

# Unit 5: Discoveries

Content Area: **Language Arts Literacy**  
Course(s):  
Time Period: **March**  
Length: **6 weeks**  
Status: **Published**

## Enduring Understandings

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In essence, our life is a journey of discoveries—we are a sum of our experiences.

## Essential Questions

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- How do our life experiences mold us?
- What discoveries have changed the world?

## Content

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1. How the United States was discovered and explored
2. Map terminology
3. Poetic elements
4. When and for what purpose to use a Venn diagram

## Skills

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- Use a map
- Comprehend a poem
- Interpret a song and a speech
- Visualize while reading to support comprehension
- Differentiate between fact and opinion
- Compare and contrast two songs
- Write a persuasive paragraph, using complex sentences, determiners, and adverbs placed correctly
- Spell words with consonant blends and digraphs

## Learning Activities

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1. Keep a reader response journal
2. Create a Venn diagram
3. Conduct an experiment

4. Write a persuasive paragraph
5. Write a poem
6. Make a relief map

## Resources

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## Standards

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LA.RL.9-10.2	Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze in detail its development over the course of the text, including how it emerges and is shaped and refined by specific details and provide an objective summary of the text.
LA.RL.9-10.4	Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in the text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the cumulative impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone (e.g., how the language evokes a sense of time and place; how it sets a formal or informal tone).
LA.RL.9-10.7	Analyze the representation of a subject or a key scene in two different artistic mediums, including what is emphasized or absent in each work (e.g., Auden's "Musée des Beaux Arts" and Breughel's Landscape with the Fall of Icarus).
LA.RL.9-10.9	Analyze and reflect on (e.g., practical knowledge, historical/cultural context, and background knowledge) how an author draws on and transforms source material in a specific work (e.g., how Shakespeare treats a theme or topic from mythology or the Bible or how a later author draws on a play by Shakespeare).
LA.W.9-10.1.B	Develop claim(s) and counterclaims avoiding common logical fallacies, propaganda devices, and using sound reasoning, supplying evidence for each while pointing out the strengths and limitations of both in a manner that anticipates the audience's knowledge level and concerns.
LA.W.9-10.1.C	Use transitions (e.g., words, phrases, clauses) to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships between claim(s) and reasons, between reasons and evidence, and between claim(s) and counterclaims.
LA.W.9-10.1.D	Establish and maintain a style and tone appropriate to the audience and purpose (e.g., formal and objective for academic writing) while attending to the norms and conventions of the discipline in which they are writing.
LA.W.9-10.1.E	Provide a concluding paragraph or section that supports the argument presented.
LA.W.9-10.2	Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.
LA.SL.9-10.1	Initiate and participate effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with peers on grades 9–10 topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.
LA.SL.9-10.2	Integrate multiple sources of information presented in diverse media or formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively, qualitatively, orally) evaluating the credibility and accuracy of each source.
LA.SL.9-10.3	Evaluate a speaker's point of view, reasoning, and use of evidence and rhetoric, identifying

any false reasoning or distorted evidence.

LA.SL.9-10.4

Present information, findings, and supporting evidence clearly, concisely, and logically. The content, organization, development, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

LA.SL.9-10.5

Make strategic use of digital media (e.g., textual, graphical, audio, visual, and interactive elements) in presentations to enhance findings, reasoning, and evidence and to add interest.

LA.SL.9-10.6

Adapt speech to a variety of contexts and tasks, demonstrating command of formal English.

LA.L.9-10.2

Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.

LA.L.9-10.2.A

Use a semicolon (and perhaps a conjunctive adverb) to link two or more closely related independent clauses.

LA.L.9-10.2.B

Use a colon to introduce a list or quotation.

LA.L.9-10.2.C

Spell correctly.

LA.9-10.W.9-10.1

Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence. Introduce precise claim(s), distinguish the claim(s) from alternate or opposing claims, and create an organization that establishes clear relationships among claim(s), counterclaims, reasons, and evidence.