

# 3rd Grade Unit 4 Writers Workshop - Research

Content Area: **Language Arts**  
Course(s): **Language Arts 3**  
Time Period: **Marking Period 4**  
Length: **3-6 weeks**  
Status: **Published**

## Established Goals/Standards

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Please choose the appropriate Goals/Standards from the Standards tab above.

LA.W.3.2.A	Introduce a topic and group related information together; include text features (e.g., illustrations, diagrams, captions) when useful to support comprehension.
LA.W.3.2.B	Develop the topic with facts, definitions, and details.
LA.W.3.2.C	Use linking words and phrases (e.g., also, another, and, more, but) to connect ideas within categories of information.
LA.W.3.2.D	Provide a conclusion.
LA.W.3.4	With guidance and support from adults, produce writing in which the development and organization are appropriate to task and purpose. (Grade-specific expectations for writing types are defined in standards 1–3 above.)
LA.W.3.5	With guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, and editing.
LA.W.3.6	With guidance and support from adults, use technology to produce and publish writing as well as to interact and collaborate with others.
LA.W.3.7	Conduct short research projects that build knowledge about a topic.
LA.W.3.8	Recall information from experiences or gather information from print and digital sources; take brief notes on sources and sort evidence into provided categories.
LA.W.3.10	Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, metacognition/self-correction and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.

## Essential Questions

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- How does a writer cite the sources that he or she uses?
- How should a writer effectively collect information on a specific topic to generate an organized research paper?
- How should a writer select sources that provides appropriate support?
- What are the features of explanatory writing?
- What is plagiarism and how does a good writer avoid it?
- What is the best way to begin and end an explanatory paper
- What is the difference between fact and opinion and how are they used to explain or inform a reader?
- What makes information true and relevant to an explanatory essay?

## Enduring Understanding

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- A good writer effectively collects information on a specific topic to generate an organized research paper by using outlines and graphic organizers.
- Facts are true and based on research, whereas opinions are formed based on what someone thinks or believes.
- Good explanatory essays will hook the reader with a strong thesis statement.
- Good writers understand that plagiarism is to take and use ideas, passages, etc., from (another's work) and are able to paraphrase effectively.
- Selecting solid sources will provide appropriate support.
- The purpose of Informative/explanatory writing is to increase the reader's knowledge, to help the reader better understand a procedure or process, or to increase the reader's comprehension of a concept.
- Works cited page in MLA style is essential to an effective research paper.

## **Content**

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### **Students will be able to:**

- Write an introductory paragraph that uses creative techniques to grab the reader's attention.
- Write a strong concluding paragraph that summarizes the information from the body of the essay.
- Use texts and online resources to gather information for a research paper.
- Record information into an outline that allows students to organize and plan their writing.
- Cite resources in MLA format using a source such as EasyBib.com to create a works cited page.
- Successfully organize writing to support author's purpose.
- Use transitions and transitional phrases.
- Vary sentence structure.
- Structure paragraphs in an order that supports the flow of their writing.
- Write with sophisticated fourth grade vocabulary.
- Develop and strengthen writing through editing and revision.

## **Resources**

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- Google Drive
- Graphic organizers
- Teacher generated outlines
- Student generated essays
- Teacher generated essays
- Explanatory Essay rubric
- Research paper rubric
- Elements of Effective Writing Chart
- ActivBoard Flipcharts:
  - explanatory introduction
  - hooking the reader
  - model opening paragraph
  - graphic organizer
- Mentor text for explanatory writing

- Transition words and phrases list
- Thesaurus