Unit 6: Together We Can

Content Area: **ELA**
Course(s): **ELA Gr 1**
Time Period: **MayJun**
Length: **30 Days**
Status: **Published**

Department of Curriculum and Instruction

Belleville Public Schools

Curriculum Guide

First Grade ELA/Writing

Unit 6: Together We Can

Belleville Board of Education

102 Passaic Avenue

Belleville, NJ 07109

Prepared by: Ms. Elaine Mendez

Dr. Richard Tomko, Ph.D., M.J., Superintendent of Schools

Ms. LucyAnn Demikoff, Director of Curriculum and Instruction K-12

Ms. Nicole Shanklin, Director of Elementary Education

Mr. George Droste, Director of Secondary Education

Board Approved: September 23, 2019

Unit Overview

In Unit 6: Together We Can, students will have collaborative discussions about how to reach goals. They will talk about projects they done, sports goals, and family goals. The students will be exposed to both fiction and nonfiction texts as they continue to manipulate language and their understanding of reading to become fluent readers.

Enduring Understandings

Students will understand that...

- people should work together to make things better.
- there are adults that help you every day.
- different kinds of weather affects our lives.
- traditions help us understand and learn about our families.
- learning about holidays helps up understand the reasons why people celebrate.

Essential Questions

- How can we work together to make our lives better?
- Who helps you?
- How can weather affect us?
- What is a tradition? What traditions do you know about?
- Why do we celebrate holidays?
- How does teamwork help us?

Exit Skills

By the end of Unit 6: Together We Can, students should be able to...

- cite relevant evidence from text.
- demonstrate understanding of theme or central message.
- retell the text.
- draw evidence from fiction text.
- write narrative text.
- engage in collaborative conversations.
- use pronouns I, you, he, she, it, we, they.
- develop oral vocabulary.
- use context cues to understand synonms.
- use variant spellings with digraphs.
- apply foundational skills in connected text.
- use suffixes ful, and less.
- identify author's purpose.
- write informative text.
- use possessive pronouns.
- use context cues to understand antonyms.
- describe plot events: cause and effects.
- use special pronouns.
- use context to understand similes.
- identify silent letters wr, kn, gn.
- use compound words.
- use I and me.
- use context clues to understand compound words.
- identify three-letter blends.
- identify inflectional endings.
- determine author's purpose.
- write opinion text.
- use adverbs that tell how.
- use context clues to understand metaphors.

New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS)

LA.RL.1	Reading Literature Text
LA.RL.1.1	Ask and answer questions about key details in a text.
LA.RL.1.2	Retell stories, including key details, and demonstrate understanding of their central message or lesson.
LA.RL.1.3	Describe characters, settings, and major event(s) in a story, using key details.
LA.RI.1	Reading Informational Text
LA.RI.1.1	Ask and answer questions about key details in a text.
LA.RI.1.2	Identify the main topic and retell key details of a text.
LA.RI.1.3	Describe the connection between two individuals, events, ideas, or pieces of information in a text.

