

Unit 2: Amazing Animals

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Belleville Public Schools

Curriculum Guide

English Language Arts: Grade 4

Unit 2: Amazing Animals

Belleville Board of Education

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Unit Overview

Within Unit Two, students will explore the world of animals within fiction and nonfiction text. The students will learn how to take care of animals as well as understand how animals survive in nature. Finally, the students will examine how authors can be inspired by animals and then create stories about them.

NJSLS

LA.L.4.1	Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.
LA.L.4.1.A	Use relative pronouns (who, whose, whom, which, that) and relative adverbs (where, when, why).
LA.L.4.1.B	Form and use the progressive (e.g., I was walking; I am walking; I will be walking) verb tenses.
LA.L.4.1.C	Use modal auxiliaries (e.g., can, may, must) to convey various conditions.
LA.L.4.1.D	Order adjectives within sentences according to conventional patterns (e.g., a small red bag rather than a red small bag).
LA.L.4.1.F	Produce complete sentences, recognizing and correcting inappropriate fragments and run-ons.
LA.L.4.1.G	Correctly use frequently confused words (e.g., to, too, two; there, their).
LA.L.4.2	Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.
LA.L.4.2.A	Use correct capitalization.
LA.L.4.2.B	Use commas and quotation marks to mark direct speech and quotations from a text.

LA.L.4.2.C	Use a comma before a coordinating conjunction in a compound sentence.
LA.L.4.2.D	Spell grade-appropriate words correctly, consulting references as needed.
LA.L.4.3	Use knowledge of language and its conventions when writing, speaking, reading, or listening.
LA.L.4.4	Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grade 4 reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.
LA.L.4.5	Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings.
LA.L.4.6	Acquire and use accurately grade-appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases, including those that signal precise actions, emotions, or states of being (e.g., quizzed, whined, stammered) and that are basic to a particular topic (e.g., wildlife, conservation, and endangered when discussing animal preservation).
LA.W.4.2	Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.
LA.W.4.2.A	Introduce a topic clearly and group related information in paragraphs and sections; include formatting (e.g., headings), illustrations, and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension.
LA.W.4.2.B	Develop the topic with facts, definitions, concrete details, text evidence, or other information and examples related to the topic.
LA.W.4.2.C	Link ideas within paragraphs and sections of information using words and phrases (e.g., another, for example, also, because).
LA.W.4.2.D	Use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to inform about or explain the topic.
LA.W.4.2.E	Provide a conclusion related to the information or explanation presented.
LA.W.4.3	Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using narrative technique, descriptive details, and clear event sequences.
LA.W.4.3.A	Orient the reader by establishing a situation and introducing a narrator and/or characters; organize an event sequence that unfolds naturally.
LA.W.4.3.B	Use dialogue and description to develop experiences and events or show the responses of characters to situations.
LA.W.4.3.C	Use a variety of transitional words and phrases to manage the sequence of events.
LA.W.4.3.D	Use concrete words and phrases and sensory details to convey experiences and events precisely.
LA.W.4.3.E	Provide a conclusion that follows from the narrated experiences or events.
LA.W.4.4	Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development and organization are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. (Grade-specific expectations for writing types are defined in standards 1–3 above.)
LA.W.4.5	With guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, and editing.
LA.W.4.6	With some guidance and support from adults, 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 one page in a single sitting.
LA.W.4.7	Conduct short research projects that build knowledge through investigation of different aspects of a topic.
LA.W.4.8	Recall relevant information from experiences or gather relevant information from print and digital sources; take notes and categorize information, and provide a list of sources.
LA.W.4.9	Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and

research.

