Unit 4: Meet the Challenge

Content Area: **ELA**
Course(s): **ELA Gr 3**
Time Period: **JanFeb**
Length: **30 Days**
Status: **Published**

Department of Curriculum and Instruction

Belleville Public Schools

Curriculum Guide

Third Grade ELA/Writing

Unit 4: Meet the Challenge

Belleville Board of Education

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Board Approved: September 23, 2019

Unit Overview

Within Unit Four, students will explore how making informed decisions will help them to live healthier lives, how their skills and talents can help others, how animals and people have adapted to their environment, and how people who are courageous inspire others to do the same. Students will practice asking and answering questions to work on metacognition during the reading process, as well as explore point of view. Each week students 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, students will focus their attention on comparing information across sources and recalling, paraphrasing, and presenting information they have found. As students read and reread each week for close reading of text, they take notes, cite text evidence to support their ideas and opinions, and write short analytical responses. After reading, students build writing fluency, analyze model responses, craft longer responses incorporating text evidence, and focus on writing traits.

Enduring Understandings

Students will understand that...

- we make decisions every day and smart choices help us to live healthy lives.
- we use our talents to help others and our special talents and skills help to make us feel good.
- animals have adaptations to help them survive within their environments.
- people have wanted to fly for hundreds of years and smart thinking by inventors has helped to solve the problem by inventing helicopters, planes, and hot air balloons.
- people who are courageous inspire us and make us want to then inspire others.

Essential Questions

- What are different ways to meet challenges?
- What choices are good for us?
- How can you use what you know to help others?

- How do animals adapt to challenges within their habitat?
- How are people able to fly?
- How can others inspire us?

Exit Skills

By the end of Unit 4: Meet the Challenge, students should be able to...

- engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on *grade 3 topics and texts*, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.
- create real-life connections between words and their use (e.g., describe people who are *friendly* or *helpful*).
- demonstrate knowledge of taught skills and strategies of the unit.
- expand on knowledge of vocabulary.
- explain the function of nouns, pronouns, verbs, adjectives, and adverbs in general and their functions in particular sentences.
- create questions and answer questions to demonstrate an understanding of a text, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers.
- determine the main ideas and supporting details of a text read aloud or information presented in diverse media and formats, including visually, quantitatively, and orally.
- clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grade 3 reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies. Use sentence-level context as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase.
- recount stories, including fables, folktales, and myths from diverse cultures; determine the central message, lesson, or moral and explain how it is conveyed through key details in the text.
- distinguish their own point of view from that of the narrator or those of the characters.Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons.
- introduce the topic or text they are writing about, state an opinion, and create an organizational structure that lists reasons.

New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS)

LA.RL.3.1	Ask and answer questions, and make relevant connections to demonstrate understanding of a text, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers.
LA.RL.3.2	Recount stories, including fables, folktales, and myths from diverse cultures; determine the central message/theme, lesson, or moral and explain how it is revealed through key details in the text.
LA.RL.3.3	Describe the characters in a story (e.g., their traits, motivations, or feelings) and explain how their actions contribute to the plot.
LA.RL.3.4	Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, distinguishing literal from nonliteral language.
LA.RL.3.5	Refer to parts of stories, dramas, and poems when writing or speaking about a text, using terms such as chapter, scene, and stanza; describe how each successive part builds on earlier sections.
LA.RL.3.6	Distinguish their own point of view from that of the narrator or those of the characters.
LA.RL.3.7	Explain how specific aspects of a text's illustrations contribute to what is conveyed by the words in a story (e.g., create mood, emphasize aspects of a character or setting).

LA.RL.3.8	(Not applicable to literature)
LA.RI.3.1	Ask and answer questions, and make relevant connections to demonstrate understanding of a text, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers.
LA.RI.3.2	Determine the main idea of a text; recount the key details and explain how they support the main idea.
LA.RI.3.3	Describe the relationship between a series of historical events, scientific ideas or concepts, or steps in technical procedures in a text, using language that pertains to time, sequence, and cause/effect.
LA.RI.3.4	Determine the meaning of general academic and domain-specific words and phrases in a text relevant to a grade 3 topic or subject area.
LA.RI.3.5	Use text features and search tools (e.g., key words, sidebars, hyperlinks) to locate information relevant to a given topic efficiently.
LA.RI.3.6	Distinguish their own point of view from that of the author of a text.
LA.RI.3.7	Use information gained from text features (e.g., illustrations, maps, photographs) and the words in a text to demonstrate understanding of the text (e.g., where, when, why, and how key events occur).
LA.RI.3.8	Describe the logical connection between particular sentences and paragraphs in a text (e.g., comparison, cause/effect, first/second/third in a sequence) to support specific points the author makes in a text.
LA.RF.3.3	Know and apply grade-level phonics and word analysis skills in decoding and encoding words.
LA.RF.3.4	Read with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support comprehension.
LA.W.3.1	Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons.
LA.W.3.2	Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.
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.SL.3.1	Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher led) with diverse partners on grade 3 topics and texts, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.
LA.SL.3.2	Determine the main ideas and supporting details of a text read aloud or information presented in diverse media and formats, including visually, quantitatively, and orally.
LA.SL.3.3	Ask and answer questions about information from a speaker, offering appropriate elaboration and detail.
LA.L.3.1	Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.
LA.L.3.2	Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.
LA.L.3.3	Use knowledge of language and its conventions when writing, speaking, reading, or

	listening.
LA.L.3.4	Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grade 3 reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.

Interdisciplinary Connections

- Science (Physical Sciences): "Flight"
- Science (Life Sciences): "Choices"
- Science (Life Sciences): "Adaptations"

SOC.6.1.4	U.S. History: America in the World: All students will acquire the knowledge and skills to think analytically about how past and present interactions of people, cultures, and the environment shape the American heritage. Such knowledge and skills enable students to make informed decisions that reflect fundamental rights and core democratic values as productive citizens in local, national, and global communities.
SOC.6.1.4.A	Civics, Government, and Human Rights
SOC.6.1.4.A.CS1	Rules and laws are developed to protect people's rights and the security and welfare of society.
SOC.6.1.4.D.CS1	Immigrants come to New Jersey and the United States for various reasons and have a major impact on the state and the nation.

Learning Objectives

In Unit 4: Meet the Challenge, students will be able to...

- engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on *grade 3 topics and texts*, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.
- create real-life connections between words and their use (e.g., describe people who are *friendly* or *helpful*).
- deomonstrate knowledge of taught skills and strategies of the unit.
- expand on knowledge of vocabulary.
- explain the function of nouns, pronouns, verbs, adjectives, and adverbs in general and their functions in particular sentences.
- create questions and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of a text, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers.
- determine the main ideas and supporting details of a text read aloud or information presented in diverse media and formats, including visually, quantitatively, and orally.
- clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grade 3 reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies. Use sentence-level context as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase.
- recount stories, including fables, folktales, and myths from diverse cultures; determine the central message, lesson, or moral and explain how it is conveyed through key details in the text.
- distinguish their own point of view from that of the narrator or those of the characters.
- write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons. Introduce the topic or text they are writing about, state an opinion, and create an organizational structure that lists reasons.
- generate an understanding of metaphors
- create a response to the text by revisiting the Essential Question, discussing it, and writing about it.
- write a grade appropriate fictional narrative.
- revise, edit and publish a fictinal narrative.
- write a grade appropriate poem.
- revise, edit and publish a poem.

Suggested Activities & Best Practices

Research and Inquiry lessons provide students with opportunities to collect, analyze, and evaluate information, which are critical 21st Century Skills. Students will work collaboratively to extend their unit knowledge, practice written and oral presentations, and apply research skills.

- Research Roadmap Project 1- In your group, create a how-to brochure for change that explains how to make a good choice or decision.
- Research Roadmap Project 2- You will select a task or service that helps others, such as pet care or yard work. Then you will write a persuasive advertisement to promote your business.
- Research Roadmap Project 3- You will work in a group to research an endangered animal using online resources. Then, you will create a digital slideshow explaining the steps that are being taken to help an endangered animal survive.
- Research Roadmap Project 4- You will design and draw an amusement park attraction based on an important moment in the history of flight.

Assessment Evidence - Checking for Understanding (CFU)

- Wonders Assessments (Unit Tests, Fluency, etc.) (Summative)
- Wonders Weekly Assessments (Summative)
- Fictional Narrative & Poetry Writing (Summative)
- Common Benchmark #2 (Benchmark)
- DRA2 Results (Benchmark)
- Anecdotal Results (Formative)
- Exit Ticket: Why is it important to use our talents to help others? (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

- Wonders Anthology
- Reading/Writing Workshop
- Close Reading Companion (online)
- Your Turn Practice Book
- High Frequency Word Cards
- Photo Cards
- Visual Vocabulary Cards
- Retelling Cards
- Sound Spelling Cards
- Leveled Workstation Activity Cards
- Leveled Readers
- Interactive Read Aloud Cards