LA.RI.1.4	Ask and answer questions to help determine or clarify the meaning of words and phrases in a text.
LA.RI.1.5	Know and use various text features (e.g., headings, tables of contents, glossaries, electronic menus, icons) to locate key facts or information in a text.
LA.RI.1.8	Identify the reasons an author gives to support points in a text and explain the application of this information with prompting as needed.
LA.RI.1.10	With prompting and support, read informational texts at grade level text complexity or above.
LA.RF.1.1.A	Recognize the distinguishing features of a sentence (e.g., first word, capitalization, ending punctuation).
	Phonological Awareness
LA.RF.1.2.A	Distinguish long from short vowel sounds in spoken single-syllable words.
LA.RF.1.2.B	Orally produce single-syllable words by blending sounds (phonemes), including consonant blends.
LA.RF.1.2.C	Isolate and pronounce initial, medial vowel, and final sounds (phonemes) in spoken single-syllable words.
LA.RF.1.2.D	Segment spoken single-syllable words into their complete sequence of individual sounds (phonemes).
LA.RF.1.3	Know and apply grade-level phonics and word analysis skills in decoding words.
LA.RF.1.3.C	Know final -e and common vowel team conventions for representing long vowel sounds.
LA.RF.1.3.D	Distinguish long and short vowels when reading regularly spelled one-syllable words.
LA.RF.1.3.E	Decode two-syllable words following basic patterns by breaking the words into syllables using knowledge that every syllable must have a vowel sound.
LA.RF.1.4.A	Read grade-level text with purpose and understanding.
LA.RF.1.4.B	Read grade-level text orally with accuracy, appropriate rate, and expression.
LA.RF.1.4.C	Use context to confirm or self-correct word recognition and understanding, rereading as necessary.
LA.W.1.1	Write opinion pieces in which they introduce the topic or name the book they are writing about, state an opinion, supply a reason for the opinion, and provide some sense of closure.
LA.W.1.2	Write informative/explanatory texts in which they name a topic, supply some facts about the topic, and provide some sense of closure.
LA.W.1.3	Write narratives in which they recount two or more appropriately sequenced events, include some details regarding what happened, use temporal words to signal event order, and provide some sense of closure.
LA.W.1.7	Participate in shared research and writing projects (e.g., explore a number of “how-to” books on a given topic and use them to write a sequence of instructions).
LA.SL.1.1	Participate in collaborative conversations with diverse partners about grade 1 topics and texts with peers and adults in small and larger groups.
LA.SL.1.1.A	Follow agreed-upon norms for discussions (e.g., listening to others with care, speaking one at a time about the topics and texts under discussion).
LA.SL.1.1.B	Build on others’ talk in conversations by responding to the comments of others through multiple exchanges.
LA.L.1.1	Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.
LA.L.1.1.D	Use personal, possessive, and indefinite pronouns (e.g., I, me, my; they, them, their,

	anyone, everything).
LA.L.1.1.E	Use verbs to convey a sense of past, present, and future (e.g., Yesterday I walked home; Today I walk home; Tomorrow I will walk home).
LA.L.1.1.F	Use frequently occurring adjectives.
LA.L.1.1.G	Use frequently occurring conjunctions (e.g., and, but, or, so, because).
LA.L.1.1.H	Use determiners (e.g., articles, demonstratives).
LA.L.1.1.I	Use frequently occurring prepositions (e.g., during, beyond, toward).
LA.L.1.1.J	Produce and expand complete simple and compound declarative, interrogative, imperative, and exclamatory sentences in response to prompts.
LA.L.1.4.A	Use sentence-level context as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase.
LA.L.1.4.B	Use frequently occurring affixes and inflection (e.g., -ed, -s, - ing, re-, un-, pre-, -ful, -less) as a clue to the meaning of a word.
LA.L.1.4.C	Identify frequently occurring root words (e.g., look) and their inflectional forms (e.g., looks, looked, looking).
LA.L.1.5.A	Sort words into categories (e.g., colors, clothing) to gain a sense of the concepts the categories represent.
LA.L.1.5.B	Define words by category and by one or more key attributes (e.g., a duck is a bird that swims; a tiger is a large cat with stripes).

Interdisciplinary Connections

- History/Social Science (National Identity): "Celebrate America!"
- History/Social Science (Civic Values, Rights, and Responsibilities): "Taking Action"
- History/Social Science (Ethical Literacy): "My Team"
- History/Social Science (Cultural Literacy): "Sharing Traditions"
- Science (Earth and Space Science): "Weather Together"

SOC.6.1.4.D.CS3	Personal, family, and community history is a source of information for individuals about the people and places around them.
K-ESS3-3.ESS3.C.1	Things that people do to live comfortably can affect the world around them. But they can make choices that reduce their impacts on the land, water, air, and other living things.

Learning Objectives

In Unit 6: Together We Can, students will be able to...

