

Unit 2: Personal Narrative (Weeks 7-12)

Content Area: **Template**
Course(s):
Time Period: **Full Year**
Length: **9 Weeks**
Status: **Published**

Unit 2: Personal Narrative

Unit Rationale

This unit of study teaches students how to master narrative writing by focusing on their own personal experiences. This is the first narrative unit for second grade, representing one of the 3 bands of writing standards. Inspired by master authors and mentor texts, students will learn how to stretch out and magnify small yet important moments in their lives, writing with great attention to detail and crafting powerful beginnings and endings. Students will learn how to sequence their stories through transition words and phrases. They will also develop their stories by tracking character emotion and setting throughout each part of the story. The use of a writing checklist will allow writers to self-assess and set goals for improving their writing through the writing process, working toward completing a final published Personal Narrative. Completion of this narrative unit prepares students for the future second-grade realistic fiction unit, as well as building the life-long skills narrative writing skills necessary through the remainder of elementary school and beyond.

21st Century Life and Career

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.CRP2.1	Career-ready individuals readily access and use the knowledge and skills acquired through experience and education to be more productive. They make connections between abstract concepts with real-world applications, and they make correct insights about when it is appropriate to apply the use of an academic skill in a workplace situation.
CRP.K-12.CRP4.1	Career-ready individuals communicate thoughts, ideas, and action plans with clarity, whether using written, verbal, and/or visual methods. They communicate in the workplace with clarity and purpose to make maximum use of their own and others' time. They are excellent writers; they master conventions, word choice, and organization, and use effective tone and presentation skills to articulate ideas. They are skilled at interacting with others; they are active listeners and speak clearly and with purpose. Career-ready individuals think about the audience for their communication and prepare accordingly to ensure the desired outcome.
CRP.K-12.CRP8.1	Career-ready individuals readily recognize problems in the workplace, understand the nature of the problem, and devise effective plans to solve the problem. They are aware of problems when they occur and take action quickly to address the problem; they thoughtfully investigate the root cause of the problem prior to introducing solutions. They

carefully consider the options to solve the problem. Once a solution is agreed upon, they follow through to ensure the problem is solved, whether through their own actions or the actions of others.

CRP.K-12.CRP9

Model integrity, ethical leadership and effective management.

Essential Questions

What is a personal narrative?

What are small moments, and how can writers find inspiration for small moments to write about?

How can writers "zoom in" on small moments?

What strategies can writers use to add movement and sequence to their stories?

What strategies can writers use to enhance vocabulary and spell words accurately?

Pre-Assessments

[Narrative On Demand Performance Assessment Prompt](#)

[Rubric for Narrative Writing](#)

Instructional Plan

[Unit 2: Personal Narrative](#)

Please see the attached GoogleDoc for suggested Suggested Minilessons, Instructional Strategies and Activities, Formative Assessments, Instructional Materials and Resources, Reflections and Suggested Modifications.

Modifications and/or Accommodations

Suggested Modifications (ELL, Sp. Ed, Gifted, At-risk of Failure)

English Language Learners

Native language support: The teacher provides auditory or written content to students in their native language.

Adjusted Speech: The teacher changes speech patterns to increase student comprehension. This could include facing the students, paraphrasing, clearly indicating the most important ideas, and speaking more slowly.

Visuals: The teacher uses graphics, pictures, visuals, and manipulatives. This helps ELL students better understand and comprehend the subjects at hand.

Front-Loading Vocabulary: The teacher front loads vocabulary. This means providing students with a list of important vocabulary words they will need to know for a book, lesson, etc. prior to the lesson being taught. Including pictures to go with the vocabulary words is also very beneficial for the students.

Special Education Students

Chunking: The teacher presents information in a way that makes it easy for students to understand and remember. Chunking is based on the presumption that our working memory is easily overloaded by excessive detail. The best way to deliver information is to organize it into meaningful units. Because students with special needs get overloaded easily, chunking is an effective strategy to use with them.

Checking for Understanding: It is important to constantly check for understanding, especially for students who have accommodations. Teachers want to make sure students understand the concepts being covered in a way that makes sense to them.

Extra time: The teacher provides students with special needs extra time to complete work or answer questions. It is important to give students enough time to process their thoughts.

Oral Reading: The teacher will read work orally to students. Class work such as tests and literature circles may need to be read aloud to the student.

Timers: The teacher will use timers as an instructional tool. The use of timers is beneficial for students who have trouble completing tasks. Timers can be helpful so the student is aware of how much time they have to complete an assignment.

