Personal Narrative Writing Unit

Big Ideas:

- To write a personal narrative writing piece.
- Recognize different features of personal narratives such as well-structured event sequence, first person, revealing thoughts, dialogue, and descriptions.

Essential Questions:

- Can I write narratives using effective sequencing, transitions, and narrative techniques to engage a reader? W.6.3 a, b, c
- Can I conduct short research projects to answer a question, drawing several sources and refocusing the inquiry when appropriate? W.6.7
- Can I draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research? W.6.9
- Can I write effectively on-demand or over extended periods of time for a range of tasks, purposes, and audiences? W.6.10
- Can I analyze how an individual, event, or idea is introduced, illustrated, and elaborated in a text? RI 6.3
- Can I trace an argument and analyze claims and their support in a text? RI 6.8
- Can I compare and contrast accounts of the same event written by different authors? RI 6.9
- Can I apply knowledge of language and its conventions when writing, speaking, reading, or listening? L.6.3
- Can I vary sentence patterns for meaning, interest of the intended audience, and style? L.6.3 a
- Can I maintain consistency in style and tone? L.6.3 b
- Can I review the key ideas expressed and demonstrate understanding of multiple perspectives through reflection and paraphrasing? SL. 6.1 d

Assessment:

Formative Assessment Tools (ongoing; as needed)

- Writer’s Notebook
- Writing Conferences
- Reading Response Journal

Summative Assessments:

- Personal Narrative
- Famous Person Project
### Standards based skills & concepts to be targeted throughout unit:
- Self-select appropriate leveled text *across varied genres*
- Read grade level text (levels X-Z)
- Interact with above grade level text
- Use reading comprehension strategies flexibly
- Compare/contrast two or more texts
- Retell a story/key information
- Recognize characteristics of genres
- Use context clues to define new/unfamiliar word
- Engage in conversations and discussions
- Speak to communicate an idea
- Recognize point of view
- Listen and respond to a speaker
- Describe relationship between individuals, events, ideas, or information
- Know and apply grade level phonics and word analysis skills
- Write to a specific purpose or audience
- Revise and edit with support, with peers, and independently

### Strategies/best practices used to explicitly teach the skills and concepts:
- Mini lesson instructional model
- Interactive read aloud instructional model
- Modeling/practice of routines and expectations
- Gradual release of responsibility to students
- Build stamina to read/work independently
- Daily small group guided reading instruction
- Daily, sustained reading practice/application (independent, pairs, group, book club, etc)
- Formative assessment used to develop instructional goals for individuals/small groups
- Technology to enhance learning experience
- Student choice of reading material as often as possible

### How Students Will Demonstrate Their Understanding:
- Effective use of independent reading/writing strategies (*as defined by district rubrics*)
- Daily use of Readers/Writers notebooks
- Use of text coding, editing, and revision techniques to identify and/or improve written work
- Effective use of independent time to read, write and discuss work
- Appropriate participation in whole class, group, and partner conversations/discussions
- Demonstration of understanding of classroom norms and expectations
- Identification of theme and/or central idea of text through writing and discussion
- Considers personal interests, habits, needs, and goals when selecting and completing literacy work
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resources for this Unit:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- <em>Schoolwide Personal Narrative Writing Unit</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>- <em>Schoolwide aligned mentor texts (or comparable mentor texts identified to support curriculum goals)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>- Whole class novel or 3-5 book sets</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Leveled text - book sets, classroom library, e-books, Common Core aligned online resources:</td>
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<tr>
<td>1. Reading A-Z.com resources <em>(Raz Kids)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>2. ReadSource.org</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Newsela.com</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. TweenTribune.com</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Flocabulary.com</td>
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