- follow agreed-upon rules for discussions (e.g., listening to others with care, speaking one at a time about the topics and texts under discussion).
- participate in collaborative conversations with diverse partners about grade 1 topics and texts with peers and adults in small and larger groups.
- develop concept understanding.
- develop reading strategy visualize.
- isolate and pronounce initial, medial vowel, and final sounds (phonemes) in spoken single-syllable words.
- decode regularly spelled one-syllable words.
- recognize and read grade-appropriate irregularly spelled words.
- use conventional spelling for words with common spelling patterns and for frequently occurring irregular words.
- decode regularly spelled one-syllable words.

- recognize and read grade-appropriate irregularly spelled words.
- understand realistic fiction genre.
- write informative/ explanatory texts in which they name a topic, supply some facts about the topic, and provide some sense of closure.
- use personal, possessive, and indefinite pronouns (e.g., I, me, my; they, them, their, anyone, everything).
- ask and answer questions about key details in a text read aloud or information presented orally or through other media.
- segment spoken single-syllable words into their complete sequence of individual sounds (phonemes).
- decode two-syllable words following basic patterns by breaking the words into syllables.
- recognize and read grade-appropriate irregularly spelled words.
- use conventional spelling for words with common spelling patterns and for frequently occurring irregular words.
- describe characters, settings, and major events in a story, using key details.
- read grade-level text orally with accuracy, appropriate rate, and expression.
- decode regularly spelled one-syllable words.
- recognize and read grade-appropriate irregularly spelled words.
- use conventional spelling for words with common spelling patterns and for frequently occurring irregular words.
- explain the meanings of simple similes and metaphors (e.g., as pretty as a picture) in context.

Suggested Activities & Best Practices

RESEARCH AND INQUIRY

Weekly Projects

Each week children will produce a project related to the Essential Question. They will then develop one of these projects more fully for the Unit Research Project. Through their research, children will focus their attention on:

• brainstorming topic ideas.
• conducting interviews.
• finding information in print and online sources.• working with a partner or group.

Shared Research Board

You may wish to develop a Shared Research Board. Children can post ideas and information about the unit theme. Children can post materials, notes, or facts they gather as they do their research. They can also post notes with questions they have as they conduct their research.

WEEKLY PROJECTS

Children work in pairs or small groups.

Week 1 Illustrated Plan Proposal, T44

Week 2 Informative Newspaper, T122

Week 3 Illustrated Mini Tornado, T200

week 4 Informative Poster, T278

Week 5 Illustrated Flag, T356

Week 6 Children present one of the following projects.

- Skit
- Thank-You Letters
- Safety Poster
- Persuasive Letter
- Holiday Song

Assessment Evidence - Checking for Understanding (CFU)

- Wonders Assessments (Unit Tests, Fluency, etc.) (Summative)
- Wonders Weekly Assessments (Summative)
- Narrative, Informative, & Opinion Writing (Summative)
- DRA2 Results (Benchmark)
- Anecdotal Records (Formative)

- Admit Tickets
- Anticipation Guide
- Common Benchmarks
- Compare & Contrast
- Create a Multimedia Poster
- DBQ's
- Define
- Describe
- Evaluate
- Evaluation rubrics
- Exit Tickets
- Explaining
- Fist- to-Five or Thumb-Ometer
- Illustration
- Journals
- KWL Chart
- Learning Center Activities
- Multimedia Reports
- Newspaper Headline
- Outline

- Question Stems
- Quickwrite
- Quizzes
- Red Light, Green Light
- Self- assessments
- Socratic Seminar
- Study Guide
- Surveys
- Teacher Observation Checklist
- Think, Pair, Share
- Think, Write, Pair, Share
- Top 10 List
- Unit review/Test prep
- Unit tests
- Web-Based Assessments
- Written Reports

Primary Resources & Materials

- McGraw Hill Wonders Reading Anthology
- Reading/Writing Workshop Model
- Big Book
- Close Reading Companion (online)
- Your Turn Practice Book
- High Frequency Word Cards
- Photo Cards
- Interactive Read-Aloud Cards
- Retelling Cards
- Word-Building Cards
- Teaching Posters
- Go Digital Components (Wonders Online)
- DRA2 Kit