LA.W.4.10	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.
LA.RF.4.3	Know and apply grade-level phonics and word analysis skills in decoding and encoding words.
LA.RF.4.3.A	Use combined knowledge of all letter-sound correspondences, syllabication patterns, and morphology (e.g., roots and affixes) to read accurately unfamiliar multisyllabic words in context and out of context.
LA.RF.4.4	Read with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support comprehension.
LA.RF.4.4.A	Read grade-level text with purpose and understanding.
LA.RF.4.4.B	Read grade-level prose and poetry orally with accuracy, appropriate rate, and expression.
LA.RF.4.4.C	Use context to confirm or self-correct word recognition and understanding, rereading as necessary.
LA.RI.4.1	Refer to details and examples in a text and make relevant connections when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.
LA.RI.4.2	Determine the main idea of a text and explain how it is supported by key details; summarize the text.
LA.RI.4.3	Explain events, procedures, ideas, or concepts in a historical, scientific, or technical text, including what happened and why, based on specific information in the text.
LA.RI.4.5	Describe the overall structure (e.g., chronology, comparison, cause/effect, problem/solution) of events, ideas, concepts, or information in a text or part of a text.
LA.RI.4.6	Compare and contrast a firsthand and secondhand account of the same event or topic; describe the differences in focus and the information provided.
LA.RI.4.7	Interpret information presented visually, orally, or quantitatively (e.g., in charts, graphs, diagrams, time lines, animations, or interactive elements on Web pages) and explain how the information contributes to an understanding of the text in which it appears.
LA.RI.4.8	Explain how an author uses reasons and evidence to support particular points in a text.
LA.RI.4.9	Integrate and reflect on (e.g., practical knowledge, historical/cultural context, and background knowledge) information from two texts on the same topic in order to write or speak about the subject knowledgeably.
LA.RI.4.10	By the end of year, read and comprehend literary nonfiction at grade level text-complexity or above, with scaffolding as needed.
LA.RL.4	Reading Literature Text
LA.RL.4.1	Refer to details and examples in a text and make relevant connections when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.
LA.RL.4.2	Determine a theme of a story, drama, or poem from details in the text; summarize the text.
LA.RL.4.3	Describe in depth a character, setting, or event in a story or drama, drawing on specific details in the text (e.g., a character's thoughts, words, or actions).
LA.RL.4.4	Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including those that allude to significant characters found in literature.
LA.RL.4.5	Explain major differences between poems, drama, and prose, and refer to the structural elements of poems (e.g., verse, rhythm, meter) and drama (e.g., casts of characters, settings, descriptions, dialogue, stage directions) when writing or speaking about a text.
LA.RL.4.6	Compare and contrast the point of view from which different stories are narrated, including the difference between first- and third-person narrations.

LA.RL.4.7	Make connections between specific descriptions and directions in a text and a visual or oral representation of the text.
LA.RL.4.8	(Not applicable to literature)
LA.RL.4.9	Compare, contrast and reflect on (e.g., practical knowledge, historical/cultural context, and background knowledge) stories in the same genre (e.g., mysteries and adventure stories) on their approaches to similar themes and topics.
LA.RL.4.10	By the end of the year, read and comprehend literature, including stories, dramas, and poems at grade level text-complexity or above, with scaffolding as needed.
LA.SL.4.1	Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 4 topics and texts, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.
LA.SL.4.2	Paraphrase portions of a text read aloud or information presented in diverse media and formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively, and orally).
LA.SL.4.3	Identify the reasons and evidence a speaker provides to support particular points.
LA.SL.4.6	Differentiate between contexts that call for formal English (e.g., presenting ideas) and situations where informal discourse is appropriate (e.g., small-group discussion); use formal English when appropriate to task and situation.
	Craft and Structure
	Craft and Structure

Exit Skills

By the end of Unit 2, 4th grade ELA 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/complete paragraphs about the topic/text that has been read
- Writes with few grammatical errors that are connected to the learning

Enduring Understanding

1. Animals can teach us many things like how to be patient, how to care for another living thing, and how to be responsible.
2. Sometimes stories use animal characters that we are familiar with to teach us lessons on how we should think, act, or feel about something.
3. Ecosystems describe all relationships between living things in an area. Imbalance in an ecosystem can harm the living things in it.
4. The survival of animals depends on how they meet their needs for food, water, shelter, and air.

5. Writers watch and listen. Then they are inspired to write about their experiences. Animals have inspired writers throughout the centuries. Many poems and stories tell about animals in descriptive detail.

Essential Questions

1. What can animals teach us?
2. What are some messages in animal stories?
3. How do animal characters change familiar stories?
4. How are all living things connected?
5. What helps an animal survive?
6. How are writers inspired by animals?

Learning Objectives

Integrate ideas and engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on *grade 4 topics and texts*, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly. Follow agreed-upon rules for discussions and carry out assigned roles.

Interpret information presented visually, orally, or quantitatively (e.g., in charts, graphs, diagrams, time lines, animations, or interactive elements on Web pages) and explain how the information contributes to an understanding of the text in which it appears.

Paraphrase portions of a text read aloud or information presented in diverse media formats, including visually, quantitatively, and orally.

Compare and contrast the treatment of similar themes and topics (e.g., opposition of good and evil) and patterns of events (e.g., the quest) in stories, myths, and traditional literature from different cultures.

