

# Grade 5: Language Arts Unit 3:

## Informational/Explanatory Writing

Content Area: **Language Arts**  
Course(s): **Language Arts 5, Generic Course**  
Time Period: **Generic Time Period**  
Length: **6 weeks**  
Status: **Published**

### Established Goals/Standards

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

LA.W.5.2	Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.
LA.W.5.2.A	Introduce a topic clearly to provide a focus and group related information logically; include text features such as headings, illustrations, and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension.
LA.W.5.2.B	Develop the topic with facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples related to the topic.
LA.W.5.2.C	Link ideas within paragraphs and sections of information using words, phrases, and clauses (e.g., in contrast, especially).
LA.W.5.2.D	Use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to inform about or explain the topic.
LA.W.5.2.E	Provide a conclusion related to the information of explanation presented.
LA.W.5.6	With some guidance and support from adults and peers, use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing as well as to interact and collaborate with others; demonstrate sufficient command of keyboarding skills to type a minimum of two pages in a single sitting.
LA.W.5.7	Conduct short research projects that use several sources to build knowledge through investigation of different perspectives of a topic.
LA.W.5.8	Recall relevant information from experiences or gather relevant information from print and digital sources; summarize or paraphrase information in notes and finished work, and provide a list of sources.
LA.W.5.10	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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Please add your Essential Questions by clicking on the Lists tab above.

- What is plagiarism and how does a good writer avoid it?
- How can writer's organize an explanatory essay?
- How can you use an outline to help organize information?
- 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 components of an explanatory essay?
- What is the purpose of opening and conclusion paragraphs?

## **Enduring Understanding**

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Please add your Enduring Understandings by clicking on the Lists tab above.

- Good writers understand that plagiarism is to take and use ideas, passages, etc., from (another's work) and are able to paraphrase effectively.
- Address separate aspects of the topic in each paragraph.
- Body consists of three or more points, descriptions, or examples.
- Concluding paragraph restates the thesis and offers the reader the opportunity to reflect further on the topic.
- Introductory or lead paragraph invites the reader to explore the topic.
- Organization varies: chronological, order of importance, or order of familiarity.
- Specific details and examples support the main idea of each paragraph.
- Works cited page in MLA style is essential to an effective research paper.

## **Content**

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Students will be able to

- Organize an explanatory essay using paragraphs
- Write an introductory paragraph that grabs the reader's attention and introduces the topic.
- Write a conclusion paragraph that restates ideas from the previous paragraphs and reflects on a lasting thought.
- Use a rubric to guide writing skills.
- Vary vocabulary in their writing
- Use grammar skills standards

## **Resources**

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- State Report
  - Outline with subtopics
  - State nonfiction books
  - ActivBoard Flipcharts
- Explanatory Writing (variety of topics to choose from)
  - Mentor text for explanatory writing
    - How I Became a Pirate
    - A River Ran Wild

- Explanatory Essay Rubric
- Explanatory Essay Outline
- Wordly Wise Vocabulary
- Transition words and phrases list
- Thesaurus