off the lights when we aren't using them. What reason does she give us for doing this?





Pages 5-8	<p>Who here turns the water off when you brush your teeth? <i>Encourage complete sentences for responses.</i></p> <p>Look! It seems like these words are coming out of the faucet!</p>	<p>Why are we supposed to turn off the water when we brush our teeth?</p> <p>Where on this page are the words that tell us the answer?</p> <p>How do you know? <i>Students should notice that the font and text size are different and that his text is written in various shapes/directions.</i></p>
Pages 9-12	<p>Hey! I notice a pattern! The author only puts 2 words on the first page of each section. Then, when I turn the page, the rest of the sentence is there. Let's look back at the pages we've already read so you can see the pattern.</p>	<p>Why, according to the author, should we put trash where it belongs?</p>
Pages 13-16	<p>Who here feeds the birds in winter? <i>Encourage complete sentences for responses.</i></p>	
Pages 17-20	<p>See how the author wrapped these words around the tree? I wonder why she did that?</p> <p>The author says that we should use both sides of the paper. What reason for doing that does she give us? <i>Encourage complete sentences for responses.</i></p>	
Pages 21-24	<p>Hmmm... I don't unplug my appliances. I need to start doing that!</p>	<p>What reason does the author give us for unplugging our appliances when we aren't using them?</p>
Pages 29-32		<p>Why should we try to walk instead of ride in a car?</p>
Pages	<p>These illustrations are so cool! <i>Point out how the illustrator used cut-outs to change the containers from empty to full.</i></p>	<p>The author says we should recycle. Why?</p>

Sample Anchor Charts

See vocabulary web examples in Resources

Helping Our World	
We Can...	because...
Turn the water off while we brush our teeth	it saves water.
Unplug the TV when we are not home	it saves electrical energy.
Plant trees and flowers	plants keep air clean and healthy.

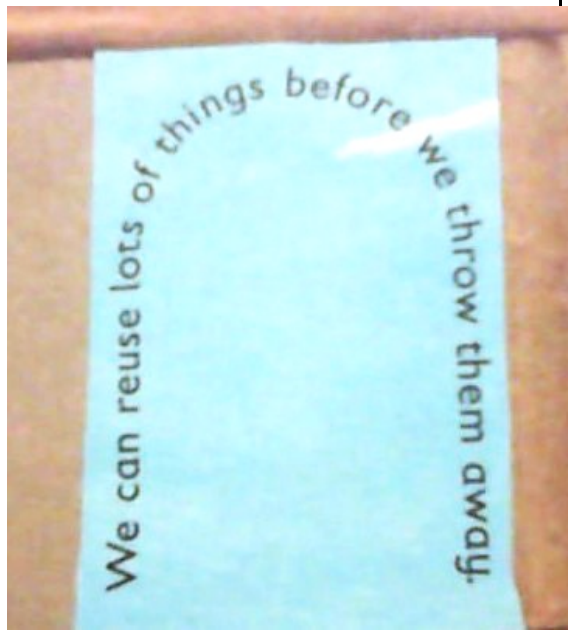
10 Things I Can Do to Help My World Vocabulary Handwriting Activity

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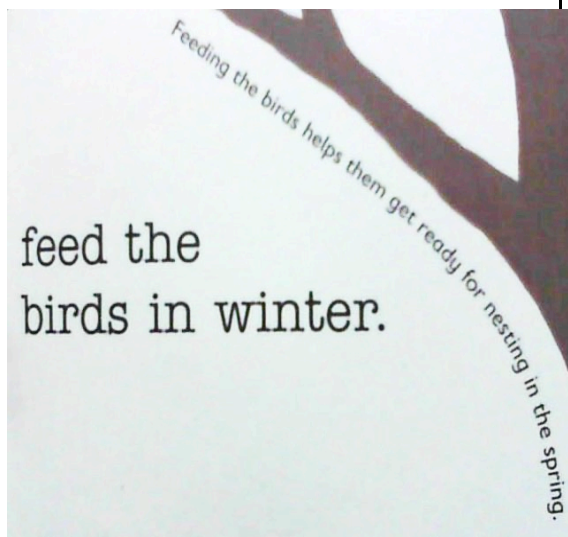
Activity Pages
10 Things I Can Do to Help My World

On the pages below, highlight all of your heart words YELLOW. Write the highlighted words on the lines.

	<div><hr/><hr/><hr/></div> <div><hr/><hr/><hr/></div> <div><hr/><hr/><hr/></div> <div><hr/><hr/><hr/></div> <div><hr/><hr/><hr/></div> <div><hr/><hr/><hr/></div>
	<div><hr/><hr/><hr/></div> <div><hr/><hr/><hr/></div> <div><hr/><hr/><hr/></div> <div><hr/><hr/><hr/></div> <div><hr/><hr/><hr/></div> <div><hr/><hr/><hr/></div>

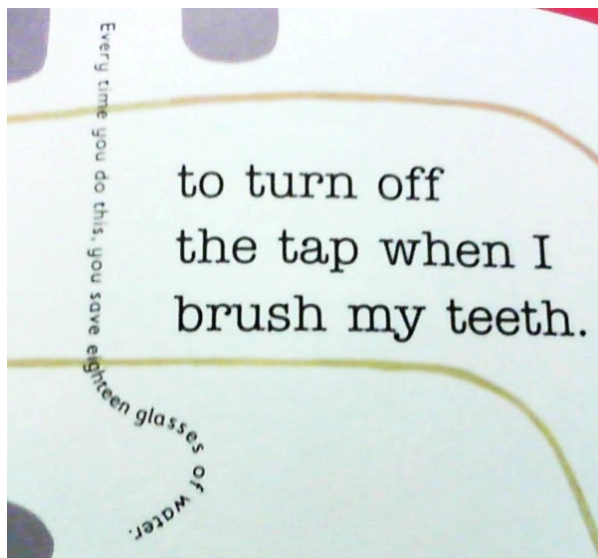


Handwriting practice lines for the first card. The first set of lines includes a dashed midline. The second set includes a dashed midline and a small URL: www.ActivityVillage.co.uk - Keeping Kids Busy.

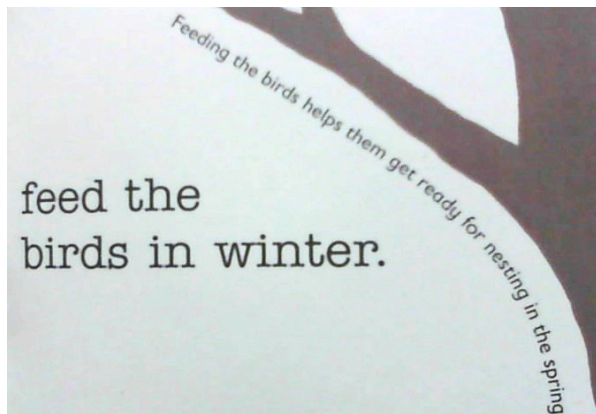


Handwriting practice lines for the second card. The first set of lines includes a dashed midline. The second set includes a dashed midline and a small URL: www.ActivityVillage.co.uk - Keeping Kids Busy.

Highlight all the words you can decode GREEN on the pages below. Write the highlighted words on the lines.



Handwriting practice lines for the first section. The lines are arranged in two sets of three lines each (top solid, middle dashed, bottom solid). The first set is for the words "to turn off" and the second set is for the words "the tap when I brush my teeth.".



Handwriting practice lines for the second section. The lines are arranged in two sets of three lines each (top solid, middle dashed, bottom solid). The first set is for the words "feed the" and the second set is for the words "birds in winter.".

to unplug the TV
when we are not
watching it.

Many electrical appliances use energy
even when they are turned off.

Handwriting practice lines (solid top and bottom lines with a dashed middle line) for the first section.

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Handwriting practice lines (solid top and bottom lines with a dashed middle line) for the second section.

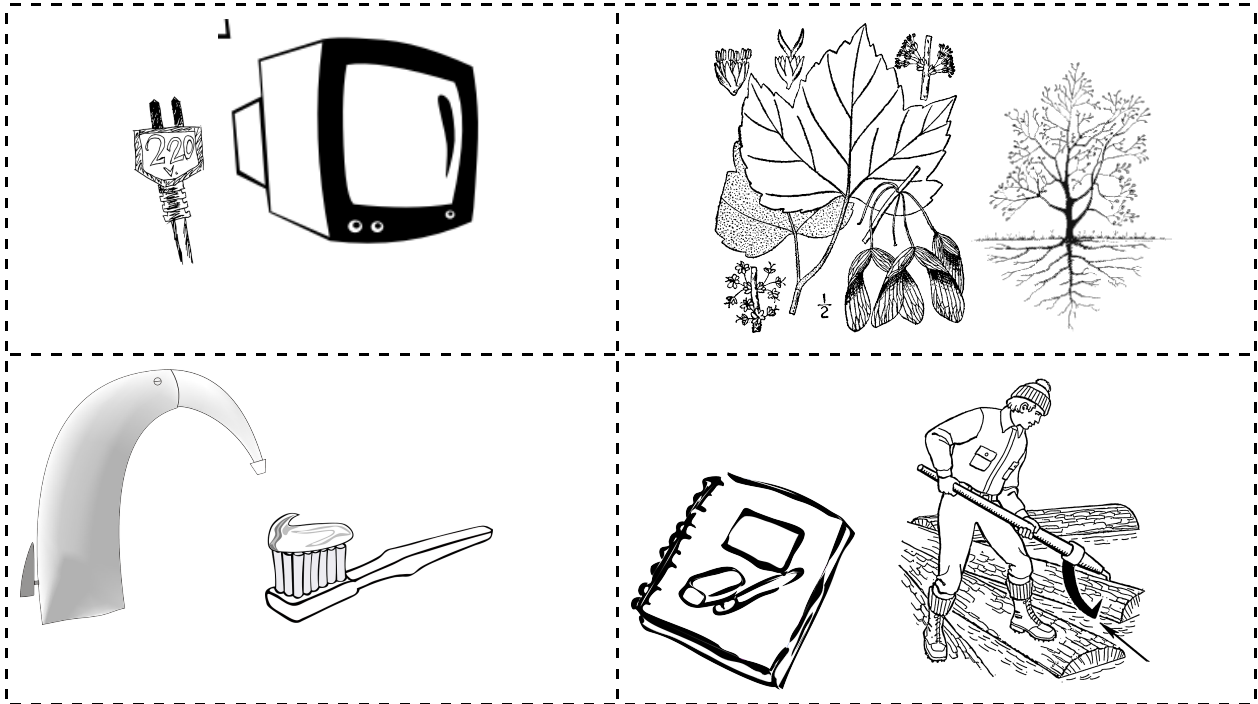
www.ActivityVillage.co.uk - Keeping Kids Busy

We can reuse lots of things before we
throw them away.

www.ActivityVillage.co.uk - Keeping Kids Busy

Color each picture. Cut it out. Paste it next to the information it matches.

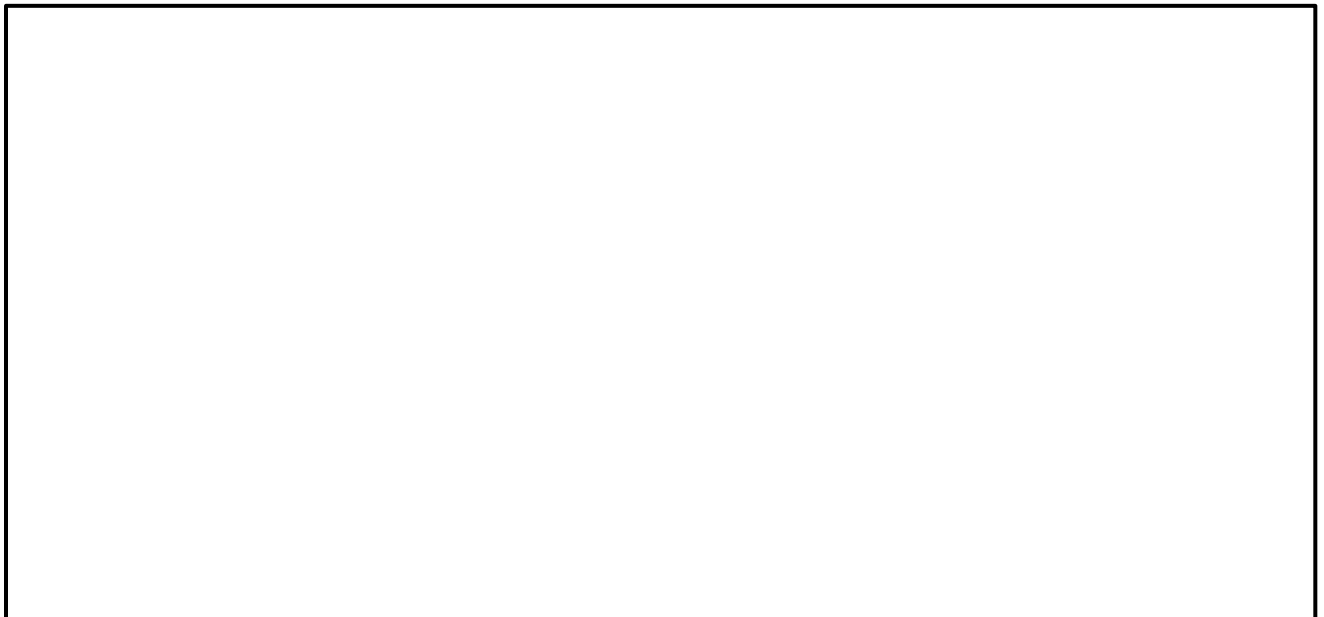
	Unplug the TV to save energy.
	Turn off the tap to save water.
	Use the whole paper to save trees.
	Plant seeds to keep air healthy.



Write about what you can do to help your world. Illustrate.

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www.ActivityVillage.co.uk - Keeping Kids Busy



10 Things I Can Do to Help My World
Student Assessment

Name: _____

Date: _____

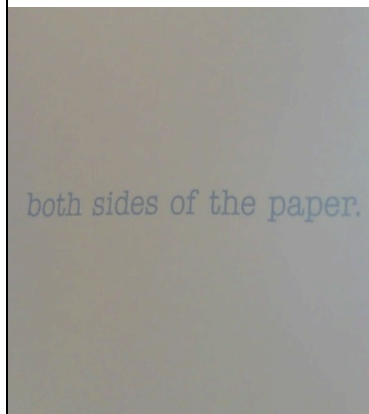
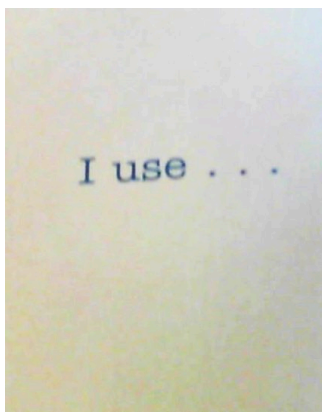
1. What is this story about? What information is the author telling sharing with us?

2. What is one thing you already do to help your world?

3. What is one thing that you can start doing to help your world?

4a. The author's point is that we should use both sides of the paper. What reason does the author give to support her point?

4b. Which of these pages from the text show the author's reason for using both sides of the paper? How do you know?



10 Things I Can Do to Help My World Vocabulary Handwriting Activity

    <p>energy</p>	    <p>valuable</p>
    <p>efficient</p>	   <p>reduce</p>

Curriculum Design Theory

Backwards Design - Begin With the End Goals in Mind

Effective curriculum development reflects a three-stage design process called "backward design" that delays the planning of classroom activities until goals have been clarified and assessments designed. This process helps to avoid the twin problems of "textbook coverage" and "activity-oriented" teaching, in which no clear priorities and purposes are apparent (Authentic Education, retrieved 1/17/15).

Using Essential Questions (EQs)

“Essential questions make our unit plans more likely to yield focused and thoughtful learning and learners... [They] make crystal-clear to students that passive learning is a no-no in the classroom; that thinking is required, not optional. Essential questions:

- Signal that inquiry is a key goal of learning.
- Make it more likely that the unit will be intellectually engaging.
- Help to clarify and prioritize standards for teachers.
- Provide transparency for students.
- Encourage and model metacognition for students.
- Provide opportunities for intra- and interdisciplinary connections.
- Support meaningful differentiation.” (McTighe & Wiggins, 2013)

Further, essential questions help frame the PURPOSE for reading and learning.

Differentiation

As quality educators, we must never allow struggling students to remain in low-level text or produce less quality work as means of differentiation. Further, advanced students should be expected to expand their knowledge through extended thinking activities, rather than simply producing more work than their peers.

The intent of this unit is to expose all students to quality, complex, grade-level text and to provide extensive practice with expectations. As differentiation, students should be provided various levels of support from peers and adults, as needed, to ensure a successful navigation through the text and tasks. These supports include discussion opportunities and partner and small group work. Further, students may be allowed to complete each task at his/her own optimal pace and sequence; there is no need for all students to be working on the same task at the same time (see variations within the Vocabulary Instruction Protocol, and the close reading sections found in the During Reading sections of each chapter).

When considering methods for differentiation within the grade level expectation, the tasks required of students may be graduated as seen in the assessment evidence tables. The following example is taken from the grade 3 Reading Literature strand.

Grade Level Expectation (Standard)	Evidence in the student's response	Differentiation
Recount stories, including fables, folktales, and myths from diverse cultures; determine the central message, lesson, or moral and explain how it is conveyed through key details in the text.	1. Provides a recounting of stories, including fables, folktales, and myths from diverse cultures.	Above Level Students: Expected to demonstrate mastery of all 3 points of evidence as well as expanding content knowledge and skills through extended thinking activities. Work products may be modified to reflect these extensions.
	2. Provides a statement of the central message, lesson, or moral in a text.	On Level Students: Expected to work toward and demonstrate mastery of all 3 points of evidence.
	3. Provides an explanation of how a central message, lesson, or moral is conveyed through details in a text.	Below Level Students: Expected to work toward mastery of all 3 points of evidence with allowances

		for scaffolded supports such as additional time and guidance / support from peers and adults.
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Partner Reading Routine

Directly copied from www.readingrockets.org/strategies/paired_reading

Retrieved 2/2015

Paired reading is a research-based fluency strategy used with readers who lack fluency. In this strategy, students read aloud to each other. When using partners, more fluent readers can be paired with less fluent readers, or children who read at the same level can be paired to reread a story they have already read. Paired reading can be used with any book, taking turns reading by sentence, paragraph, page or chapter.

Why use paired reading?

- It helps students work together.
- It encourages cooperation and supports peer-assisted learning.

How to use paired reading

How to pair students

Pair students either by same reading ability or by high level readers with low level readers.

Use the following steps to pair high-level readers with low-level readers:

- List the students in order from highest to lowest according to reading ability
- Divide the list in half
- Place the top student in the first list with the top student in the second list
- Continue until all students have been partnered
- Be sensitive to pairings of students with special needs, including learning or emotional needs. Adjust pairings as necessary
- The reader from the first list should read first while the reader from the second list listens and follows along
- The second reader should pick up where the first reader stops. If additional practice is needed, the second reader can reread what the first reader read.
- Encourage pairs to ask each other about what was read. "What was your page about? What was your favorite part?"

Implementing the strategy

1. Introduce the students to the Paired Reading strategy. This includes:
 - Establishing a routine for students to adopt so that they know the step-by-step requirements for engaging in paired reading (i.e. Will they read out loud, simultaneously? Will they take turns with each person reading a paragraph? a page? Or will one person read while the other person listens?).
 - Teaching students an error-correction procedure to use when supporting each other's reading (i.e. re-reading misread words; signals for difficulty).
 - Modeling the procedure to ensure that students understand how to use the strategy.
2. Ask students to begin reading in pairs and adjust reading speed if reading simultaneously so they stay together.
3. Have students offer feedback and praise frequently for correct reading.
4. Monitor and support students as they work.

When to use: ☐ Before reading ☒ During reading ☐ After reading

How to use: ☐ Individually ☒ With small groups ☐ Whole class setting

Implementation Tips

When teaching any routine, remember to model correct behaviors for the students, and allow them to practice several times as you teach the routine. Continued practice and positive reinforcement are needed to truly create a solid routine.

Ideas to help students agree on [which partner reads first](#). Here are some ideas on how to speed up the decision-making:

- *Good manners* technique: One partner says, "Would you like to start first?" The other partner says either, "Yes, please," or, "No, thank you."

- *Rock, paper, scissors:* Students play only once. The winner of the game chooses which partner gets to read first.
- *Youngest first:* Students determine which partner is the youngest. The youngest chooses which partner reads first.
- *Alphabetical order:* Partners look at the first letter of their first names. The partner whose letter occurs first in the alphabet chooses which partner reads first.

Partners provide reading support to each other. To encourage teamwork and support, teach students the *Coaching or Time?* routine:

Tell the students, "Sometimes, when you get stuck on a word, you want to try to figure it out on your own. Other times, you'd like a clue or hint to help you figure it out. Helpful reading coaches don't blurt the word out right away, because that won't help their partner be a good reader. Here is what it looks like and sounds like to be a helpful reading coach.":

- When your partner comes to a word he or she doesn't know, count to three silently to yourself.
- After you count silently to three, ask your partner, "Do you want coaching, or time?"
- If your partner says, "Time," you just sit quietly and wait. While you wait, look carefully at the word. See if you can come up with a strategy that might help your partner figure the word out. That way, you'll be ready in case your partner changes his/her mind.
- If your partner says, "Coaching," you suggest a strategy that you think will help them figure out the word.

Implementation tips above excerpted from

Boushey, G. & Moser, J. (2014) *The daily 5: Fostering literacy independence in the elementary grades*. Portland, Maine: Stenhouse Publishers.

Teaching students an *error-correction procedure* to use when supporting each other's reading (i.e. re-reading misread words; signals for difficulty). Some students get angry when they are corrected.

- While one partner is reading aloud, the other is following along attentively to check for errors.
- When the partner reads a word incorrectly, the coach says, "Check," and points to the word incorrectly read.
- If the reader takes longer than a silent count of three to self-correct, the coach begins the Coaching or Time? routine by asking, "Do you want coaching or time?"

Word Attack Strategies for Coaches
Sound out the whole word.
Break the word into syllables or small chunks. Sound out each syllable/chunk. Blend the syllables/chunks together.
Look carefully at the word. Are there any smaller words inside that will help you decode?
Look carefully at the word. Is there prefix or suffix? What does the prefix or suffix mean? What is the base or root word? Read the prefix/suffix with the base/root. What does this word mean?
Look at the beginning letters. Do they give you a clue? Does your guess match the letters that are there?
Look at the ending letters. Do they give you a clue? Does your guess match the letters that are there?

Think Alouds

Copied directly from www.readingrockets.org/strategies/think_alouds

Think-alouds

Think-alouds have been described as "eavesdropping on someone's thinking." With this strategy, teachers verbalize aloud while reading a selection orally. Their verbalizations include describing things they're doing as they read to monitor their comprehension. The purpose of the think-aloud strategy is to model for students how skilled readers construct meaning from a text.

Why use think-alouds?

- It helps students learn to monitor their thinking as they read and improves their comprehension.
- It teaches students to re-read a sentence, read ahead to clarify, and/or look for context clues to make sense of what they read.
- It slows down the reading process and allows students to monitor their understanding of a text.

How to use think-alouds

1. Begin by modeling this strategy. Model your thinking as you read. Do this at points in the text that may be confusing for students (new vocabulary, unusual sentence construction).
2. Introduce the assigned text and discuss the purpose of the Think-Aloud strategy. Develop the set of questions to support thinking aloud (see examples below).
 - What do I know about this topic?
 - What do I think I will learn about this topic?
 - Do I understand what I just read?
 - i. Do I have a clear picture in my head about this information?
 - ii. What more can I do to understand this?
 - iii. What were the most important points in this reading?
 - iv. What new information did I learn?
 - v. How does it fit in with what I already know?

- Give students opportunities to practice the technique, and offer structured feedback to students.
- Read the selected passage aloud as the students read the same text silently. At certain points stop and "think aloud" the answers to some of the pre-selected questions.
- Demonstrate how good readers monitor their understanding by rereading a sentence, reading ahead to clarify, and/or looking for context clues. Students then learn to offer answers to the questions as the teacher leads the Think Aloud.

Instructional Tip: Vocabulary Instruction

Teach vocabulary both directly and indirectly:

- When there is a need for direct instruction of vocabulary items that are required for a specific text to be read as part of the lesson.
- The more connections that can be made to a specific word, the better it seems to be learned.

What kinds of words need instructional attention?

"A mature literate individual's vocabulary is comprised of three tiers." (Beck & McKeown, 1985)

- Tier One: *Basic words* such as baby, clock, happy, walk (playground vocabulary).
- Tier Two: Words that are *high frequency* for mature language users and are *found across a variety of domains*. Ex.: coincidence, absurd, redundant, fortunate, gregarious.
- Tier Three: Words whose frequency is quite low and often *limited to specific domains*. Ex.: isotope, peninsula, refinery, photosynthesis.