Determine a theme of a story, drama, or poem from details in the text; summarize the text.

Create and build background on lessons from stories.

Produce dialogue and description to develop experiences and events or show the responses of characters to situations.

Create a variety of transitional words and phrases to manage the sequence of events.

Develop and use concrete words and phrases and sensory details to convey experiences and events precisely.

Produce complete sentences, recognizing and correcting inappropriate fragments and run-ons.

Form and use regular and irregular plural nouns.

Choose punctuation for effect (distinguish sentences and sentence fragments, identify sentence types, capitalize and punctuate sentences correctly).

Justify how details and examples in a text explain what the text says explicitly when drawing inferences from the text.

Combine knowledge of all letter-sound correspondences, syllabication patterns, and morphology (e.g., roots and affixes) to read accurately unfamiliar multisyllabic words in context and out of context.

Describe in depth a character, setting, or event in a story or drama, drawing on specific details in the text (e.g., a character's thoughts, words, or actions).

Orient the reader by establishing a situation and introducing a narrator and/or characters; organize an event sequence that unfolds naturally.

Develop experiences and events or show the responses of characters to situations using dialogue and description.

Predict future events using text clues and illustrations within a selection and identify events that confirm or challenge predictions.

Comprehend informational texts, including history/ social studies, science, and technical texts, in the grades 4–5 text complexity band proficiently, with scaffolding as needed at the high end of the range.

Determine the main idea of a text and explain how it is supported by key details; summarize the text.

Explain events, procedures, ideas, or concepts in a historical, scientific, or technical text, including what happened and why, based on specific information in the text (listen for a purpose and identify characteristics of narrative nonfiction).

Explain the function of nouns, pronouns, verbs, adjectives, and adverbs in general and their functions in particular sentences.

Provide a concluding statement or section related to the information or explanation presented.

Interpret information presented visually, orally, or quantitatively (e.g., in charts, graphs, diagrams, time lines, animations, or interactive elements on Web pages) and explain how the information contributes to an

understanding of the text in which it appears.

Pose and respond to specific questions to clarify or follow up on information, and make comments that contribute to the discussion and link to the remarks of others.

Compose a topic clearly and group related information in paragraphs and sections; include formatting (e.g., headings), illustrations, and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension.

Link ideas within categories of information using words and phrases (e.g. *another, for example, also, because*).

Develop the topic with facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples related to the topic.

Remember	Understand	Apply	Analyze	Evaluate	Create
Choose	Classify	Choose	Categorize	Appraise	Combine
Describe	Defend	Dramatize	Classify	Judge	Compose
Define	Demonstrate	Explain	Compare	Criticize	Construct
Label	Distinguish	Generalize	Differentiate	Defend	Design
List	Explain	Judge	Distinguish	Compare	Develop
Locate	Express	Organize	Identify	Assess	Formulate
Match	Extend	Paint	Infer	Conclude	Hypothesize
Memorize	Give Examples	Prepare	Point out	Contrast	Invent
Name	Illustrate	Produce	Select	Critique	Make
Omit	Indicate	Select	Subdivide	Determine	Originate
Recite	Interrelate	Show	Survey	Grade	Organize
Select	Interpret	Sketch	Arrange	Justify	Plan
State	Infer	Solve	Breakdown	Measure	Produce
Count	Match	Use	Combine	Rank	Role Play
Draw	Paraphrase	Add	Detect	Rate	Drive
Outline	Represent	Calculate	Diagram	Support	Devise
Point	Restate	Change	Discriminate	Test	Generate
Quote	Rewrite	Classify	Illustrate		Integrate
Recall	Select	Complete	Outline		Prescribe
Recognize	Show	Compute	Point out		Propose
Repeat	Summarize	Discover	Separate		Reconstruct
Reproduce	Tell	Divide			Revise
	Translate	Examine			Rewrite
	Associate	Graph			Transform
	Compute	Interpolate			
	Convert	Manipulate			
	Discuss	Modify			
	Estimate	Operate			
	Extrapolate	Subtract			
	Generalize				
	Predict				

Interdisciplinary Connections

Please list all and any cross-curricular content standards that link to this Unit.

