GERMANTOWN ACADEMY

FIFTH GRADE LITERACY SCOPE AND SEQUENCE

Spellwell

What is *Spellwell*?

The *Spellwell* series serves as the word study program for third, fourth, and fifth grades at Germantown Academy. This word study program is designed around spelling rules or generalizations. Each week students learn the one or two principles that relate to their group of spelling words. "Outlaw Words" that don't follow a spelling rule and "Classroom Words" provided by teachers are also studied. Books are typically designated *B* and *BB* for third-grade level, *C* and *CC* for fourth, and *D* and *DD* for fifth, however this can vary depending on a student's readiness assessment.

How does *Spellwell* work?

At the beginning of each week, students take a pretest to allow teachers to target a certain area of spelling for each student. Words are specific to each student, and not all students will have the same words. Students learn the one or two principles that relate to their group of spelling words. Throughout the week students practice spelling in a variety of formats including vocabulary expansion, thinking skills, and puzzles. The weekly goal is for all students to master the spelling principles of that week's lesson. A weekly spelling test will assess mastery of spelling words.

How is *Spellwell used at home*?

The *Spellwell* program provides for daily practice at home. The activities to be done at home include finding rhyming words, sorting words, adding affixes, and writing words in puzzles, stories and bingo games. They also include identifying and writing words for the students' reading books that fit the lesson's pattern.

Reading and Writing Workshop

A Framework for Responsive Teaching

The Reading and Writing Project's approach to instruction recognizes that "one size fits all" does not match the realities of the classrooms and schools in which they work. When you walk into a workshop classroom at any given moment, you'll see instruction that is designed to:

- help teachers address each child's individual learning;
- explicitly teach strategies students will use not only the day they are taught but whenever they need them;
- help students work with engagement so that teachers are able to coach individuals and lead small groups;
- support small-groupwork and conferring with multiple opportunities for personalizing instruction;
- tap into the power of a learning community as a way to bring all learners along;
- build choice and assessment-based learning into the very design of the curriculum.

The routines and structures of reading and writing workshop are kept simple and predictable so that the teacher can focus on the complex work of teaching in a responsive manner to accelerate achievement for all learners.

GRADE 5 READING UNITS	GRADE 5 WRITING UNITS
UNIT 1 ***Notice and Note:*** This unit helps develop attentive readers who look closely at text, interpret it responsibly, and reflect on what it means in their lives. It helps them become responsive, rigorous and independent readers. **UNIT 2** ***Tackling Complexity: Moving Up Levels of Nonfiction:*** This unit teaches students to embrace the complexities of high-interest nonfiction texts. Students will investigate the ways nonfiction texts are becoming more complex, and they'll learn strategies to tackle these new challenges. **UNIT 3** ***Argument and Advocacy: Researching Debatable Issues:*** This unit begins with a one-day "boot camp" on analyzing arguments in which students work in research groups to study a debatable issue. Next, you'll help your students develop deeper questions and ideas and engage in more complicated conversations. **UNIT 4** ***Fantasy Book Clubs: The Magic of Themes and Symbols:*** In this unit, students work in clubs to become deeply immersed in the fantasy genre and further develop higher-level thinking skills to study how authors develop characters and themes over time.	**UNIT 1** ***Narrative Craft:*** This unit helps students deliberately use their knowledge of narrative craft to make their stories more thematic. **UNIT 2** ***The Lens of History: Research Reports:*** In this unit, students draw inspiration and understanding from mentor texts, historical accounts, primary source documents, maps, and timelines to write focused research reports that engage and teach readers. **UNIT 3** ***The Research-Based Argument Essay:*** This unit teaches fifth graders to build powerful arguments that convincingly balance evidence and analysis to persuade readers to action. **UNIT 4** ***Fantasy Writing:*** In this writing unit, students develop characters and plots to create their own fantasy stories. Students pay close attention to using sentence structure that gives their writing focus, depth and cohesion.