



Mount Pleasant Central School District

1st Grade Writing, English Language Arts

We believe that all students should acquire the necessary literacy skills, strategies, and knowledge to cultivate their identities as readers and writers in order to engage in critical thinking and communication for authentic purposes and audiences in our diverse world.

Course Description: What is something you want to tell the world and how can you show it with your words and pictures? In this class students will grow as writers by learning to share ideas, tell stories and express themselves with increasing detail, clarity and confidence. Our main goal is to develop a love of writing while giving students the tools to engage fully in the writing process, explore multiple genres and learn from mentor authors to notice techniques and apply them into their own writing. Assessment will primarily be through authentic writing tasks based on the genre being studied.

Unit Title	Month	Content	Vocabulary	Standards	Skills	Big Ideas	Assessments
Writing Launch	Early September	In this unit of study, students will learn the routines, rituals, and resources of a writing workshop.	-expectation -routine -topic -audience	1SL1a: Follow agreed-upon rules for discussions and participate by actively listening, taking turns, and staying on topic. 1SL1b: Build on others' talk in conversations by responding to the comments of others through multiple exchanges. 1SL1c: Ask questions to clear up any confusion about topics and texts under discussion 1SL3: Develop and answer questions to clarify what the speaker says and	- Understanding and following workshop routines. -Building stamina for independent writing time. -listening respectfully to peers.	Writers have important ideas to share and by learning routines, using tools and practicing the writing process, we can grow as a community of writers.	N/A

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				identify a speaker's point of view.			
How Writers Work	September	In this unit of study, students will explore what inspires writers to write. Students will incorporate techniques they have learned from the mentor texts into their own writing.	- author -illustrator -writing process -mentor text	1SL4: Describe familiar people, places, things, and events with relevant details expressing ideas clearly. 1SL5: Create or utilize existing visual displays to support descriptions to clarify ideas, thoughts, and feelings. 1SL6: Express thoughts, feelings, and ideas clearly, using complete sentences when appropriate to task, situation, and	- Identify the various forms and functions of writing -Actively engage in the writing process to publish a piece of writing. -Learning from mentor texts and mentor authors.	Writers can study mentor authors and texts to think about how writers work so they can emulate this process.	

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				audience.			
Nonfiction All About Books	October-December	In this unit of study, students will learn that nonfiction writing is meant to share knowledge and explain information. Nonfiction writing uses structures and features to organize the information to better help a reader understand a topic.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - topic -research -fact -nonfiction -features 	1W2: Write an informative/explanatory text to introduce a topic, supplying some facts to develop points, and provide some sense of closure.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gather information from various sources to answer questions and teach readers about a particular topic. 	-Understand that nonfiction writing teaches others about a topic. Nonfiction authors teach readers through the use of structures and features such as bold words, captions, diagrams and a table of contents.	End of unit Authentic Writing Task
Book Reviews	January	-This unit of study will allow students to not only enjoy many popular pieces of fiction but also form	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - opinion -summary -recommendation -story elements (problem, solution, 	1W1: Write an opinion on a topic or personal experience; give two or more reasons to support that opinion.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - state an opinion and supply reasons to support the opinion. -includes sufficient details and relevant 	-Writers write book reviews to express an opinion about a book and explain why they feel this way with clear	End of unit Authentic Writing Task

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		opinions about the books they have read. In their book reviews, students will describe the book they have read, offer an opinion about that book, supply a reason to support their opinion, and provide some sense of closure.	character, setting)		information to convey an opinion.	reasons. A book review also includes a summary and a strong recommendation.	
Personal Narrative	February-March	- In this unit students will construct meaningful personal narratives. Students will discover important things about who they are. This type of writing	- descriptive detail -dialogue -event -sequential order -point of view	1W3: Write narratives which recount real or imagined experiences or events or a short sequence of events.	- Recognize that personal narrative writers draw on their personal experiences and interests to generate ideas for writing	Students will select one story idea to focus on, develop, and publish. Students will use a combination of drawing, dictation, and	End of unit Authentic Writing Task

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		also helps students make sense of their life experiences and discover that others may share similar experiences.			-Discover features of personal narratives. -Utilize various narrative techniques when composing their own personal narratives.	writing to narrate a single event or several loosely linked events to tell about an event in the order that it happened, including a reaction in the end.	
Fiction Story Writing	April-May	- This unit emphasizes the essential elements of fictional writing including: character development, setting, and plot structure.	- realistic -fantasy -trait -plot -villan	1.W.3 -Write narratives which recount real or imagined experiences or events or a short sequence of events.	- Create a main character -Establish a time and place for the story. -Organize a sequence of events. -Create a simple plot structure which includes a problem and a solution.	Write fiction texts in which they follow the narrative text structure, recounting a sequence of events with a definitive beginning, middle, and end.	End of unit Authentic Writing Task
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