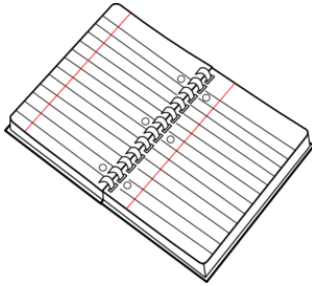




Family Writing Connections

Grade 4 Unit 3: Writing About Reading-The Literary Essay



Overview:

Students will continue to strengthen their persuasive writing skills as they explore literary essay writing. In addition, students will bridge reading and writing as they learn how to analyze familiar picture books in order to write a persuasive essay about the text's theme, character traits, or author's craft, supporting their claims with explanation and carefully selected text evidence.

In this unit, Students will:

- **Draw** inferences and **develop** ideas about a text, citing specific details and examples to support that claim
- **Analyze** and **interpret** texts, focusing on "how and why individuals, events, or ideas develop and interact over the course of a text"
- **Write** arguments about texts
- **Collect** and **develop** ideas
- **Craft** introductions and conclusions
- **Categorize** evidence to most effectively support their reasons
- **Incorporate** literary terms

- **Draft, edit, and revise** a well-organized literary essay
- **Evaluate** their own writing using a writing checklist to set revision goals
- **Flash draft** and **revise** on the run before editing and publishing their final essays

Ways to help at home:

- Ask your child to talk about character traits, theme, and author's craft in the book he or she is reading at home.
- Extend your child's thinking by asking them to provide evidence to support his/her thinking.

See attached Writing Rubric and Exemplars for this Unit:

- Fourth Grade Opinion Writing Checklist
- Exemplar: *Literary Essay to "Eleven"*

New Jersey Student Learning

Standards (NJSLs): Please refer to Morris School District Rubicon Atlas Website to view standards specific to this unit.