Key principles for selecting words to teach:

- Importance and utility
- Instructional potential
 - Choose words that your students don't already know!
- Conceptual understanding
 - Choose sets of Tier Two words for instruction. Words should be taught in context.
 - Students can create lists of Tier Two words as synonyms for Tier One words. Ex.: happy = thrilled, ecstatic, jubilant

Evaluate words as possible candidates for instruction:

- How generally useful is the word?
 - Is it a word that students are likely to meet often in other texts? Will it be of use to students in describing their own experiences?
- How does the word relate to other words and/or ideas that students know or have been learning?

- Does it directly relate to some topic of study in the classroom, or might it add a dimension to ideas that have been developed?
- What does the word bring to a text or situation?
 - What role does the word play in communicating the meaning of the context in which it is used?

Vocabulary Instruction Protocol

DAY 1 (*Use the DAY 1 Protocol whenever you introduce new vocabulary words for the first time. A sample script for this protocol follows.*)

PART I: Activate phonological awareness - This is a listening exercise; students should have books closed. Do not post the words for this.

We begin by activating students' phonemic awareness because the human brain is wired for speaking and listening, but not for reading & writing. By beginning any new word study with phonemic awareness tasks we are "priming the pump" to ready the brain for higher-level tasks that build toward meaning. Further, when students hear and speak words correctly, they are more likely to spell the word correctly in their writing.

- Teacher says the vocabulary word clearly, using correct pronunciation. Students watch the teacher's mouth as she does this.
- Students repeat back the word exactly. Teacher watches the students' mouths as they do this, and listens intently to their pronunciation. Any pronunciation errors should be corrected immediately.
- Repeat this up to 5 times for this one vocabulary word. *See Sample Script below.
- Continue on to PART II.
 - PART II: Utilize phonics and word study skills - This is a word analysis & writing exercise. Students should participate orally and write alongside the teacher, in their personal dictionaries or reading reflection logs. [3.RF.3 Know and apply grade-level phonics and word analysis skills in decoding words.]
- Previously, students have skimmed the assigned chapter/pages and noted any words difficult to decode. Teacher has collected students' vocabulary selections.

- Teacher says a word aloud. By group consensus, the class decides if the word should be added to the vocabulary list. (If most students are familiar with the word and can state a simple definition for the word, it should not be added to the list). When all suggested have been explored, the teachers writes all chosen words on the board. For the day's assigned reading, less than 10 words should be studied deeply. The class must decide which words on the posted list they will study. TEACHER WILL REFER TO TIER II VOCABULARY INSTRUCTION INFORMATION (within the unit) TO GUIDE STUDENT CHOICES.

- When words words to study deeply have been chosen:
- Teacher says the word aloud.
- Class whale talks, stomps, taps, or claps to determine how many syllables the word has. Teacher draws lines on the board representing the number of syllables. (Students draw the lines in the vocabulary section of their response journals).
- Determine how many phonemes (sounds) are in the first syllable. Write graphemes (letters) that represent each sound on the first line.
- Determine how many phonemes are in the second syllable. Write graphemes that represent each sound on the second line. Repeat this process for all syllables.
- Discuss syllable types; e.g., Open or closed? How does this affect the vowel sound? Why do certain letter combination make that sound?
- Discuss morpheme types (meaningful pieces); e.g.; If there is a suffix, what does it mean? If there is a prefix, what does it mean? If there is a base word, what does it mean? [Base words stand alone. Examples include: *unhappily*, *disagreeable*, *discovered*]. If there is a root, what is its origin? What does it mean? [We generally study Latin and Greek roots. Root words have meaning, but cannot stand alone. Examples include: *civ* - meaning citizen - civilian, civilization; *fer* - meaning to carry or bear - aquifer, circumference, fertile]. You can Google a list of Greek & Latin roots. This website has a good one: <http://grammar.about.com/od/words/a/wordroots.htm>
 - PART IIIa: Use Tier II vocabulary words that have been gathered from PART I and PART II. In this activity, the class, with your guidance, will agree on a *student-friendly definition* to the word - there are a few steps to this:
- The teacher generates several situations or contexts for the word, so that students infer its meaning and assign it a synonym or short phrase. (e.g., This morning I fell in the mud and I was so *distressed* because I thought I'd ruined my favorite skirt! Or, the mother cat seemed *distressed* when her kitten wandered away.)
- Students use a thesaurus (book, internet, app, etc.) to verify their definition.

- Some words have multiple meanings depending on the context. Be aware that, after you've read the word in context, you may need to go back and add a new definition to this word!
 - PART IIIb: Agree on a *simple picture/sketch* to represent the word's meaning. Do not spend more than 2 minutes on this; the purpose is to associate a visual with the vocabulary word, not to practice art.
- Students very briefly discuss what visual best represents the word's meaning. Sketch.
 - PART IV: Choose an *example/non-example* to accompany this word - students work in pairs or small group for this piece.
- Students provide both an example and a non-example to illustrate the vocabulary word.
- Teacher circulates, listening to conversations, to check for both correct examples/non-examples and on-task behavior.

Day 1 Vocabulary Instruction Protocol - Sample Script for Parts I - IV

T: O.K., everyone, watch my mouth. The word is DISTRESSED. What's the word?

S: Distressed!

T: (Watching students' mouths. Make corrections if needed). Good. Say it again.

S: Distressed.

T: Say it like a mouse! Say it like a lion! Say it very slowly! (Get creative here. Students should say each word correctly many times.)

Now let's say the word and count how many syllables it has. Dis tress ed. How many syllables were there?

S: 3!

T: Draw 3 lines on your paper like this: _____

Distressed has 3 syllables. What's the first syllable?

S: DIS.

T: Yes, dis. What's the first sound in this syllable?

S: /d/

T: Good, what letter represents that sound?

S: D. Everybody write the d..

T: Second sound?

S: /i/

T: Yes. What letter represents that sound? (Students with difficulties will likely have problems identifying the proper vowel here. That's why you're doing this part whole group.)

T: I. (If your phonics program uses a hand motion for the short vowel sounds, use that motion here.) Third sound?

S: /s/.

T: What letter represents that sound?

S: S.

T: Great! We got DIS. The word is distressed. What's the second syllable?

S: Tress

T: (Be aware that tr is sometimes confused with dr, or even ch! You must articulate clearly, and watch your students as they say the syllables.) Tress. First sound? Second sound? Third sound? Fourth sound? (Students respond and write after each of your questions) In this word, the fourth sound, /s/, is written as ss. Everybody make sure your syllable has two s's.

T: Yes! We have distress. The word is distressed. What's the last syllable?

S: /t/

T: Yes. In this word, the /t/ is spelled with an E D. Everybody make sure your last syllable is E D. (Remind students of applicable phonics rules as you go through this piece of the protocol. In this case, you could remind them that the suffix -ed can make 3 different sounds: /ed/, /d/, and /t/.)

T: Great job, everybody. Let's spell this word aloud together to make sure we've all got it right! d-i-s-t-r-e-s-s-e-d. Why do you think it has 2 s's? (Phonics rule: to protect the short vowel. If the second s was not there, the e in the suffix would make the last vowel long.) We have a suffix here. Can anybody tell me what it is?

S: -ed.

T: What does that mean?

S: It makes the word past tense, so, like, it already happened.

T: Good. Let's find out what this word means. I'm going to say some sentences with the word distressed in them. You figure out what distressed means! 'My couch is very old. The fabric is really thin and distressed.' 'I know a lady who likes antique farmhouse furniture, so she banged up her coffee table with hammer to make it look distressed.'

(You'll have to guide them through this if it's not something your students are used to doing. When everyone has agreed on a definition, move on to parts 3 and 4 of the protocol.)

Vocabulary Review Menu of Activities

(shared by Kayce Patterson, NM Regional Reading Coach, 2013. Adapted from Beck, McKeown, & Kuchan, 2002).

Use these suggested activities on words that have already been introduced. A variety of activities is listed to provide choice for both the teacher and students. These activities can be used in any combination and in any order.

General Review of Meaning and Usage: Students work together in pairs or small groups to “quiz” each other.

Variation 1) Students use their personal glossaries in the Reading Response Journal to ask peers for a meaning, or a sentence for, or synonyms for a given word.

