

Instructional Vocabulary

Kindergarten ELAR

Unit 1: Sharing Ideas and Messages

- **Rhythm** - regular patterns that emphasize sound
- **Rhyme** - identical or very similar recurring final sounds in words; in poetry, rhyming words may occur at the ends of lines or within lines
- **Listening** – paying attention to what you hear

Unit 2: Authors Write for a Purpose

- **Expository text** – text that informs or describes
- **Fable** – a brief fictional tale that entertains and includes animals that talk and act like humans and teaches a moral lesson
- **Fairy tale** – a traditional story for children that is often magical and imaginary
- **Illustration** – picture
- **Folktale** - a story originally passed down in spoken form rather than in writing. Folktales include [legends](#), [fables](#), [tall](#) tales, and fairy tales. They may have recurring phrases (e.g., once upon a time, they lived happily ever after).

Unit 3: Growing Readers and Writers Through Literary Works

- **Rhythm** – rhythmic patterns that emphasize sound
- **Rhyme** – Identical or very similar recurring final sounds in words; in poetry, rhyming words may occur at the ends of lines or within lines
- **Sensory detail** – a detail in writing that describes what is seen, heard, smelled, tasted, or touched
- **Setting** – the time and place in which a narrative occurs. Elements of setting may include the physical, psychological, cultural or historical background against which the story takes place.

Unit 4: Growing Readers and Writers Through Informational Text

- **Expository text** – a type of informational text that clarifies or explains something
- **Procedural text** – a type of informational text that is written with the intent to explain the steps in the procedure, as in a recipe
- **Topic** – what the author is writing about, the subject (e.g., polar bears)
- **Details** – support the main idea by telling how, when, what, where, why, how much, and how many

Unit 5A: Rediscovering Literary Text

- **Sensory detail** – a detail in writing that describes what is seen, heard, smelled, tasted, or touched
- **Setting** – the time and place in which a narrative occurs. Elements of setting may include the physical, psychological, cultural or historical background against which the story takes place.
- **Plot** – the basic sequence of events in a story. The plot includes the problem and solution.

Unit 5B: Connecting as Readers and Writers

- **Theme** (Big Idea) – the central or universal idea of a piece of fiction or the main idea of a nonfiction essay
- **Folktale** – a story originally passed down in spoken form rather than in writing. Folktales include legends, fables, tall tales, and fairy tales. They may have recurring phrases (e.g., once upon a time, they lived happily ever after).
- **Fable** – fictional tale that teaches a moral lesson, entertains, and often includes animals with human characteristics
- **Topic** – what the author is writing about, the subject (e.g., polar bears)
- **Sensory detail** – a detail in writing that describes what is seen, heard, smelled, tasted, or touched

Unit 6A: Research: Generating Questions and Finding Answers

- **Source** – a document or person that supplies information about a topic or interest
- **Facts/Details** – support the main idea by telling how, when, what, where, why, how much, and how many
- **Topic** – what the author is writing about - the subject (e.g., polar bears)
- **Caption** – a title, short explanation, or description accompanying an illustration
- **Open-ended research question** – a type of question used to encourage many possible responses rather than a single directed one (e.g., *What are the effects of watching TV while studying?*)

Unit 6B: Media Matters

- **Media literacy** – the ability to use comprehension skills to analyze how words, images, graphics, and sounds work