



Content Area: English Language Arts

Grade Level: 5

Course Name: Grade 5 ELA

Course Description: Students in Grade 5 will engage in a daily structured literacy block that includes explicit reading and writing instruction. The reading units are aligned with the Next Generation ELA standards and each unit includes researched instructional practices for supporting all students in building background knowledge, vocabulary, language structure, verbal reasoning, and literacy knowledge. Writing lessons include teacher guided activities in which students follow the steps of the writing process to compose multiple drafts of informational, narrative, and opinion pieces. Students will also write independently, and in response to reading. Students in some buildings will use the Core Knowledge Language Arts curriculum, rather than the units referenced below.

Units - Length of Time	Description
Get Set for Literacy Block 6-8 Weeks	Students will participate in a shared reading of a full-length novel. To build understanding and background knowledge about the characters, setting, and issues presented in the novel, students will read and view a variety of relevant print and digital resources. Learning activities will include explicit vocabulary instruction based on the selected novel and background resources and embedded writing in response to the reading. Students will participate in whole class discussions as well as small group collaborations.

Units - Length of Time	Description
Following Characters Into Meaning 6-8 Weeks	Students will participate in a shared reading of a full-length novel. To build understanding and background knowledge about the characters, setting, and issues presented in the novel, students will read and view a variety of relevant print and digital resources. Learning activities will include explicit vocabulary instruction based on the selected novel as well as resources and embedded writing in response to the reading. Students will participate in whole class discussions as well as small group collaborations to build skills in inference and synthesizing characters and events presented. The final portion of this study calls the readers to move from inference work to interpretation.
Nonfiction Reading 6-8 Weeks	This unit builds on students' understanding of the definition and features of nonfiction writing. Students will read and write about a variety of nonfiction texts, engaging in activities that develop their understanding of the distinction between factual statements and opinions. Teachers will provide explicit instruction in Tier III academic vocabulary, and students will engage in activities to develop skills for identifying the main idea, and distinguishing the main idea from supporting details. Readers will consider the author's choices as they increase their expertise with interpretation, cross-text comparisons, synthesis, research, and nonfiction projects. As they explore nonfiction texts, students will build skills in synthesizing, inferencing, and evaluating information, and will use those skills to recognize and formulate claims supported by evidence.
Learning From Historical Fiction 6-8 Weeks	This unit develops students' understanding of particular historic events or issues through the study of a novel, alongside nonfiction informational documents and resources. Students will explore how historical fiction connects us to the past, and review how to identify both nonfiction and narrative elements of selected texts. Two essential questions undergird this unit: How are challenges that characters in books face similar to the challenges that we face each day? How are settings in the books that we read similar to real world settings? Learning activities will show students what to expect when reading historical fiction by exploring the novel's structure, narrative point of view, author's stylistic techniques, and treatment of themes, topics, and patterns of events across and within texts.
Test Readiness 6-8 Weeks	This unit provides students with opportunities for activating prior learning and applying reading and writing skills presented throughout the year. Students will review close reading strategies as teachers guide them through a range of shorter passages, and provide practice by using released NYS ELA passages, multiple choice and constructed response questions. Students will review the elements of fiction as well as nonfiction text features.

NYS Standard	Links
Grade 5 Next Generation ELA Standards	New York State Next Generation English Language Arts Learning Standards