Variation 2) Each student chooses 4 vocabulary words. The student writes the word on one side of an index card, and the student friendly definition on the other side of the card. The student tapes the cards on his/her sleeves, then walks around, asking classmates if they can say what’s on the back side of the card (it may be the word, or the definition, depending on how the student taped them). If the classmate gets the right answer, the classmate pulls the card off and keeps it as a “point”. The student with the most cards at the end of the given time frame wins.

Variation 3) Working in pairs or small groups, students complete a Word Family Tree for each word. *See Resources: Forms and Reproducibles section of this unit for Word Family Tree template.*

Variation 4) Students create a 3-part vocabulary chart with the day’s words. When complete, students fold one side of the 3-part vocabulary chart back (the picture side, or the word side), so the owner sees only one row of the chart, and the partner sees a different row. Pairs face each other and quiz the other on the word’s definition. *See Resources: Forms and Reproducibles section of this unit for the 3-part vocabulary chart template.*

Word Relationships: Students respond to how two words might be related. Teachers should model how to do this before assigning to students.

Variation 1) Ask students how two words may be related or connected.

How might RUFFLED and GLITTERING be connected? The model wore a ruffled dress that was glittering in the candlelight.

How might COZY and DOZING be connected? The cat laid on the cozy cushion, dozing in the sunlight.

Variation 2) Teacher poses a question around two target words. Students respond and explain their response.

Can ORDINARY people be FASCINATING?

Variation 3) Teacher creates analogies for students to complete. Later, students can create their one for classmates to complete.

A DETERMINED person is someone who is really set on getting something done, while a WAVERING person is _____.

Variation 4) Students sort vocabulary words into various categories (categories can be designated by the teacher, or student created). Students will explain why they sorted words the way they did.

Variation 5) Students place words on a teacher created continuum line.

Very slow _____ *Very fast*
PLOD TRUDGE BOUND SPRINT

Connect to Self: Students are asked to connect the vocabulary words to something familiar to them. It may be other words, people, happenings, books, movies, common experiences, etc.

Variation 1) Direct connection

ELOQUENT reminds me of the president because he has to make a lot of speeches and say them correctly with just the right words.

Variation 2) Students write two sentences, one in which they substitute an idea with a vocabulary word.

I didn't want to answer the question, so I pretended that I didn't hear it.

I didn't want to answer the question, so I evaded it.

Generate Situations, Contexts, and Examples: These are based on situations that stay constant. Students find ways to apply their words to situations and explain why. These won't work for every word.

Variation 1) Teacher provides questions including the vocabulary words for students to answer.

What would make a teacher call her students INDUSTRIOUS? CLEVER? DILIGENT?

Variation 2) The teacher poses questions that require students to use vocabulary across various contexts.

What would a SPLENDID day for ducks be like?

What would be a SPLENDID meal for vegetarians?

Who would be a SPLENDID friend, and why?

Variation 3) Students work together to come up with answers in which situations remain the same, but application changes.

How might a cook/musician/veterinarian/teacher show that he/she is VERSATILE?

Variation 4) Students work together to make lists to accompany vocabulary words.

Name 3 things that would be CATASTROPHIC.

Writing: Students write thoughtful responses and uses for vocabulary words.

Variation 1) Students use sentence stems, including the word 'because' or 'when'.

The king was ____ (student inserts vocabulary word) because ____.

Yesterday I ____ (student inserts vocabulary word) when ____.

Variation 2) Teacher provides a writing prompt that will help students build personal connections with vocabulary words.

Think of a time when you felt either ENVOIOUS, COOPERATIVE, OR PLACID. Write about why you felt that way.

Think of a time when you might need to INVESTIGATE or be IMPRESSIVE. Write a paragraph to tell about it.

Variation 3) Students use a prompt or an idea generator, then link target words together in a story. Students should use as many vocabulary words as possible.

Who? An old woman What? All the lights go out Where? In a mall

Variation 4) Students are asked to think (and write) of ways their target words can be used differently in the story where they came from, or how they could be used in a different story.

Beck, I.L., McKeown, M.G., & Kucan, L. (2002). *Bringing words to life*. New York, NY: The Guilford Press.

3-part Vocabulary Chart Template

Word	Student-friendly definition	Simple sketch

Fold Fold

Some teachers write these stems on index cards or on tongue depressors. Or, you can print them out and laminate them or put them in a page protector. Students ask each other these questions during partner or small group reading.

Question Stems - General Understanding & Key Details

What happened first? Second? Next?

Tell me about _____ (a character or event).

What is the main idea of this page/chapter?

Describe _____ (a character's) appearance.

Describe _____ (a character's) personality.

Who is the most important person in this part? How do you know?

Retell/summarize what happened in this part.

Who are the main characters?

When/where is this story taking place?

How did _____ (character) react when _____ (something interesting/important) happened?

What happened when _____ (a character did something)?

Question Stems - Further Exploration

Retell (summarize) what's happened so far, in your own words.

What does _____ (choose a word from the text) mean?

Why did _____ (choose a character) say _____ (choose a piece of dialogue) this way?

What is another meaning for this word (choose a vocabulary man from the text)?

How does this picture (choose a picture from the text) help us understand what is happening?

What is the author's purpose in writing this part?

Describe _____'s (choose a character) mood. What clues in the text helped you?

Tell me about _____'s (choose a character) personality. What clues in the text helped you?

How does this section help us answer the essential question(s)?

Context Clues

Copied directly from Reading Rockets

<http://www.readingrockets.org/article/using-context-clues-understand-word-meanings>

Introduction

When attempting to decipher the meaning of a new word, it is often useful to look at what comes before and after that word. The surrounding words can give readers helpful context clues about the meaning and structure of the new word, as well as how it is used.

Using context clues aligns with the following ELA Common Core Standard:

- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.CCRA.L.4 Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases by using context clues, analyzing meaningful word parts, and consulting general and specialized reference materials, as appropriate.

Helping struggling students use context clues

There are six common types of context clues (see below), and teachers need to provide struggling students and those with learning disabilities with direct instruction in how to use these clues.

Common Types of Context Clues

- Root word and affix: People who study birds are experts in ornithology.
- Contrast: Unlike mammals, birds incubate their eggs outside their bodies.
- Logic: Birds are always on the lookout for predators that might harm their young.
- Definition: Frugivorous birds prefer eating fruit to any other kind of food.
- Example or illustration: Some birds like to build their nests in inconspicuous spots — high up in the tops of trees, well hidden by leaves.
- Grammar: Many birds migrate twice each year.

Teachers have found it effective to model a self-questioning strategy to identify the different types of context clues. You can ask questions that are designed to focus attention on the unknown word and the possible clues to its meaning, such as: What are the surrounding words? How do these offer me clues? What does this word mean in terms of the context?

It is also helpful to provide students with frequent reminders and examples of the different types of context clues. Using online tools, you can post the list of context clues (and some corresponding examples) on your class wiki, website, or blog. You can also display the list on the bulletin board in your classroom so that students can easily remind themselves about context clues. Students can also keep examples in their reading or writing portfolios.

Character Analysis Chart

For each entry, provide the page number on which the detail is found.