Ancillary Resources

- Smart Television
- Smartboards
- Student Laptops/Tablets
- Decodable Readers
- Leveled Readers
- Literacy Centers
- Anchor Charts

- Word Wall

Technology Infusion

- McGraw Hill Website: Access Through Google Waffle
- Wonders Multimedia Library
- Wonders Listening Library
- Wonders Interactive Listening
- Wonders Unit/Weekly Video Clip Openers
- Wonders Weekly Song Library



Alignment to 21st Century Skills & Technology

Mastery and infusion of 21st Century Skills & Technology and their alignment to the core content areas is essential to student learning. The core content areas include:

- English Language Arts;
- Mathematics;
- Science and Scientific Inquiry (Next Generation);
- Social Studies, including American History, World History, Geography, Government and Civics, and Economics;
- World Languages;
- Technology;
- Visual and Performing Arts

CRP.K-12.CRP4	Communicate clearly and effectively and with reason.
CRP.K-12.CRP11	Use technology to enhance productivity.
TECH.8.1.2	Educational Technology: All students will use digital tools to access, manage, evaluate, and synthesize information in order to solve problems individually and collaborate and to create and communicate knowledge.
TECH.8.1.2.B	Creativity and Innovation: Students demonstrate creative thinking, construct knowledge and develop innovative products and process using technology.

21st Century Skills/Interdisciplinary Themes

- Communication and Collaboration
- Creativity and Innovation
- Critical thinking and Problem Solving
- ICT (Information, Communications and Technology) Literacy
- Information Literacy
- Life and Career Skills
- Media Literacy

21st Century Skills

- Civic Literacy
- Environmental Literacy
- Financial, Economic, Business and Entrepreneurial Literacy
- Global Awareness
- Health Literacy

Differentiation

Students will be exposed to different teaching strategies in support of the diverse learning needs that encompass a classroom.

Strategies such as the use of Word Walls, anchor charts, and small group instruction will help teachers meet students' needs. Through the Readers and Writers framework, teachers will also employ differentiation strategies through intentional, data driven instruction that targets and supports all learners. Ongoing conferences, anecdotal records, and formative assessments will also help teachers focus on student needs.

Differentiation

- Small group instruction
- Small group assignments
- Extra time to complete assignments
- Pairing oral instruction with visuals
- Repeat directions
- Use manipulatives
- Center-based instruction
- Token economy
- Study guides
- Teacher reads assessments allowed
- Scheduled breaks
- Rephrase written directions
- Multisensory approaches
- Additional time
- Preview vocabulary
- Preview content & concepts
- Story guides
- Behavior management plan
- Highlight text
- Student(s) work with assigned partner
- Visual presentation
- Assistive technology
- Auditory presentations
- Large print edition
- Dictation to scribe
- Small group setting

Hi-Prep Differentiation

- Alternative formative and summative assessments
- Choice boards
- Games and tournaments
- Group investigations
- Guided Reading
- Independent research and projects
- Interest groups
- Learning contracts
- Leveled rubrics
- Literature circles
- Multiple intelligence options
- Multiple texts
- Personal agendas
- Project-based learning

- Problem-based learning
- Stations/centers
- Think-Tac-Toes
- Tiered activities/assignments
- Tiered products
- Varying organizers for instructions

Lo-Prep Differentiation

- Choice of books or activities
- Cubing activities
- Exploration by interest
- Flexible grouping
- Goal setting with students
- Jigsaw
- Mini workshops to re-teach or extend skills
- Open-ended activities
- Think-Pair-Share
- Reading buddies
- Varied journal prompts
- Varied supplemental materials

Special Education Learning (IEP's & 504's)

Following IEP and 504 guidelines for specific modifications and accommodations, teachers can utilize the Readers and Writers frame work to help support special education students as they gain equitable access to grade level standards. Conferences, small group instruction, anchor charts, and frequent checks or understanding add and support the necessary data to ensure all students are making progress. Additionally, special education students have access to Wonder Works which supports their learning needs.

- printed copy of board work/notes provided
- additional time for skill mastery
- assistive technology
- behavior management plan
- Center-Based Instruction
- check work frequently for understanding
- computer or electronic device utilizes
- extended time on tests/ quizzes
- have student repeat directions to check for understanding
- highlighted text visual presentation
- modified assignment format
- modified test content
- modified test format
- modified test length

- multi-sensory presentation
- multiple test sessions
- preferential seating
- preview of content, concepts, and vocabulary
- Provide modifications as dictated in the student's IEP/504 plan
- reduced/shortened reading assignments
- Reduced/shortened written assignments
- secure attention before giving instruction/directions
- shortened assignments
- student working with an assigned partner
- teacher initiated weekly assignment sheet
- Use open book, study guides, test prototypes

English Language Learning (ELL)

ELLs will benefit from the use of Visual Vocabulary Cards, Language Transfer Handbook, Retelling Cards, and graphic organizers to help them make sense of the readings. Additionally, by following the Readers and Writers framework, teachers will be able to support students through intentional conferencing and small group instruction that targets their learning needs and improves comprehension and movement toward grade level mastery.

- teaching key aspects of a topic. Eliminate nonessential information
- using videos, illustrations, pictures, and drawings to explain or clarif
- allowing products (projects, timelines, demonstrations, models, drawings, dioramas, poster boards, charts, graphs, slide shows, videos, etc.) to demonstrate student's learning;
- allowing students to correct errors (looking for understanding)
- allowing the use of note cards or open-book during testing
- decreasing the amount of workpresented or required
- having peers take notes or providing a copy of the teacher's notes
- modifying tests to reflect selected objectives
- providing study guides
- reducing or omitting lengthy outside reading assignments
- reducing the number of answer choices on a multiple choice test
- tutoring by peers
- using computer word processing spell check and grammar check features
- using true/false, matching, or fill in the blank tests in lieu of essay tests

At Risk

At Risk students will benefit from the use of Visual Vocabulary Cards, Retelling Cards, and graphic organizers to help them make sense of the readings. Additionally, by following the Readers and Writers framework, teachers will be able to support students through intentional conferencing and small group instruction that targets their learning needs and improves comprehension and

movement toward grade level mastery.

- allowing students to correct errors (looking for understanding)
- teaching key aspects of a topic. Eliminate nonessential information
- allowing products (projects, timelines, demonstrations, models, drawings, dioramas, poster boards, charts, graphs, slide shows, videos, etc.) to demonstrate student's learning
- allowing students to select from given choices
- allowing the use of note cards or open-book during testing
- collaborating (general education teacher and specialist) to modify vocabulary, omit or modify items to reflect objectives for the student, eliminate sections of the test, and determine how the grade will be determined prior to giving the test.
- decreasing the amount of workpresented or required
- having peers take notes or providing a copy of the teacher's notes
- marking students' correct and acceptable work, not the mistakes
- modifying tests to reflect selected objectives
- providing study guides
- reducing or omitting lengthy outside reading assignments
- reducing the number of answer choices on a multiple choice test
- tutoring by peers
- using authentic assessments with real-life problem-solving
- using true/false, matching, or fill in the blank tests in lieu of essay tests
- using videos, illustrations, pictures, and drawings to explain or clarify

Talented and Gifted Learning (T&G)

Talented and Gifted Learners will benefit from learning through the Readers and Writers framework. Teachers will be able to support talented and gifted students through intentional conferencing and small group instruction that supports their interests and learning needs.

- Above grade level placement option for qualified students
- Advanced problem-solving
- Allow students to work at a faster pace
- Cluster grouping
- Complete activities aligned with above grade level text using Benchmark results
- Create a blog or social media page about their unit
- Create a plan to solve an issue presented in the class or in a text
- Debate issues with research to support arguments
- Flexible skill grouping within a class or across grade level for rigor
- Higher order, critical & creative thinking skills, and discovery
- Multi-disciplinary unit and/or project

- Teacher-selected instructional strategies that are focused to provide challenge, engagement, and growth opportunities
- Utilize exploratory connections to higher-grade concepts
- Utilize project-based learning for greater depth of knowledge

Sample Lesson

First Grade, Unit 4: Animals Everywhere

NJSLS: Linked Below

I**nterdisciplinary Connection:** Social Studies

Statement of Objective: Students will be able to use the strategy "sound out words" when they come across an unknown word.