SCI.3.3-LS2	Ecosystems: Interactions, Energy, and Dynamics
SCI.3-5.CCC.2	Cause and effect: Mechanism and explanation.
SCI.3-5.3-5-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.
SCI.3-5.3-5-ETS1-1.ETS1.A	Defining and Delimiting Engineering Problems
SCI.3-5.3-5-ETS1-1.ETS1.A.1	Possible solutions to a problem are limited by available materials and resources (constraints). The success of a designed solution is determined by considering the desired features of a solution (criteria). Different proposals for solutions can be compared on the basis of how well each one meets the specified criteria for success or how well each takes the constraints into account.
SCI.3-5.3-5-ETS1-2.ETS1.B	Developing Possible Solutions
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.
SOC.6.3.4	Active Citizenship in the 21st Century: All students will acquire the skills needed to be active, informed citizens who value diversity and promote cultural understanding by working collaboratively to address the challenges that are inherent in living in an interconnected world. For natural and built systems alike, conditions of stability and determinants of rates of change or evolution of a system are critical elements of study.

Alignment to 21st Century Skills & Technology

Key SUBJECTS AND 21st CENTURY THEMES

Mastery of key subjects and 21st century themes is essential for all students in the 21st century.

Key subjects include:

- English, reading or language arts
- World languages
- Arts
- Mathematics
- Economics
- Science
- Geography
- History
- Government and Civics

21st Century/Interdisciplinary Themes

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

21st Century Skills

- 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

Technology Infusion

edconnect.mcgraw-hill.com

ebooks

interactive vocabulary



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.

Special Education

- 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
- multiple test sessions
- multi-sensory presentation
- preferential seating
- preview of content, concepts, and vocabulary
- 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

ELL

- teaching key aspects of a topic. Eliminate nonessential information

- using videos, illustrations, pictures, and drawings to explain or clarify
- 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 work presented 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

Intervention Strategies

- 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 work presented 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

Evidence of Student Learning-CFU's

Please list ways educators may effectively check for understanding in this section.

- Admit Tickets
- Anticipation Guide
- Common benchmarks
- Compare & Contrast
- Create a Multimedia Poster
- Define
- Describe
- Evaluate
- Evaluation rubrics
- Exit Tickets
- Explaining
- Fist- to-Five or Thumb-Ometer
- Illustration
- Journals
- KWL Chart
- Newspaper Headline
- Outline
- Question Stems
- Quickwrite
- Quizzes
- Red Light, Green Light
- Self- assessments
- Socratic Seminar
- Study Guide
- Teacher Observation Checklist
- Think, Pair, Share
- Think, Write, Pair, Share
- Top 10 List
- Unit tests

Primary Resources

McGraw-Hill *Wonders!* series

Ancillary Resources

SmartBoard, student laptops, decodable readers, leveled readers, literacy centers, and writing stations.

Sample Lesson

Unit Name: Literary Lessons

NJSLS: See attached

Interdisciplinary Connection: Science, Social Studies, Writing

Statement of Objective: Analyze text for deeper understanding while citing and writing down explicit evidence.

Anticipatory Set/Do Now: Activate Schema and background knowledge

Learning Activity:

- Whole Group Read Aloud
- Guided questions to lead students back to the text
- Evaluate contextual clues to identify meanings of domain-specific vocabulary
- Encourage students to take notes as they read
- Provide students with frequent opportunities to discuss the text with peers
- Use text evidence stick
- Intervention

Student Assessment/CFU's: A B C Summaries

Materials:

- SmartBoard,
- Wonders digital video
- Text: *The Princess and the Pea*
- *Reading Writing Workshop: Make, Confirm, Revise Predictions*

21st Century Themes and Skills:

- Global Perspectives
- Civic Literacy
- Creativity and Innovation
- Information Literacy
- Critical Thinking and Problem Solving

Differentiation/Modifications:

- Cooperative groupings
- Higher order thinking skills
- Close Reading
- Leveled readers

Integration of Technology:

- SmartBoard
- ConnectEd

Standards:

Ref's	Standard ID	Description
0x	LA.4.RL.4.1	Refer to details and examples in a text and make relevant connections when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.
0x	LA.4.RL.4.2	Determine a theme of a story, drama, or poem from details in the text; summarize the text.
0x	LA.4.RL.4.3	Describe in depth a character, setting, or event in a story or drama, drawing on specific details in the text (e.g., a character's thoughts, words, or actions).
0x	LA.4.RL.4.9	Compare, contrast and reflect on (e.g. practical knowledge, historical/cultural context, and background knowledge) stories in the same genre (e.g., mysteries and adventure stories) on their approaches to similar themes and topics.