

# GR 6 Schoolwide Unit 01 (How Writers Work)

Content Area: **English Language Arts**  
Course(s):  
Time Period: **Marking Period 1**  
Length: **Sept. - Oct.**  
Status: **Published**

## Unit Overview

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Unit Title: Nonfiction: How Writers Work

Essential Question: What are the rituals, routines, and resources of writing workshop?

## Standards

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### Grade 6

#### Progress Indicators for Writing

##### Text Types and Purposes

W.6.1. Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence.

- A. Introduce claim(s) and organize the reasons and evidence clearly.
- B. Support claim(s) with clear reasons and relevant evidence, using credible sources and demonstrating an understanding of the topic or text.
- C. Use words, phrases, and clauses to clarify the relationships among claim(s) and reasons.
- D. Establish and maintain a formal/academic style, approach, and form.
- E. Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from the argument presented.

W.6.2. Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and analysis of relevant content.

- A. Introduce a topic and organize ideas, concepts, and information, using text structures (e.g., definition, classification, comparison/contrast, cause/effect, etc.) and text features (e.g., headings, graphics, and multimedia) when useful to aiding comprehension.
- B. Develop the topic with relevant facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples.
- C. Use appropriate transitions to clarify the relationships among ideas and concepts.
- D. Use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to inform about or explain the topic.
- E. Establish and maintain a formal/academic style, approach, and form.
- F. Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from the information or explanation presented.

W.6.3. Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, relevant descriptive details, and well-structured event sequences.

- A. Engage and orient the reader by establishing a context and introducing a narrator and/or characters; organize an event sequence that unfolds naturally and logically.
- B. Use narrative techniques, such as dialogue, pacing, and description, to develop experiences, events, and/or characters.

- C. Use a variety of transition words, phrases, and clauses to convey sequence and signal shifts from one time frame or setting to another.
- D. Use precise words and phrases, relevant descriptive details, and sensory language to convey experiences and events.
- E. Provide a conclusion that follows from the narrated experiences or events.

### **Production and Distribution of Writing**

W.6.4. Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, voice and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. (Grade-specific expectations for writing types are defined in standards 1–3 above.)

W.6.5. With some guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach.

W.6.6. 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 three pages in a single sitting.

### **Research to Build and Present Knowledge**

W.6.7. Conduct short research projects to answer a question, drawing on several sources and refocusing the inquiry when appropriate.

W.6.8. Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources; assess the credibility of each source; and quote or paraphrase the data and conclusions of others while avoiding plagiarism and providing basic bibliographic information for sources.

W.6.9. Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.

- A. Apply *grade 6 Reading standards* to literature (e.g., “Compare and contrast texts in different forms or genres [e.g., stories and poems; historical novels and fantasy stories] in terms of their approaches to similar themes and topics”).
- B. Apply *grade 6 Reading standards* to literary nonfiction (e.g., “Trace and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, distinguishing claims that are supported by reasons and evidence from claims that are not”).

### **Range of Writing**

W.6.10. 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.

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## **Materials/Activities/Resources**

### **Core materials:**

- Schoolwide Writing

### **Web Site Resources:**

- Schoolwide Writing
- Lexia

- Amira (K-3)

## **Technology**

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- Screencastify
- Full list on district teacher page
- YouTube videos of mentor texts readings

## **Assessment**

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### **Formative Assessment**

- Teacher Observation
- Peer Editing
- Shared Writing
- Writer's Notebook
- Graphic Organizers / Student Forms
- Daily Lesson Checks and Correct & Redirect Opportunities in the Teacher's Guide
- Student Performance Checklist

### **Summative Assessment**

- Process Pieces
- Schoolwide Rubrics
- Student Publishing
- Student Self-Reflection

## **Accommodations & Modifications**

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### **Special Education**

- In class/pull out support with special ed teacher
- Additional time during intervention time
- Preferred seating
- Extended time for completing tasks
- Graphic organizers
- Vocabulary support
- Scribe
- Mixed Ability Grouping

### **504**

- In class/pull out support with special ed teacher

- Additional time during intervention time
- Preferred seating
- Extended time for completing tasks
- Graphic organizers
- Vocabulary support
- Scribe
- Mixed Ability Grouping

## **ELL**

- Translation device/dictionary
- In class/pull out support with ESL teacher
- Additional time during intervention time
- Preferred seating
- Extended time for completing tasks
- Graphic organizers
- Vocabulary support

### **At-Risk of Failure**

- Additional time during intervention time
- Graphic organizers
- Vocabulary support

## **Gifted & Talented**

- Independent projects
- PEP/GEM class

## **Interdisciplinary Connections**

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Social Studies Connections: Community

## **Social and Emotional Learning Connections**

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Learning Mindset: Self-Reflection, Problem Solving, Noticing, Seeking Challenges, Purpose, Growth Mindset

## **21st Century Life Literacies & Key Skills**

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Financial Health

Financial Landscape

Money Management

Career Awareness and Planning

Creativity and Innovation

Critical Thinking and Problem-solving

Digital Citizenship

Global and Cultural Awareness

Information and Media Literacy

Technology Literacy

Standards in Action: Climate Change

## **Career Ready Practices**

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- CRP1. Act as a responsible and contributing citizen and employee.
- CRP2. Apply appropriate academic and technical skills.
- CRP4. Communicate clearly and effectively and with reason
- CRP5. Consider the environmental, social and economic impacts of decisions.
- CRP6. Demonstrate creativity and innovation.
- CRP11. Use technology to enhance productivity.