English Language Arts

Brunswick School Department Grade 7 Personal Narrative

| Essential | Effective writers construct personal narratives to develop real experiences or events using effective techniques, relevant |
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| Understandings | descriptive details, and well-structured sequences. |
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| | What is a personal narrative? |
| | How can mentor texts reveal to the writer the characteristics of a |
| | good personal narrative? |
| Essential | What is the role of reflection in a personal narrative? |
| Questions | How is a personal narrative significant to the writer and to the reader? |
| | What are the important elements of a personal narrative? |
| | Writers can learn how to craft personal narratives by studying |
| | mentor texts. |
| | A personal narrative is an important story from the writer's life. |
| | A personal narrative is a brief, often intense, memory of an event |
| Essential | (or a person) with reflection. |
| Knowledge | A personal narrative usually shows significance in the writer's life |
| | and something significant to others. |
| | A personal narrative includes many elements of fiction, including |
| | setting, problem or tension, characters, dialogue, and resolution. |
| Veeebulen | Terms: |
| Vocabulary | personal narrative, reflection, setting, characters, dialogue, resolution (epiphany) |
| | Select small moments or experiences and share thinking about |
| | them in a way that communicates a larger meaning. |
| | Use only the important details and parts of the experience, |
| Essential | eliminating unnecessary information. |
| Skills | Develop characters (self and others) and show how and why they change. |
| | Use literary language (powerful verbs, figurative language). |
| | Create an internal structure that begins with a purposeful lead. |
| | Write an ending that reveals something important about self of life. |

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| | B. Writing |
| | B1.Interconnected Elements |
| | Students use a writing process to communicate for a variety of |
| | audiences and purposes. |
| | a. Determine a purpose for writing. |
| | b. Decide which information is included to achieve the desired |
| | purpose. |
| | c. Revise drafts to improve focus, effect, and voice |
| | incorporating peer response when appropriate. |
| | d. Edit for correct grammar, usage, and mechanics. |
| | e. Write to achieve a specific purpose. |
| | f. Create legible final drafts. |
| | B2.Narrative |
| | Students write narratives that convey complex ideas, |
| | observations, events, or reflections. |
| | a. Establish a plot or narrative structure, point of view, setting, |
| | and conflict. |
| | b. Develop characters. |
| | Use a range of narrative strategies for effect including |
| Related | dialogue for suspense. |
| Maine Learning | d. Use stylistic devices including figurative language and point |
| Results | of view to clarify, enhance, and develop ideas. |
| | D. Language |
| | D1.Grammar and Usage |
| | Students manipulate the parts of speech effectively and employ |
| | a variety of sentence structures to communicate. |
| | a. Use forms of nouns, pronouns, verbs, adjectives and their |
| | modifiers, adverbs, prepositions, transitions, conjunctions, |
| | and interjections correctly. |
| | b. b. Use compound complex sentences. |
| | c. c. Use active and passive voices effectively. |
| | D2.Mechanics Students apply the rules of capitalization, punctuation, and |
| | spelling to communicate effectively. |
| | a. Use correct capitalization and punctuation including commas |
| | and semi-colons. |
| | b. Correctly spell frequently misspelled words and common |
| | homophones. |

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| Sample Lessons And Activities | Study mentor texts to become familiar with characteristics of a personal narrative. Complete a graphic organizer in order to plan an internal structure. Describe self and others (i.e., characters) by how they look, what they do, say, and think and what others say about them. Write a draft of a personal narrative. Revise to include figurative language, "Smiley Face Tricks" (Mary Ledbetter), strong lead, epiphany, and conclusion. Self and peer edit in accordance with the grade 7 "Writing Conventions." Prepare a legible final draft. |
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| Sample Classroom Assessment Methods | Teacher generated rubrics. |
| Sample Resources | <u>Publications:</u> <u>Write Source</u> (2000) <u>Reviser's Toolbox</u> – Barry Lane "Smiley Face Tricks" – Mary Ledbetter |