



Mount Pleasant Central School District

3rd 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.

Which practices best help to improve students' writing? In this class we will focus on why writers write and how writers effectively communicate ideas and information. Students will find out all of the different reasons why we write and have the opportunity to build their own writing identities. Our main goal is to utilize the writing process to develop their ideas, apply powerful revision and editing techniques, and effectively compose their ideas into clear, well thought pieces that demonstrate an awareness of purpose, style, and audience. Assessment will be through Benchmark essays, that enable students to demonstrate what they've learned in the units.

Unit Title	Month	Content	Vocabulary	Standards	Skills	Big Ideas	Assessments
How Writers Work (Launching)	September	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Identify the components of writers workshop- Identify the components of the writing process	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Writer's Notebook- conventions- generating- brainstorming- drafting- revising- editing- publishing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Participate in collaborative conversations with diverse peers and adults in small and large groups and during play.- Follow agreed-upon rules for discussions and participate by actively listening, taking turns, and staying on topic.-Build on others' talk in conversations by linking their comments to the remarks of others through multiple exchanges.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Learn the rituals, routines, and resources for writing workshop-Recognize how writing is a process that takes hard work and time to create pieces of writing that are meaningful	Writing is a powerful tool for thinking, expressing emotions and teaching others what we know.	N/A

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				<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Ask for clarification and further explanation as needed about topics and texts under discussion.- Consider individual differences when communicating with others.-Recount or describe key ideas or details of diverse texts and formats.-Develop and answer questions about what a speaker says; agree or disagree with the speaker's point of view, providing a reason(s).			

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Narratives (Patricia Polacco)	October - December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identify the text structure of a personal narrative -Identify the author's purpose -Identify the techniques used 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - hook - conclusion - dialogue - leads - narrative - sensory details - transition words 	-2W3Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective techniques, descriptive details and clear event sequences.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Identify various narrative techniques -Use life experiences, curiosity, interests, and observations about the world to generate ideas for writing 	Our lives tell a story.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A published personal narrative. A Benchmark narrative writing assessment.
Nonfiction	January - March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identify the text structure of a Nonfiction writing -Identify the author's purpose -Identify the techniques used 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - diagrams - headings - illustrations - informative - labels - nonfiction - purpose - Subheadings - Table of Contents - Index 	- 2W2 Write informative/explanatory texts that introduce a topic, use facts and other information to develop points, use content-specific language, and provide a concluding statement or section	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identify common nonfiction writing features and their purposes - Select and focus on a nonfiction topic to examine and develop 	I am an expert and am able to teach about this topic through my writing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A published Nonfiction writing piece. A Benchmark Nonfiction writing assessment.

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Biography	April - June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identify the text structure of a biography -Identify the author's purpose -Identify the techniques used 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - biography -accomplishment -Achievement -inspired/inspirational - 	-2W1Write an opinion about a topic or personal experience, using clear reasons and relevant evidence.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Conduct research to build knowledge on their subject - Form opinions of the various people studied based upon the accomplishments and attributes discussed; -Include facts and details to support their opinion and inform readers; 	Biographers write about people who interest and inspire them, which leads to students forming opinions about these individuals based on their accomplishments and attributes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A published Opinion writing piece. A Benchmark Opinion writing assessment.
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