



## GETTING READY FOR GRADE FOUR WRITING!

Students entering Grade Four are ready to sustain writing projects over a series of days. Below you will find a list of possible 5-Day writing projects. At the start of the week, children can choose which project they would like to try. They are encouraged to choose what appeals to them, even repeating a project or inventing their own 5-Day project. Some children may want to extend a project beyond 5 days or only try it out for 2-3 days, and that is perfectly fine. Days off are welcome! **Children are encouraged to complete these tasks in any language.**

**Spelling:** Students are *not* expected to spell every word perfectly. Writers at this age should:

- Include a vowel for every syllable in a word.
- Use two vowels to make long vowel sounds (It is expected that they may confuse these patterns).
- Begin to double consonants when adding -ed or -ing to short vowel words (*example: clapping*).
- Spell high frequency words “Word Wall Words” correctly using a chart as a reference (chart attached).

## Writing Project Ideas

| Project Title   | Day One   | Day Two   | Day Three  | Day Four  | Day Five  |
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| <p><b>Realistic Fiction</b><br/>Realistic fiction is a great way to use what you know about being a kid to tell a story!</p>                    | <p><b>Choosing an idea</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Develop a real-life character. Draw a sketch of your character.</li> <li>2. Come up with a real-life problem that your character will need to solve.</li> </ol>                      | <p><b>Planning</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Plan a beginning, middle, and end to your story. You might sketch out pictures or write them in a list.</li> <li>2. Make sure you add how your character is going to solve the problem.</li> </ol> | <p><b>Drafting</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Start drafting your story.</li> <li>2. Make sure your lead grabs the reader's attention.</li> <li>3. Don't forget to include action, dialogue, thoughts, and feelings of your character.</li> </ol> | <p><b>Drafting</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Continue drafting your story.</li> <li>2. Don't forget to include action, dialogue, thoughts, and feelings of your character.</li> <li>3. As you write your ending, think about the lesson your character will learn.</li> </ol> | <p><b>Revising &amp; Editing</b></p> <p>Revising - <i>Did you include action, dialogue, thoughts and feelings on every page?</i></p> <p>Editing - <i>Make sure you included end punctuation and capitals.</i></p> |
| <p><b>Journaling</b><br/>Journaling is a great way to remember all the things that happen to us. It also helps us think about our feelings.</p> | <p>You are the only one who will read your journal, so you can write anything you want. Try to write a little bit every day. Have fun including sketches or doodles.</p>  |   |  |   |   |
| <p><b>Letter Writing</b><br/>Summer is a great time to connect with all the people we like – both near and far!</p>                             | <p><b>Choosing an idea &amp; Planning</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Make a list of people you want to connect with this summer.</li> </ol> <p>Decide how you will write to them – email? Make a card? Send a letter through the post?</p> | <p><b>Drafting &amp; Editing</b></p> <p>Try to write one letter a day.</p> <p>Check your spelling and punctuation so others can read what you wrote.</p>  | <p><b>Drafting &amp; Editing</b></p> <p>Try to write one letter a day.</p> <p>Check your spelling and punctuation so others can read what you wrote.</p>   | <p><b>Drafting &amp; Editing</b></p> <p>Try to write one letter a day.</p> <p>Check your spelling and punctuation so others can read what you wrote.</p>  | <p><b>Drafting &amp; Editing</b></p> <p>Try to write one letter a day.</p> <p>Check your spelling and punctuation so others can read what you wrote.</p>  |
| <p><b>Invent a Diary</b><br/>Lots of authors imagine the diaries of invented characters. Have fun creating your own imaginary diary.</p>        | <p><b>Choosing an idea</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Imagine a character. Draw a sketch.</li> </ol>   | <p><b>Planning</b></p> <p>Make a list of the problems or situations that your character might have to deal with.</p>  | <p><b>Drafting</b></p> <p>Have fun writing a diary entry from the point of view of your imaginary character.</p>   | <p><b>Drafting</b></p> <p>Have fun writing a diary entry from the point of view of your imaginary character.</p>  | <p><b>Editing</b></p> <p>Read over your diary entries.</p> <p><i>Check for spelling and punctuation.</i></p>  |

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| <p><b>Gratitude Journal</b><br/>Gratitude journals often make people feel happier. Try keeping on for a week to see how it makes you feel.</p>   | <p>Every day, list 3-5 things that you are grateful for. Be as specific as you can. Instead of writing, "My family" you could write, "I'm grateful how my dad makes me sandwiches for lunch and always remembers to cut off the crusts."</p> <p>Set a timer for 5 minutes. Choose one item off of your gratitude journal and free-write as much as you can about it. If you run out of ideas before the timer goes off, choose another idea. Keep writing for a full 5 minutes.</p> |   |   |  |   |
| <p><b>All-About</b><br/>How can you help others know and care about a topic that you love? All-About books teach others all about a topic.</p>   | <p><b>Choosing an idea &amp; Planning</b><br/>1. Pick a topic you know a lot about.<br/>2. Write a table of contents for each chapter.</p>  | <p><b>Drafting</b><br/>As you write your All-About book, try to help your reader become an expert just like you.</p>  | <p><b>Drafting</b><br/>As you write, don't forget to teach your reader special expert words.</p>  | <p><b>Drafting</b><br/>As you write, remember to add pictures, charts, and fact boxes to teach your reader more.</p> | <p><b>Revising &amp; Editing</b><br/>Revising – <i>Did you teach your reader facts &amp; expert words?</i><br/>Editing – <i>Check for spelling and punctuation.</i></p> |
| <p><b>Scientific Journaling</b><br/>How can you document the world around you?</p>   | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Take a walk outside. Find a plant, flower, rock, pinecone, etc. that you wish to sketch.</li> <li>2. Scientific illustrators try to draw as carefully as possible. Take your time, observe closely, and draw accurately.</li> <li>3. Make observational notes about what you sketched. You might want to measure, use numbers, or use precise vocabulary to describe the way the items look, feel, sound, or smell.</li> </ol>            |   |   |  |   |
| <p><b>Graphic Novel</b><br/>Graphic novels are a great way to put your drawing skills &amp; your writing skills to work as you tell a story!</p> | <p><b>Choosing an idea</b><br/>1. Draw a sketch of your character and.<br/>2. Come up with a problem that your character will need to solve.</p>  | <p><b>Planning</b><br/>1. Study a graphic novel mentor text. What does the writer do to help the reader understand &amp; enjoy the story?<br/>2. Make a plan for the beginning, middle and end of your story.</p> | <p><b>Drafting, Revising &amp; Editing</b><br/>1. Tell your story using illustrations, narration boxes, thought bubbles, and voice bubbles.<br/>2. Don't forget about sound words! <i>Example: ZOINK!</i><br/>3. Revise and edit at the end of each page.</p> |  |   |

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| <p><b>Fan Fiction</b><br/>Fan fiction is a genre where you can write your own chapters to the books you love by other authors.</p> | <p><b>Choosing an idea</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Choose a favorite book. Decide on a character that you would like to focus on from that book. Decide if you will write a short story or an extra chapter.</li> <li>2. Come up with a problem that your character will need to solve.</li> </ol> | <p><b>Planning</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Reread the book you love as a writer. What moves did the author do to help you love the story?</li> <li>2. Make a plan for the beginning, middle and end of your story.</li> </ol> | <p><b>Drafting</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Start drafting your story.</li> <li>2. Make sure your lead grabs the reader's attention.</li> <li>3. Don't forget to include action, dialogue, thoughts, and feelings of your character.</li> </ol>  | <p><b>Drafting</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Continue drafting your story.</li> <li>2. Don't forget to include action, dialogue, thoughts, and feelings of your character.</li> <li>3. As you write your ending, think about the lesson your character will learn.</li> </ol> | <p><b>Revising &amp; Editing</b><br/>Revising -<br/><i>Did you include action, dialogue, thoughts and feelings on every page?</i><br/>Editing -<br/><i>Make sure you included end punctuation and capitals.</i></p> <p>Make sure every word wall word is spelled correctly.</p> |
| <p><b>Fantasy</b><br/>Fantasy is a genre that lets your imagination run free!</p>  | <p><b>Choosing an idea</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Develop a setting – what kind of world will your characters live in?</li> <li>2. Develop a main character –</li> <li>3. Come up with a problem that your character can solve.</li> </ol>  | <p><b>Planning</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Plan the beginning, middle and end.</li> <li>2. Imagine your world. Who lives in your world? What creatures inhabit it? Do some sketches or draw a map.</li> </ol>                 | <p><b>Drafting</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Start drafting your story.</li> <li>2. Make sure your lead grabs the reader's attention.</li> <li>3. Don't forget to include action, dialogue, thoughts, and feelings of your character.</li> </ol>  | <p><b>Drafting</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Continue drafting your story.</li> <li>2. Don't forget to include action, dialogue, thoughts, and feelings of your character.</li> <li>3. As you write your ending, think about the lesson your character will learn.</li> </ol> | <p><b>Revising &amp; Editing</b><br/>Revising -<br/><i>Did you include action, dialogue, thoughts and feelings on every page?</i><br/>Editing -<br/><i>Make sure you included end punctuation and capitals.</i></p>   |
| <p><b>Poetry</b><br/>Poems are powerful ideas in tiny packages.</p>  | <p><b>Choosing ideas:</b><br/>Make a list of topics that may be poem worthy. Consider...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Big feelings</li> <li>• Observations about the world</li> <li>• Social Issues</li> <li>• Memories</li> <li>• Hopes and wishes</li> </ul>   | <p><b>Planning</b></p> <p>Read lots and lots of poetry to notice what other poets do to share ideas.</p>  | <p><b>Drafting &amp; Revising</b><br/>Revise as you draft each poem. Consider...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Line breaks,</li> <li>○ Rhythm,</li> <li>○ Precise Language</li> <li>○ Playful Language</li> </ul> <p><b>Edit</b><br/>Poetry doesn't need the same kind of punctuation as story writing, but you should choose it carefully. Use punctuation to match the meaning and rhythm of your poems.</p> |   |   |

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| <p><b>Song Writing</b><br/>Song lyrics are like poetry, just put to music!</p>             | <p><b>Choosing an idea</b><br/>Make a list of topics that may be poem worthy. Consider...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Big feelings</li> <li>• Observations about the world</li> <li>• Social Issues</li> <li>• Memories</li> <li>• Hopes and wishes</li> </ul> | <p><b>Planning</b><br/>Read the lyrics to your favorite songs to notice what the songwriters do to make the lyrics great.</p>  | <p><b>Drafting &amp; Revising</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Revise as you draft each poem. Consider... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Rhyme,</li> <li>○ Rhythm,</li> <li>○ Repeating Lines</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |  |
| <p><b>Script Writing</b><br/>Write a script for a play, a tv show, or even a newscast.</p> | <p><b>Choosing an idea</b><br/>List the kinds of programs you like to watch.</p> <p><i>If you like cartoons, write a script for a cartoon program, if you like drama, consider a sad play.</i></p>  | <p><b>Planning</b><br/>Choose a planning method that is appropriate for the kind of script you are writing. You might want to use planning boxes, timelines, numbered lists, or story mountains.</p> | <p><b>Drafting</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Write down what the characters say using colons (<i>Character:</i>)</li> <li>2. Write narration to describe what the actors will be doing.</li> </ol>                         | <p><b>Revising</b><br/>Make sure your script makes sense. Try to make sure that different characters have different ways of talking.</p> |

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| <p><b>Review Writing</b><br/>The internet is full of reviews of all kinds: book reviews, movie reviews, restaurant reviews, video game reviews and more! This helps others decide if they will enjoy something.</p> | <p><b>Choosing ideas:</b><br/>Consider something that you absolutely love (or dislike) and you want the world to know.</p>                     | <p><b>Planning</b><br/>Organize your ideas listing reasons and evidence why something is good or not-so-good.</p>  | <p><b>Drafting</b><br/>Remember to write an introduction that states your opinion clearly.</p>                                   | <p><b>Drafting</b><br/>Add lots of details including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Precise language</li> <li>• Little stories</li> </ul> | <p><b>Revising &amp; Editing</b><br/>Revise: Did you include lots of evidence to support your opinion?<br/><br/>Edit: Did you include correct capitalization &amp; punctuation?</p> |
| <p><b>Picture Book</b><br/>Summer is the perfect time to create illustrations that match your writing.</p>  | <p><b>Choosing ideas:</b><br/>Choose a piece of writing that you've already done. It could be a story or a piece of informational writing.</p> | <p><b>Planning</b><br/>Read and study the illustrations in picture book mentor texts. Jot down a list of what the illustrator did to make the reader think and feel something.<br/><br/>Plan out how you will match text to pictures. How many pictures do you want to create?</p> | <p><b>Illustrating</b><br/>Create a book, using all you learned from other illustrators to match your pictures to the words.</p> |  |   |

# High Frequency Words (WORD WALL WORDS)

(These words should be spelled correctly in all writing)

Adapted from [A Fresh Look at Phonics](#) by Wiley Blevins

|        |         |        |       |        |          |        |       |         |       |
|--------|---------|--------|-------|--------|----------|--------|-------|---------|-------|
| about  | after   | again  | also  | always | another  | around | buy   | because | been  |
| before | carry   | what   | does  | each   | come     | could  | every | found   | here  |
| hear   | how     | these  | those | though | through  | to     | too   | two     | there |
| their  | they're | were   | where | little | myself   | knew   | new   | know    | once  |
| other  | own     | people | right | things | together | very   | which | when    | went  |