Anticipatory Set/Do Now: "Boys and girls, it's time to THINK NOW! As you join me in the carpet think about yesterday's skill, breaking and joining letter sounds to make words, and how you used this skill when you practiced reading on your own."

Learning Activity:

Connection (1 minute)

“Remember, we learned that the letters of the alphabet make different sounds. For example, last week we learned that ai, a_e, and ay make the long A sound. Some words that have the long a sound are: cake, pay, and made. (Give

additional examples as necessary). Good readers blend letter sounds to make a word. When we read, it is important to blend these letter sounds together to make a word.” “Today I’m going to teach you that when good readers

come to a word they do not know, they take the time to sound it out.”

Teaching (5 min)

Give Students a Brief Description of Strategy and Why It’s Important

- “Boys and girls, sometimes when I am reading,I come across a word I do not know. Instead of skipping the word, I take the time to sound it out by

blending the letter sounds.”

- “Good readers do this because it helps them understand what they are reading.”

Let me show you what I mean .....

- Teacher: Before reading the short story “A Team of Fish”, display the long /e/ words.

- “Boys and girls, the letters e, ee, ea, and ie make the long /e/ sound as in sea, meat, and chief. Let’s begin reading and see if we can sound out some long e words we don’t know.”

- “Fish swim in lakes and...hmmm... I don’t recognize this word. Let me sound it out. /c/ /r/ /ee/ /k/. I see a double /ee/. I know that makes the long E sound. Let’s try sounding it out again....CREEK. The word is creek.”

(Model with additional words as necessary)

Recap ..... Did you see what I did?

“Did you see how when I came to a word I did not know that I stopped, sounded out the word by blending the letter sounds?”

Active Engagement (3 min)

Allows for guided practice

Now it’s your turn to try this.....

Teacher: Use the Wonders Online Platform. In Unit 4, Week 2, find the Phonics Activity: Isolation Long E. Display the Qu_n (Queen) phonics activity page.

“By looking at the picture, I know that this word is QUEEN. Look at these two words. Turn and talk to your partner and sound out each word. Which word has the long e sound?” After 2 minutes, purposefully choose two readers to share how they blended the letter sounds to say the words “real and “rent”. Also have a student tell which word has the long /e/ sound.

Allow for additional practice as necessary.

Link (1 min) Linking mini lesson to their independent work

“Today, I just taught you that when good readers come to a word they do not know, they take the time to sound it out.”

“When you go off to read today, you’re going to practice blending the letter sounds to make a word while you read your own books. Now that you know this is something that good readers do, you can use this skill whenever you read.”

***Note: Add this strategy to your Unit anchor chart.**

Independent Reading

Suggested time: Build to 30 minutes over the school year.

● Students are reading independently.

● Teacher is differentiating instruction by pulling students for conferencing/ small group instruction.

Share

End of workshop - Whole Group Share

Options:

- Have students share a word they were struggling with and how they blended letter sounds to make the word.

- Praise behaviors that were observed during students' independent reading.

Sample talk: "Suzie, I really loved that when you came to a word that you were struggling with, you took the time to sound it out instead of skipping it. I know you were really

trying to applying the strategy of sounding out unknown words. Nice job, Suzie!!"

- Review previously taught strategies and skills.

Sample talk: " You all did such a great job blending the sounds of unknown words today. I want to remind all of you that good readers continue to practice all of the skills and strategies that they have learned such as...."

Student Assessment/CFU's: Turn and Talk, Thumbs Up/Down

Materials: Smart TV, Projection of Wonders story "Can I Pat It?", Post-It Notes

21st Century Themes and Skills: Communication

Differentiation/Modifications: Visual Display, Turn and Talk, Student Choice during Independent Reading

Integration of Technology: Smart TV, Wonders story online

LA.RF.1.3	Know and apply grade-level phonics and word analysis skills in decoding words.