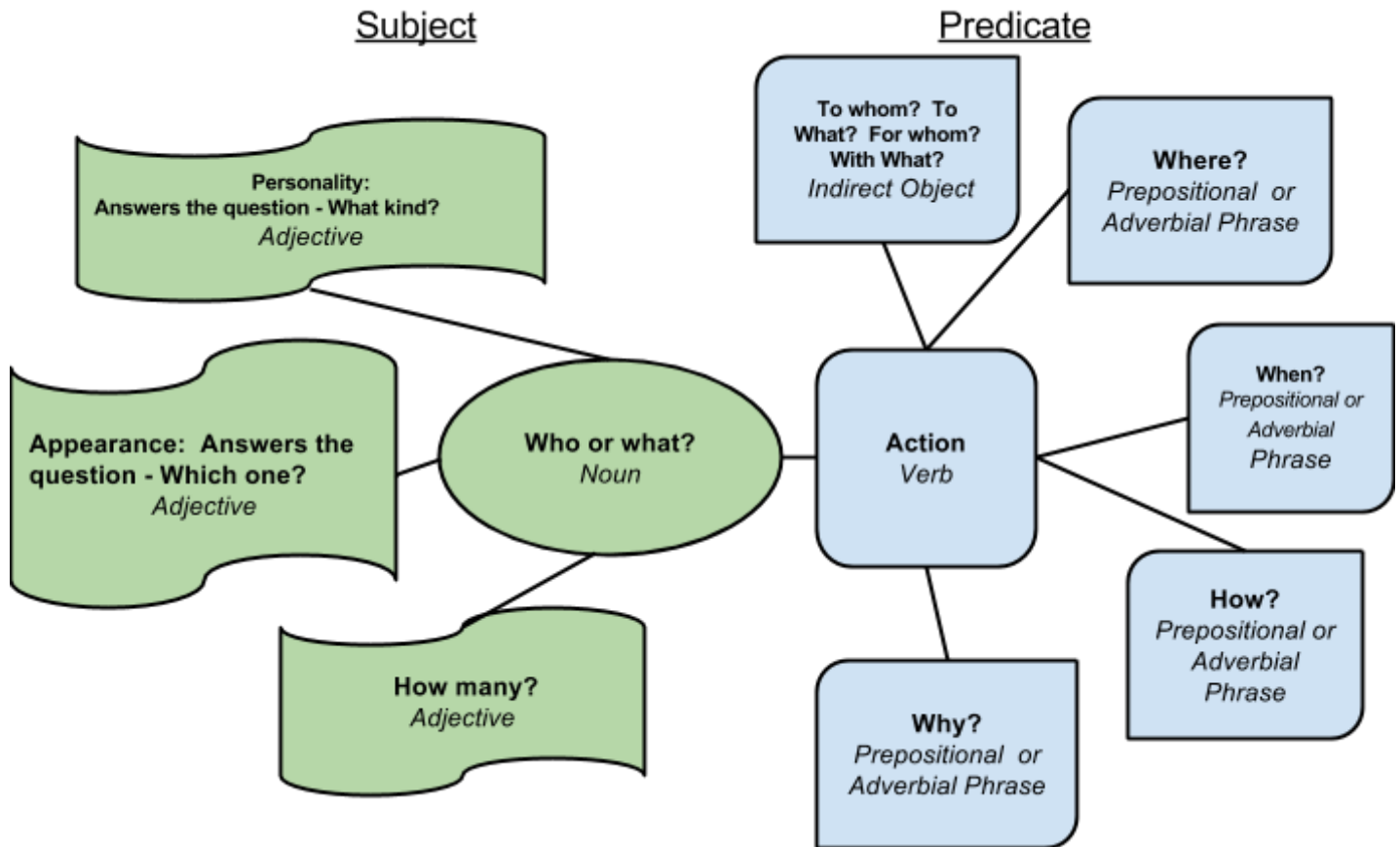
CHARACTER	APPEARANCE	PERSONALITY	ACTIONS

Character Analysis Chart: For each entry, provide the page number on which the detail is found.

CHARACTER	APPEARANCE	PERSONALITY	ACTIONS

Sentence Web

A graphic organizer/tool to help students write longer, more complex sentences.



Writing Process/Writing Conventions: Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking. a) Explain the function of nouns, pronouns, verbs, adjectives, and adverbs in general and their functions in particular sentences. f) Ensure subject-verb and pronoun-antecedent agreement. g) Form and use comparative and superlative adjectives and adverbs, and choose between them depending on what is to be modified. i) Produce simple, compound, and complex sentences.

Sentence Elaboration Protocol

Based on “Masterpiece Sentences” activity in LANGUAGE! 2nd Edition (Greene, 2000).

1) Create a basic sentence with a base subject and base predicate. Draw a box around each part.

- Ask *who* or *what* did it (subject), and *what did the subject do* (predicate):

The dog

barked.

2) Stretch the predicate by asking:

- *How* did s/he do it?
- *When* did s/he do it?
- *Where* did s/he do it?

Write each response on a different card or sentence strip.

The dog
barked
ferociously
in the middle of the night
downstairs.

3) Move the predicate parts.

- The dog barked ferociously downstairs in the middle of the night.
- The dog barked in the middle of the night, ferociously, downstairs.
- The dog barked downstairs, ferociously, in the middle of the night.

4) Add to the subject by asking:

- *Which?*
- *What kind of?*
- *How many?*

Write each response on a different card or sentence strip.

In the middle of the night, the solitary, fearsome guard dog barked ferociously downstairs.

5) Add detail or substitute synonyms if necessary.

Near midnight, a single, formidable guard dog barked ferociously downstairs.

6) Polish, if needed. Sometimes less is more.

Near midnight, a single, formidable guard dog barked viciously.



Characteristics of Informational Text: **Text Features**

Title	Headings	Subheadings	Questions
Graphics	Captions	Bulleted Lists	Boldface type
Labels	Index	Table of Contents	Footnotes
Highlighted Words			

Oosterbann, B. & Pelletier, T. (2014)



Characteristics of Informational Text: **Format**

- ❖ Repetition of theme or topic
- ❖ Description of theme or topic attributes
- ❖ Use of timeless verbs / manner (i.e., Sharks live in water.)
- ❖ Description of characteristic events / behaviors
- ❖ Comparing/contrasting/classifying
- ❖ Use of technical vocabulary
- ❖ Shows realistic illustrations / photos

Oosterbaan, B. & Pelletier, T. (2014)

Informational Writing



Purpose:

1. To share directions for someone to follow.
2. To give/share information.

Genres:

1. Expository
2. Procedural/Functional
3. Persuasive (searches, info-grapics)
4. Nonfiction narrative

Oosterbaan, B. & Pelletier, T. (2014)

How to Write an Informational Text



Select a topic.



Select an informational writing structure to use.



Research. Take notes using graphic organizers.



Compose a paragraph from your notes for your structure.



Oosterbaan, B. & Pelletier, T. (2014)



Informational Text Structures

- ★ Events listed in sequence, chronological order
- ★ Description of or enumeration of events/information
- ★ Compare / contrast events, information or view-points
- ★ Cause / effect
- ★ Problem / solution
- ★ Question / answer

Oosterbaan, B. & Pelletier, T. (2014)

Examples of Text Structure Sentences

Sequence

Brushing teeth begins with getting your toothbrush and toothpaste out. First, squeeze a small amount of paste from the tube on the bristles of the brush. Next, place the brush on your teeth and gently move it up and down. Continue with moving...

Descriptive

A bicuspid is a kind of tooth that is used for tearing and chewing located between the canines and molars.

Comparison

Bicuspid and molars are similar as they are both teeth located toward the back of the mouth but they have different jobs. The bicuspid is located closer to the front and continues to tear food and begins the chewing. The molars are in the back of the mouth and finish grinding the food before swallowing.

Cause & Effect

Cavities are holes in our teeth that happen because food breaks down the protective enamel.

Problem / Solution

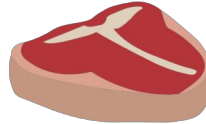
Brian wanted his tooth out but he was afraid it would hurt. So...

- Somebody
- Wanted
- But
- So

Oosterbaan, B. & Pelletier, T. (2014)

Informational Structure Sentence Frames	
Sequence	_____ begins with..., continues with..., and ends with...
Description	_____ is a kind of _____ that...
Compare/Contrast	X and Y are similar in that they are both..., but X..., while Y...
Cause/Effect	_____ happens because... or _____ causes... because...
Problem/Solution	_____ wanted..., but..., so... Oosterbaan, B. & Pelletier, T. (2014)

Development: The meat of the text



Informational Text

<i>Kindergarten W.2</i>	<i>First Grade W.2</i>	<i>Second Grade W.2</i>	<i>Third Grade W.2</i>
...name what they are writing about and supply some information about the topic.	...name a topic, supply some facts about the topic, and provide some sense of closure.	...introduce a topic, use facts and definitions to develop points, and provide a concluding statement or section.	Introduce a topic and group related information together. Develop the topic with facts, definitions, and details. Use linking words and phrases to connect ideas within categories or information. Provide a concluding statement or section. Include illustrations.
<i>Kindergarten RI.4</i>	<i>First Grade RI.4</i>	<i>Second Grade RI.4</i>	<i>Third Grade RI.4</i>
...unknown words in text.	Clarify meaning of words and phrases in text.	Determine the meaning of words and phrases.	Determine the meaning of general academic and domain specific words and phrases.
<p>Domain-specific words and phrases -- vocabulary specific to a particular field of study.</p> <p>WRITING INFORMATIONAL TEXT</p> <p>Use precise language! Limit use of pronouns, adjectives and adverbs. Use specific nouns (example: instead of 'It is huge!' or 'A great big tree...', use 'The redwood stood 70 feet tall.'</p> <p>Oosterbaan, B. & Pelletier, T. (2014)</p>			



Transition & Connect:
Glue the pieces together.