Ancillary Resources

- SmartTV or SmartBoard
- Student laptops
- Decodable readers
- Leveled readers
- Literacy centers

Technology Infusion

- edconnect.mcgraw-hill.com
- ebooks
- interactive vocabulary



Alignment to 21st Century Skills & Technology

CRP.K-12.CRP1.1	Career-ready individuals understand the obligations and responsibilities of being a member of a community, and they demonstrate this understanding every day through their interactions with others. They are conscientious of the impacts of their decisions on others and the environment around them. They think about the near-term and long-term consequences of their actions and seek to act in ways that contribute to the betterment of their teams, families, community and workplace. They are reliable and consistent in going beyond the minimum expectation and in participating in activities that serve the greater good.
CRP.K-12.CRP2	Apply appropriate academic and technical skills.
CRP.K-12.CRP3.1	Career-ready individuals understand the relationship between personal health, workplace performance and personal well-being; they act on that understanding to regularly practice healthy diet, exercise and mental health activities. Career-ready individuals also take regular action to contribute to their personal financial well-being, understanding that personal financial security provides the peace of mind required to contribute more fully to their own career success.
CRP.K-12.CRP4	Communicate clearly and effectively and with reason.
CRP.K-12.CRP6	Demonstrate creativity and innovation.
CRP.K-12.CRP7	Employ valid and reliable research strategies.
TECH.8.1.5	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.8.1.5.B	Creativity and Innovation: Students demonstrate creative thinking, construct knowledge and develop innovative products and process using technology.
TECH.8.1.5.C	Communication and Collaboration: Students use digital media and environments to communicate and work collaboratively, including at a distance, to support individual learning and contribute to the learning of others.

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

- **Content**: Content will be differentiated through use of multilevel readers for Basic Skills students, Special Education students, Talented and Gifted students, as well as ELL students. The readers are all focused upon the same content, however the lexiles differ depending upon the abilities of the student.

- **Process**: The process will be differentiated through supplying three tiers of questioning for basic, intermediate, and advanced learners. Additionally, students will be supplied with sentence stems and differentiated student workbooks to foster student success of the established goals.

- **Product**: The product will be differentiated because student work will be based upon their reading levels and lexiles. Students will be given choice for projects that appeal to their various learning styles to promote confidence and success amongst the students.

- During **Readers Workshop,** teachers will incorporate differentiation through guided reading, the use of leveled readers and stratedy groups. Students also have the choice of selecting their own books to read independently. This can be a controlled choice of books so that they are reading on their independent reading level.

- Through **Writers Workshop**, teachers will conference with students in order to individualize instruction. This can be done through one-on-one conferencing or with small conference groups. During this time, students can choose their own writing topic within the unit's genre.

Differentiations:

- 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 Differentiations:

- 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 Differentiations

- 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)

- Throughout Readers Workshop, teachers will meet with students within this guided reading group more frequently than others. (Recommended at least twice a week).
- Throughout Writers Workshop, teachers will conference with these students more frequently in order

to provide additional support through the writing process.
- Wonders Interactive Games- Phoneme Blending and Phonics for Unit 4
- Wonders Retelling Activity Cards for Unit 4
- Wonders Movement Phonics Video for Unit 4
- Wonders Grammar Video for Unit 4
- Wonderworks Activities for Unit 4

- 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)

- Have students act out what is happening in a story.
- Use organizers to help students organize their thinking and ideas.
- Wonders Interactive Games- Phoneme Blending and Phonics for Unit 4
- Wonders Retelling Activity Cards for Unit 4
- Wonders Movement Phonics Video for Unit 4
- Wonders Grammar Video for Unit 4

- Language Transfer Handbook Activities for Unit 4

- 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

- Wonders Interactive Games- Phoneme Blending and Phonics for Unit 4
- Approaching Level Leveled Readers
- Wonders Retelling Activity Cards for Unit 4
- Wonders Movement Phonics Video for Unit 4
- Wonders Grammar Video for Unit 4

- 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)

Challenge students to use one or more of the characters from *Finn MacCool and the Salmon of Wisdom* to write a fictional story that explains something in nature. Have students choose a natural phenomenon and explain how it occurred. Students can include new characters in their story. Ask volunteers to share their stories with the class.

- 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

Using the template below, please develop a **Sample Lesson** for the first unit only.

Unit Name:

NJSLS:

Interdisciplinary Connection:

Statement of Objective:

Anticipatory Set/Do Now:

Learning Activity:

Student Assessment/CFU's:

Materials:

21st Century Themes and Skills:

Differentiation/Modifications:

Integration of Technology: