

9th Newcomer Grade ELA Curriculum

Themes:

E1: Identity

E2:

Problems and solutions in the community

American heroes and values

Home

Fairy tales and morals

Writing

E1: Summary of Stories & Narrative / Autobiography

E2: Modified Argumentative and Lit. Analysis & continuation of the types from E1

Essential Questions

Who are you?

How can we find our reading levels?

How can we use dictionaries to translate new words?

How can we learn to read independently?

How can we talk and write about ourselves (give out personal information?)

How can we write a summary of the story?

How can we identify basic story elements?

What are problems and solutions in our community?

How can we improve our community?

Who are some American heroes?

What do Americans value?

Where is my home?

Unit 1: Identity / Writing about yourself / Basic phonics

Anchor Texts:

1. Sam and Pat, book 1
2. Sam and Pat, book 2
3. Fast Track Phonics)
4. Alma short film
5. Why is Dad So Mad? by Seth Kastle
6. Fairy tale videos (The Mouse and the Lion, The Ant and the Grasshopper)

Nonfiction Text:

7. Anne Frank (adapted version from the Sherlock Center for Disabilities)

Summative Assessment:

Unit tests covering daily vocabulary, putting words in ABC order (using a dictionary), answering questions about yourself in complete sentences, pronouns, possessive adjectives, reading comprehension questions, summarizing a story we've already read by answering who, what, when, where, why)

"About Me" Project: Writing a paragraph about oneself (with sentence stems support)

Project:

"All About Me" Google Slides Project: Write a paragraph about yourself, a paragraph about your favorite things, add pictures to illustrate yourself and your favorite things

"My Journey" Project: Write and illustrate 2 pages about your past, 2 pages about your present, and 2 pages about your future

Unit 2: Problems and solutions in the community

Anchor Texts / Nonfiction Texts:

Very Easy True Stories
All New Very Easy True Stories

Summative Assessments:

Unit tests covering daily vocabulary, putting words in ABC order (using a dictionary), answering questions about yourself in complete sentences, pronouns, possessive adjectives, reading comprehension, writing sentences about a picture, summarizing stories that we've read from the anchor texts

Project:

Second Semester Getting to Know You Project: Make a Google Slides presentation about a partner who speaks a different language (Write about their personal information and favorite things)

PSA Project: Write a PSA about a problem and possible solutions in the community

Summary Project: Summarize one of the stories from the anchor texts by answering who, what, where, when why

Unit 3: American heroes and values / Science and social studies connections

Anchor Texts / Nonfiction Texts:

Nonfiction Reading Practice (Evan Moor Publishers)

Nonfiction biographies

NYSESLAT prep materials

Summative Assessment:

Unit quizzes and tests about nonfiction vocabulary with content-area links: Writing sentences about a picture of an ecosystem or photosynthesis, using transition words like "and" and "but"

Unit quizzes and tests requiring students to label pictures with content-area vocabulary, reading a nonfiction passage and circling the correct answer, making original sentences with content area vocabulary

Project:

3 thank you letters to your heroes, people who work at the school

Unit 4: Home / Fairy tales and morals

Anchor Texts:

The Giving Tree by Shel Silverstein

Flying Home by Stephen Rabley

Fairy tales (The Ugly Duckling, Chicken Little)

Summative Assessment:

Unit test (identifying daily vocabulary based on the picture, writing sentences using vocabulary words, answering comprehension and analysis questions about the anchor texts in complete sentences, writing a modified argumentative essay, writing a modified literary analysis task about conflict or characterization)

Modified argumentative essay (Should Felix stay in New York or go home to Brazil?) - topic subject to change

Modified literary analysis essays (analyzing quotes for characterization and conflict in *Flying Home* and *The Giving Tree*)

Project:

Creative final project: writing and illustrating a 6-page booklet on a topic of your choice (short story, autobiography, fairy tale, nonfiction, etc.)