Transitions for Informational Text

Words that link within categories:

also because another
and more but
for example

Words that signal examples:

for example for instance
specifically
to illustrate and also
furthermore likewise in
addition
besides what's more
moreover
further again

Words that indicate cause and effect:

because then
as result the result
for this reason therefore what followed
in response thus
because of this consequently
so the reaction

Words that signal comparison:

like likewise
also
in the same way the same is true
with
similar similarly
in a similar way in a similar
fashion

Words that indicate contrast:

but however in contrast
instead nevertheless still
in spite of different from yet
on the other hand on the contrary



Conclusion:
Wrap it all up!

Concluding Informational Texts

- Stress the importance of the topic
- Leave a final impression on the reader
- Include the strongest facts, definitions, details or examples
- Echo the introduction
- Challenge the reader to action or further thought

Persuasive Writing



Purpose:

1. To change the reader's point of view or opinion
2. To bring action from the reader
3. To ask the reader to accept the author's point of view or explanation

Genres:

1. Essay
2. Letter
3. Editorial

Opinion:
How you feel in your heart.



Persuasive Writing

Types of Topic Sentences:

1. Occasion Statement (reason for writing)
Whenever our resources are limited, many people become creative.
2. Position Statement (what you plan to prove or explain)
Even though many people use cell phones to text, writing will continue to flourish.
3. Side-by-Side Statements (two short comparing statements)
Some instructional challenge is good. Too much challenge is frustrating.
4. Semicolon Statement (to emphasize the reason and the position that will be explained)
Starting a new school year is exciting; it's also stressful.

Oosterbaan, B. & Pelletier, T. (2014)

Development:
The meat of your piece.

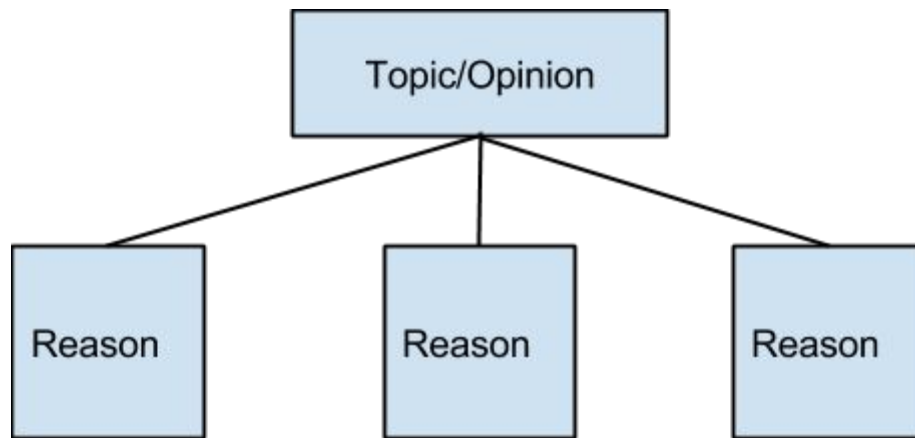


Persuasive Writing

Development:

Examples	Elaboration	Expert opinion
Experiences	Explanations	Excitement
Everyday life	Evidence	Events
Effective illustrations		

Oosterbaan, B. & Pelletier, T. (2014)



Transition and Connect:
Glue the pieces together.



Persuasive Writing

CCSS Use linking words and phrases to connect opinion and reasons.

Words that Connect Opinions and Reasons:

because	and	also	since	therefore
for example	for instance	in order to		
in addition	consequently	specifically		

Words that Signal Support:

for example	to illustrate	in this case	specifically	once
for instance	such as	to demonstrate	take the case of	

Words that Signal Conclusion:

to summarize	in short	in brief	in sum	in summary	finally
in conclusion	to conclude	to sum it up			

Oosterbaan, B. & Pelletier, T. (2014)

Conclusion:
Wrap it all up.



Persuasive Writing

Conclusion:

Focus your conclusion...

- to summarize information
- to encourage your reader to think differently
- to convince your audience to agree with you
- to challenge your audience to act

Ideas for a conclusion:

- stress the importance of the stated opinion
- include the strongest reasons
- pose questions for the reader to think about
- challenge the reader

Oosterbaan, B. & Pelletier, T. (2014)

Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Kindergarten

Knowledge and Skills (KS)

- (1) **Reading/Beginning Reading Skills/Print Awareness. Students understand how English is written and printed. Students are expected to:**
 - (A) recognize that spoken words can be represented by print for communication;
 - (B) identify upper- and lower-case letters;
 - (C) demonstrate the one-to-one correspondence between a spoken word and a printed word in text;
 - (D) recognize the difference between a letter and a printed word;
 - (E) recognize that sentences are comprised of words separated by spaces and demonstrate the awareness of word boundaries (e.g., through kinesthetic or tactile actions such as clapping and jumping);
 - (F) hold a book right side up, turn its pages correctly, and know that reading moves from top to bottom and left to right; and
 - (G) identify different parts of a book (e.g., front and back covers, title page).
- (2) **Reading/Beginning Reading Skills/Phonological Awareness. Students display phonological awareness. Students are expected to:**
 - (A) identify a sentence made up of a group of words;
 - (B) identify syllables in spoken words;
 - (C) orally generate rhymes in response to spoken words (e.g., "What rhymes with hat?");
 - (D) distinguish orally presented rhyming pairs of words from non-rhyming pairs;
 - (E) recognize spoken alliteration or groups of words that begin with the same spoken onset or initial sound (e.g., "baby boy bounces the ball");
 - (F) blend spoken onsets and rimes to form simple words (e.g., onset/c/ and rime/at/ make cat);
 - (G) blend spoken phonemes to form one-syllable words (e.g., /m/ .../a/ .../n/ says man);
 - (H) isolate the initial sound in one-syllable spoken words; and
 - (I) segment spoken one-syllable words into two to three phonemes (e.g., dog:/d/ .../o/ .../g/).
- (3) **Reading/Beginning Reading Skills/Phonics. Students use the relationships between letters and sounds, spelling patterns, and morphological analysis to decode written English. Students are expected to:**
 - (A) identify the common sounds that letters represent;
 - (B) use knowledge of letter-sound relationships to decode regular words in text and independent of content (e.g., VC, CVC, CCVC, and CVCC words);
 - (C) recognize that new words are created when letters are changed, added, or deleted; and
 - (D) identify and read at least 25 high-frequency words from a commonly used list.
- (4) **Reading/Beginning Reading/Strategies. Students comprehend a variety of texts drawing on useful strategies as needed. Students are expected to:**
 - (A) predict what might happen next in text based on the cover, title, and illustrations; and
 - (B) ask and respond to questions about texts read aloud.
- (5) **Reading/Vocabulary Development. Students understand new vocabulary and use it correctly when reading and writing. Students are expected to:**
 - (A) identify and use words that name actions, directions, positions, sequences, and locations;
 - (B) recognize that compound words are made up of shorter words;
 - (C) identify and sort pictures of objects into conceptual categories (e.g., colors, shapes, textures); and
 - (D) use a picture dictionary to find words.

- (6) Reading/Comprehension of Literary Text/Theme and Genre.** Students analyze, make inferences and draw conclusions about theme and genre in different cultural, historical, and contemporary contexts and provide evidence from the text to support their understanding. Students are expected to:

 - (A) identify elements of a story including setting, character, and key events;
 - (B) discuss the big idea (theme) of a well-known folktale or fable and connect it to personal experience;
 - (C) recognize sensory details; and
 - (D) recognize recurring phrases and characters in traditional fairy tales, lullabies, and folktales from various cultures.
- (7) Reading/Comprehension of Literary Text/Poetry.** Students understand, make inferences and draw conclusions about the structure and elements of poetry and provide evidence from text to support their understanding. Students are expected to respond to rhythm and rhyme in poetry through identifying a regular beat and similarities in word sounds.
- (8) Reading/Comprehension of Literary Text/Fiction.** Students understand, make inferences and draw conclusions about the structure and elements of fiction and provide evidence from text to support their understanding. Students are expected to:

 - (A) retell a main event from a story read aloud; and
 - (B) describe characters in a story and the reasons for their actions.
- (9) Reading/Comprehension of Informational Text/Culture and History.** Students analyze, make inferences and draw conclusions about the author's purpose in cultural, historical, and contemporary contexts and provide evidence from the text to support their understanding. Students are expected to identify the topic of an informational text heard.
- (10) Reading/Comprehension of Informational Text/Expository Text.** Students analyze, make inferences and draw conclusions about expository text, and provide evidence from text to support their understanding. Students are expected to:

 - (A) identify the topic and details in expository text heard or read, referring to the words and/or illustrations;
 - (B) retell important facts in a text, heard or read;
 - (C) discuss the ways authors group information in text; and
 - (D) use titles and illustrations to make predictions about text.
- (11) Reading/Comprehension of Informational Text/Procedural Texts.** Students understand how to glean and use information in procedural texts and documents. Students are expected to:

 - (A) follow pictorial directions (e.g., recipes, science experiments); and
 - (B) identify the meaning of specific signs (e.g., traffic signs, warning signs).
- (12) Reading/Media Literacy.** Students use comprehension skills to analyze how words, images, graphics, and sounds work together in various forms to impact meaning. Students continue to apply earlier standards with greater depth in increasingly more complex texts. Students (with adult assistance) are expected to:

 - (A) identify different forms of media (e.g., advertisements, newspapers, radio programs); and
 - (B) identify techniques used in media (e.g., sound, movement).
- (13) Writing/Writing Process.** Students use elements of the writing process (planning, drafting, revising, editing, and publishing) to compose text. Students (with adult assistance) are expected to:

 - (A) plan a first draft by generating ideas for writing through class discussion;
 - (B) develop drafts by sequencing the action or details in the story;
 - (C) revise drafts by adding details or sentences;
 - (D) edit drafts by leaving spaces between letters and words; and
 - (E) share writing with others.

- (14) **Writing/Literary Texts. Students write literary texts to express their ideas and feelings about real or imagined people, events, and ideas. Students are expected to:**
 - (A) dictate or write sentences to tell a story and put the sentences in chronological sequence; and
 - (B) write short poems.
- (15) **Writing/Expository and Procedural Texts. Students write expository and procedural or work-related texts to communicate ideas and information to specific audiences for specific purposes. Students are expected to dictate or write information for lists, captions, or invitations.**
- (16) **Oral and Written Conventions/Conventions. Students understand the function of and use the conventions of academic language when speaking and writing. Students continue to apply earlier standards with greater complexity. Students are expected to:**
 - (A) understand and use the following parts of speech in the context of reading, writing, and speaking (with adult assistance):
 - (i) past and future tenses when speaking;
 - (ii) nouns (singular/plural);
 - (iii) descriptive words;
 - (iv) prepositions and simple prepositional phrases appropriately when speaking or writing (e.g., in, on, under, over); and
 - (v) pronouns (e.g., I, me);
 - (B) speak in complete sentences to communicate; and
 - (C) use complete simple sentences.
- (17) **Oral and Written Conventions/Handwriting, Capitalization, and Punctuation. Students write legibly and use appropriate capitalization and punctuation conventions in their compositions. Students are expected to:**
 - (A) form upper- and lower-case letters legibly using the basic conventions of print (left-to-right and top-to-bottom progression);
 - (B) capitalize the first letter in a sentence; and
 - (C) use punctuation at the end of a sentence.
- (18) **Oral and Written Conventions/Spelling. Students spell correctly. Students are expected to:**
 - (A) use phonological knowledge to match sounds to letters;
 - (B) use letter-sound correspondences to spell consonant-vowel-consonant (CVC) words (e.g., "cut"); and
 - (C) write one's own name.
- (19) **Research/Research Plan. Students ask open-ended research questions and develop a plan for answering them. Students (with adult assistance) are expected to:**
 - (A) ask questions about topics of class-wide interest; and
 - (B) decide what sources or people in the classroom, school, library, or home can answer these questions.
- (20) **Research/Gathering Sources. Students determine, locate, and explore the full range of relevant sources addressing a research question and systematically record the information they gather. Students (with adult assistance) are expected to:**
 - (A) gather evidence from provided text sources; and
 - (B) use pictures in conjunction with writing when documenting research.
- (21) **Listening and Speaking/Listening. Students use comprehension skills to listen attentively to others in formal and informal settings. Students continue to apply earlier standards with greater complexity. Students are expected to:**
 - (A) listen attentively by facing speakers and asking questions to clarify information; and
 - (B) follow oral directions that involve a short related sequence of actions.

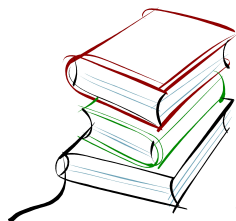
- (22) **Listening and Speaking/Speaking.** Students speak clearly and to the point, using the conventions of language. Students continue to apply earlier standards with greater complexity. Students are expected to share information and ideas by speaking audibly and clearly using the conventions of language.
- (23) **Listening and Speaking/Teamwork.** Students work productively with others in teams. Students continue to apply earlier standards with greater complexity. Students are expected to follow agreed-upon rules for discussion, including taking turns and speaking one at a time.

Reading and Comprehension Skills (RC)

Kindergarten

Reading/Comprehension Skills. Students use a flexible range of metacognitive reading skills in both assigned and independent reading to understand an author's message. Students will continue to apply earlier standards with greater depth in increasingly more complex texts as they become self-directed, critical readers. The student is expected to:

- (A) discuss the purposes for reading and listening to various texts (e.g., to become involved in real and imagined events, settings, actions, and to enjoy language);
- (B) ask and respond to questions about text;
- (C) monitor and adjust comprehension (e.g., using background knowledge, creating sensory images, rereading a portion aloud);
- (D) make inferences based on the cover, title, illustrations, and plot;
- (E) retell or act out important events in stories; and
- (F) make connections to own experiences, to ideas in other texts, and to the larger community and discuss textual evidence.



BCSCR

Building Communities that Support Children's Reading

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Community-Based Components

- **Read Alongs:** Held at the schools, community centers, or community libraries for children 0-4 and 5-8.
- **Little Free Libraries:** A Little Free Library will be placed in each community. A Little Free Library is a box full of books where anyone may stop by and pick up a book (or two) and bring back another book to share.
- **Reading and Outreach:** Public service announcement (PSAs) placed in print and electronic media outlets, as well as brochures placed throughout the community.
- **Community Reading Nights:** One-hour reading blocks with follow-up discussions and book distribution for all community members of all ages.
- **School and Community-Based Tutoring:** Small group (3-4 students) tutoring will be offered at each targeted school, to over 12,000 students over 2 years.

School-Based Components

Regional coordinators will work with school administrators to determine critical areas for enhancing reading instruction in a particular school or district and to address professional development needs focused on literacy.

- **Book Distribution:** Class sets of books, with multiple options per grade level, for checkout and instructional packets.
- **Reading Achievement and Readiness:** Analysis of state standardized testing; reporting of assessment data.
- **Needs Assessment:** Collaboration with district personnel to identify

Parent-Based Components

- **Book Distribution:** Take home books with activity packets based on books for each reading component, for all age groups.
- **Monthly 'help your kids read' workshops:** Parent training will be held in each district on a monthly basis. Workshops will be broken down by age group (Pre-K, K-3, grades 4-6).
- **Understanding Your Child's Assessment Scores:** A 4th workshop will help parents understand what reading achievement scores mean and how they might support their child's reading success.

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Classroom Book Sets

Teachers have access to a variety of fiction and informational classroom book sets selected to address rigorous college and career readiness skills. Each set comes complete with high quality curriculum activities and additional resources appropriate for specific grade level bands.

- **Materials available for K-3, 4-6, and 7-12:** For a complete list of books available by grade level, please visit the bcscr.3riversed.org website. Select the 'Schools' tab and then the 'Unit Plans' link. All unit plans are available for free download.
- **Classroom Book Sets Available:** Contact your regional BCSCR coordinator for more information and to schedule a time to utilize these resources with your students.

Project Goals

By the end of the funding period, in comparison to 2014 baseline:

- 40% of participating 4-year-old children will achieve significant gains in oral language skills;
- the percentage of 3rd-grade students who meet or exceed proficiency of State reading or language arts assessments will increase by 15 percentage points;
- the percentage of 8th-grade students who meet or exceed proficiency of State reading or language arts assessments will increase by 15 percentage points;
- the percentage of high school students who meet or exceed proficiency of State reading or language arts assessments will increase by 15 percentage points and the percentage of parents who report reading with their children will increase by 25 percentage points
- 65% of teachers will indicate improvements in their reading instruction as a result of professional development as evidenced by school- and classroom-based assessments