

Course Description:

In this course, students will learn to read stories, fables, folktales, fairy tales, myths, nonfiction narratives, and informational texts. As students read, they will also learn about finding the main idea of a text and identifying key details and evidence in a text. Students will also explore points of view, characteristics of various texts, text structures, and research.

In addition, students will learn about basics in grammar, usage, and punctuation, including:

- correct spelling
- various sentence types
- nouns, verbs, and adjectives
- coordinating and subordinating conjunctions
- varying sentence patterns
- prefixes and suffixes
- synonyms, antonyms, and idioms

Students will also review context clues to determine word meaning, and they will learn vocabulary words, including instructional terms.

Students will also learn the elements of narrative nonfiction and informational writing. They will plan, brainstorm, write, revise, and edit their own narrative nonfiction and informational essays. Students will also write an informal letter, write a story to a wordless picture book, and retell a folktale.

Course Objectives:

- Use learned conversation, domain-specific, and academic words and phrases with the help of context clues, root words, dictionaries, and glossaries.
- Ask and answer questions to show understanding of text using details.
- Choose the right words and phrases for the correct result.
- Tell what is alike and different about the plot, settings, and themes in stories written by the same author about the same or similar characters.
- Conduct research projects by asking a research question, finding a topic, following a plan, and developing and connecting the topic with facts, definitions, and details.
- Spell words correctly by using rules and tools.
- Read words with two or more syllables.
- Identify and tell how formal and informal language and written and spoken English are different.
- Tell how sentences, paragraphs, ideas, concepts, and a series of events are connected in informational text.
- Find the main ideas and key details in texts and other sources.
- Figure out the meaning of words and phrases in stories and informational texts.
- Improve writing by planning, editing, and revising.
- Write by developing the topic with facts, details, and definitions.

- Tell the difference between the true and figurative meaning of words and phrases.
- Tell the difference between a reader's, narrator's, and character's point of view in a story.
- Tell the shades of meaning with related words that have similar meanings.
- Tell how key details support the main idea in informational text.
- Tell how illustrations help readers understand the words in a story.
- Tell the function of nouns, pronouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, and conjunctions in sentences.
- Write and organize texts that fit the task and purpose.
- Read out loud with accuracy, expression, and a good pace.
- Retell fables, folktales, and myths from different cultures.
- Use words that describe actions, thoughts, and feelings to make stories more interesting and show how characters react.
- Use nouns, pronouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, and conjunctions correctly.
- Produce, publish, and share writing using technology and keyboarding skills.
- Write for short and longer periods of time for different tasks, purposes, and audiences.
- Read with purpose and understanding.
- Read plays, poems, stories, and informational texts for understanding.
- Identify, read, spell, and tell the meaning of common affixes and words they are used in.
- Use correct capitalization, punctuation, spelling, and grammar when writing and editing.

Required Materials:

Required:

- access to grade-appropriate digital tools for publishing and presentation
- dictionary (online or print)
- notebook paper
- pencils
- printables (see Course Syllabus for link)
- printer and printer paper (for printables)
- sticky notes

Optional

- books to choose from for reading
- sticky notes in a variety of colors

Teachers will need:

Required:

- fictional chapter books for grade 3 for independent reading

- informational texts for grade 3 for independent reading

Course Overview:

This course is made up of 18 units. Each unit has five lessons. Lessons are made of up activities that include these types of learning:

- **Warm-Ups** allow for practice of skills or concepts taught in previous lessons. These are graded activities.
- **Direct Instructions** provide modeling of new skills and concepts. These are not graded activities.
- **Guided Practices** allow for practice of a skill with support. These are graded activities only on a completion basis.
- **Independent Practices** allow for practice of a skill without support. These are graded activities.
- **Checkpoints** test mastery of skills from lessons. These are graded activities.
- **Unit Reviews** allow for practice of skills prior to taking unit exams. These are not graded activities.
- **Unit Exams** test mastery of skills from the unit. These are graded activities.
- **Projects** provide an opportunity for practice of more complex skills across several activities or lessons within a unit. These activities require a final submission, which is graded.