Unit 3: One of a Kind

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Belleville Public Schools

Curriculum Guide

Third Grade ELA/Writing

Unit 3: One of a Kind

Belleville Board of Education

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Unit Overview

Within Unit Three, students will explore why individual qualities are important. This unit will focus on a variety of genres that will help students dissect the big idea. It will also focus on animals and their unique qualities, special character traits that lead to greatness, the unique qualities of Earth and the surrounding systems, the special features that make nature unique, and finally, the importance of specific events within history. Additionally, the unit will be focusing on such strategies as visualizing and summarizing, as well as the skills of problem and solution, cause and effect, main idea and supporting details, and sequencing.

Enduring Understandings

Students will understand that...

- individual qualities are important because it's these special qualities that make each person unique and different. Individual qualities help to make our world an interesting place, rather than having everything being the same without variation.
- all animals have different qualities that make them unique. The animals use these different qualities as ways to protect themselves, communicate, and survive in their environment.
- some people in our world possess qualities that make them brave and stand up for things that they believe in. These individuals can inspire groups of people to change their way of thinking through the actions in which they model.
- scientists and astronomers use special instruments to study Earth and the universe. They make new discoveries everyday about Earth and the universe.
- scientists study nature every day and use it to create new ideas. These new ideas are then used to help people in many ways.
- history is made up of many unique events. We use these events to learn from the past, and help guide future decisions.

Essential Questions

- Why are individual qualitites important?
- What makes different animals unique?

- How can one person change the way you think?
- What do we know about Earth and its neighbors?
- What ideas can we get from nature?
- How is each event in history unique?

Exit Skills

By the end of the Unit 3: One of a Kind, students should be able to...

- ask and answer questions about a text.
- demonstrate understanding of text structure.
- demonstrate knowledge of taught skills and strategies of the unit.
- expand on knowledge of vocabulary.
- use key details to find the main idea.
- describe how the author supports opinions in the text.
- write sentences about the topic/text that has been read.
- use notes, chart, and discussion ideas to write a paragraph that compares people and inventions.
- write using compound predicates.

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.3.5	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.3.2	Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.
LA.W.3.3	Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using narrative technique, descriptive details, and clear event sequences.
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.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.
LA.L.3.5	Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships and nuances in word meanings.
LA.L.3.6	Acquire and use accurately grade-appropriate conversational, general academic, and domain-specific words and phrases, including those that signal spatial and temporal relationships (e.g., After dinner that night we went looking for them).

Interdisciplinary Connections

- History/Social Sciences (Historical Literacy): "Leadership"
- History/Social Sciences (Historical Literacy): "Value the Past"
- Science (Life Sciences): "Be Unique"
- Science (Earth and Space Sciences): "Discoveries"
- Science (Engineering, Technology, and Applications of Science): "New Ideas"

SCI.3-5-ETS1-1	Define a simple design problem reflecting a need or a want that includes specified criteria for success and constraints on materials, time, or cost.
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.C.CS1	People make decisions based on their needs, wants, and the availability of resources.
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 3: One of a Kind, students will be able to...

- engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussion (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 questions to check understanding of information presented, stay on topic, and link their comments to the remarks of others.
- analyze and describe characters in a story (e.g., their traits, motivations, or feelings) and explain how their actions contribute to the sequence of events.
- generate the problem and solution in a story using clues and details from the text.
- determine the main idea of a text; recount the key details and explain how they support the main idea.
- identify main idea and key details of a text.
- summarize the key ideas and details of a passage.
- compare and contrast the most important points and key details presented in two texts on the same topic.
- determine the meaning of general academic and domain-specific words and phrases in a text relevant to a grade 3 topic or subject area.
- describe the logical connection between particular sentences and paragraphs in a text (e.g., comparison, cause/effect, first/ second/third in a sequence).
- compose informative/ explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly. Introduce a topic and group related information together; include illustrations when useful to aiding comprehension.
- compose 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.
- create a response to the text by revisiting the Essential Question, discussing it, and writing about it.
- analyze student models to revise and edit, utilizing learned writing tools.
- write a grade appropriate opinion essay.
- revise, edit and publish a opinion essay.
- write a grade appropriate book review.
- revise, edit and publish a book review.

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, you will pick one group of animals to research, such as amphibians, reptiles or fish. Then you will create a poster illustrating different species of that group.
- Research Roadmap Project 2- Your group will research a person whose contributions have made a difference to our country.
- Research Roadmap Project 3- Your group will research the different phases of the moon. Then, you will prepare a poster or slide show illustrating the different phases of the moon.
- Research Roadmap Project 4- Your team will create a product that lets a user mimic an animal ability. Then your group will write and illustrate a persuasive advertisement to try to sell the product.

Assessment Evidence - Checking for Understanding (CFU)

- Wonders Assessments (Unit Tests, Fluency, etc.) (Summative)
- Wonders Weekly Assessments (Summative)
- Opinion Letter & Book Review Writing (Summative)
- Common Benchmark #2 (Benchmark)
- DRA2 Results (Benchmark)
- Anecdotal Records (Formative)
- Think Pair Share: Which of Earth's neighbors is in this picture? How do you think people have learned about planets, moons, and stars? (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

- Smart TV/ SmartBoard
- Student laptops
- Decodable readers
- Leveled readers
- Literacy centers
- Writing stations

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.CRP4	Communicate clearly and effectively and with reason.
CRP.K-12.CRP6	Demonstrate creativity and innovation.
TECH.8.1.5.A.1	Select and use the appropriate digital tools and resources to accomplish a variety of tasks including solving problems.
TECH.8.1.5.A.2	Format a document using a word processing application to enhance text and include graphics, symbols and/or pictures.
TECH.8.1.5.A.4	Graph data using a spreadsheet, analyze and produce a report that explains the analysis of the data.
TECH.8.1.5.A.5	Create and use a database to answer basic questions.
TECH.8.1.5.A.CS1	Understand and use technology systems
TECH.8.1.5.A.CS2	Select and use applications effectively and productively.

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 3
- Wonders Retelling Activity Cards for Unit 3
- Wonders Movement Phonics Video for Unit 3
- Wonders Grammar Video for Unit 3
- Wonderworks Activities for Unit 3

- 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 3
- Wonders Retelling Activity Cards for Unit 3
- Wonders Movement Phonics Video for Unit 3
- Wonders Grammar Video for Unit 3

- Language Transfer Handbook Activities for Unit 3

- 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 3
- Approaching Level Leveled Readers
- Wonders Retelling Activity Cards for Unit 3
- Wonders Movement Phonics Video for Unit 3
- Wonders Grammar Video for Unit 3

- 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 compare two folktales from different cultures. Students should retell both stories, pointing out the elements of a folktale in each. They should explain how the lesson or message in each story shows similar or different cultural values.

- 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: