

Suggested Mini-Lesson Topics

Grade 2

Lessons are pulled from Grade Level Curriculum Snapshot. They represent concepts that are identified as D (develop) on the District Writing Curriculum. Each lesson could take a single or multiple days. All Items are ESSENTIAL LESSONS that all teachers in that grade level **MUST TEACH**. This is not a sequence. Mini Lessons should be taught in all areas of the Writing Process throughout the school year.

Teachers are encouraged to supplement this list with the specific needs of their writers.

Writer's Workshop Procedures

- Organization
- Expectations

Prewrite

- How to brainstorm/gather information
- Introduce **IDEA** Trait
- How to model choice of genre (see genre studies)
- How to consider audience (self, family, school, community, group/individual)
- How to use teacher provided graphic organizers

Draft

- How to connect prewrite process
- How to **ORGANIZE** your writing based on genre structure (format)
- Beginning, Middle, and ending of stories
- How to write and reread own writing with teacher help and independently

Conference / Reflect

- How to reread your writing and prepare for a conference
- How to peer conference
- How to use **TRAIT LANGUAGE** to improve writing

Revise

- How to add to your text
- How to subtract from your text
- How to reword (**WORD CHOICE**) your text
- How to add personality (**VOICE** tone, and mood), to your text
- How to adjust word order for fluency (**SENTENCE FLUENCY**)
- How to improve text by using resource materials (dictionaries, word books...)

Edit

- How to capitalize per grade level expectations (**CONVENTIONS**)
- How to punctuate per grade level expectations (**CONVENTIONS**)
- Apply knowledge of grammar to text (parts of speech ~ **SENTENCE FLUENCY & WORD CHOICE**)
- How to utilize grade-level editing marks

Publish

- How to complete work neatly
- How to organize your published piece (Title of piece, dedication, illustrations,...)
- How to share and respond to sharing

Genre

- How to respond to literature
- How to organize and write a fictional story with a beginning, middle, and end (character, problem, solution, setting...)
- How to write non-formatted & formatted poetry
- How to write Explanatory pieces (writing to explain)
"Ranger Rick" & "Spider" magazines a good source
- Procedures for timed writing success (30 minutes prompts)

Craft

- How authors personalize their writing
- How to recognize craft in literature
- How to use writer's vocabulary to identify craft (character, dialogue, setting, sequence of events)
- How to reread own writing, and other literature, like a writer

References

The following is a list of references you can use to find worthwhile min-lessons and/or activities to help you teach **THE WRITING PROCESS**. Remember Six Traits Lessons should be taught as part of the writing process...they should not be the focus of ALL mini-lessons. Many of these resources are available from your reading specialist or from you building's professional library.

6 +1 Traits of Writing: The Complete Guide for the Primary Grades by Ruth Culham

About the Authors by Katie Wood Ray

***Excellent Resource

Craft Lessons: Teaching Writing K-8 by Ralph Fletcher & JoAnn Portalupi

Nonfiction Craft Lessons: Teaching Information Writing K-8 by Ralph Fletcher and JoAnn Portalupi

Seeing with New Eyes edited by Northwest Regional Laboratory

***A Guidebook on Teaching and Assessing Beginning Writers

Scaffolding Young Writers: A Writer's Workshop Approach by Linda J. Dorn & Carla Soffos

Units of Study for Primary Writing by Lucy Calkins

***Excellent Resources

Wondrous Words: Writers and Writing in the Elementary Classroom by Katie Wood Ray

Writer's Workshop: Working Through the Hard Parts (and they're all hard parts) by Katie Wood Ray



