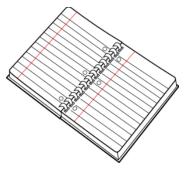# Family Writing Connections

Grade 1 Unit 1: Small Moment Personal Narratives

Overview:

During this unit, *Small Moment Personal Narratives*, students will learn how to plan, create and produce meaningful personal narrative stories based on their own real life experiences. First, students will discover how to develop small moment stories by brainstorming events that have happened in their own lives. Secondly, students will bring their stories to life by constructing the structure of their stories focusing on adding details such as feeling words, color words and dialogue. Students will then study other writers' craft using mentor texts and apply it to their own writing pieces. Finally, students fix and fancy up their writing pieces using the revision and editing process to finalize meaningful personal narratives.

In this unit, Students will:

- **Create** small moment stories based on real life experiences
- **Use** spelling strategies to decode and write words phonetically
- **Apply** details to their stories by using feeling words, color words and dialogue
- **Design** stories that model author mentors
- **Edit** their writing for spelling, capitalization, and punctuation
- **Write** with increasing independence
- **Participate** in collaborative conversations about grade 1 writing topics and texts

Ways to help at home:

- Brainstorm personal experiences you have had with your child, such as places you have visited, to help your child choose a story to write about.
- Practice writing about places you visit with your child during the week with a beginning, middle and end.
- Practice the spelling of transitional words/phrases: first, then, next, after that, last. finally, etc.

See attached Writing Rubric and Exemplars for this Unit:

- First Grade Narrative Writing Checklist
- First Grade Narrative Writing Exemplar

New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS):
Please refer to Morris School District Rubicon Atlas Website to view standards specific to this unit.