Students with 504 Plans

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Gifted & Talented Strategies

Extensions/Enrichments: Teachers will provide gifted and talented students with extension/enrichment projects. Students will be challenged to further their understanding, to apply acquired knowledge, and/or to produce something in reference to acquired knowledge.

Modify/Change Activities: Teachers will monitor and modify activities to accommodate those students who need to be challenged further. Additional reading, problem-solving, writing, or project work is necessary for those students who are ready to move on at a rate more accelerated than their peers. In this way, G & T students are provided the same opportunity for support as special needs students.

Students at Risk of School Failure

Directions or Instructions: Make sure directions and/or instructions are given in limited numbers. Give directions/instructions verbally and in simple written format. Ask students to repeat the instructions or directions to ensure understanding occurs. Check back with the student to ensure he/she hasn't forgotten.

Peer Support: Peers can help build confidence in other students by assisting in peer learning. Many teachers use the 'ask 3 before me' approach. This is fine, however, a student at risk may have to have a specific student or two to ask. Set this up for the student so he/she knows who to ask for clarification before going to you.

Alternate or Modified Assignments: Always ask yourself, "How can I modify this assignment to ensure the students at risk are able to complete it?" Sometimes you'll simplify the task, reduce the length of the assignment or allow for a different mode of delivery. For instance, many students may hand something in, the at-risk student may jot notes and give you the information verbally. Or, it just may be that you will need to assign an alternate assignment.

Increase One to One Time: When other students are working, always touch base with your students at risk and find out if they're on track or needing some additional support. A few minutes here and there will go a long way to intervene as the need presents itself.

Contracts: It helps to have a working contract between you and your students at risk. This helps prioritize the tasks that need to be done and ensure completion happens. Each day write down what needs to be completed, as the tasks are done, provide a checkmark or happy face. The goal of using contracts is to eventually have the student come to you for completion sign-offs.

Hands On: As much as possible, think in concrete terms and provide hands-on tasks. This means a child doing math may require a calculator or counters. The child may need to tape record comprehension activities instead of writing them. A child may have to listen to a story being read instead of reading it him/herself.

Tests/Assessments: Tests can be done orally if need be. Break tests down in smaller increments by having a portion of the test in the morning, another portion after lunch and the final part the next day.

Seating: Seat students near a helping peer or with quick access to the teacher. Those with hearing or sight issues need to be close to the instruction which often means near the front.

Integration of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion; Climate Change; Informational and Media Literacy

See Crosswalk

New Jersey Student Learning Standards: Content Area

ELA.L.WF.2.1	Demonstrate command of the conventions of writing.
ELA.L.WF.2.1.A	Write legibly and with sufficient fluency to support composition.
ELA.L.WF.2.1.B	Write the most common graphemes (letters or letter groups) for each phoneme, for example:
ELA.L.WF.2.2	Demonstrate command of the conventions of encoding and spelling.
ELA.L.WF.2.3	Demonstrate command and use of the conventions of writing including those listed under grade one foundational skills.
ELA.L.KL.2.1	Use knowledge of language and its conventions when writing, speaking, reading, or listening.
ELA.W.NW.2.3	Write narratives based on real or imagined experiences or events with basic story elements.
ELA.W.NW.2.3.A	Orient the reader by establishing a situation and introducing characters; organize an event sequence.
ELA.W.NW.2.3.B	Provide dialogue and description of experiences and events and/or show the responses of characters to situations.
ELA.W.NW.2.3.C	Use transitional words to manage the sequence of events.
ELA.W.NW.2.3.D	Use concrete words and phrases and sensory details to convey experience and events.
ELA.W.NW.2.3.E	Provide a conclusion or sense of closure related to the narrated experiences or events.
ELA.W.WP.2.4	With guidance and support from adults and peers, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising and editing.
ELA.W.WP.2.4.A	Identify audience and purpose before writing.
ELA.W.WP.2.4.B	Participate in self-evaluation of written work.
ELA.W.WP.2.4.C	With feedback and digital or print tools such as a primary dictionary, find and correct errors.

Integration of Career Readiness. Life Literacies and Key Skills

TECH.9.4.2.CI.1	Demonstrate openness to new ideas and perspectives (e.g., 1.1.2.CR1a, 2.1.2.EH.1, 6.1.2.CivicsCM.2).
TECH.9.4.2.CI.2	Demonstrate originality and inventiveness in work (e.g., 1.3A.2CR1a).
TECH.9.4.2.CT.1	Gather information about an issue, such as climate change, and collaboratively brainstorm ways to solve the problem (e.g., K-2-ETS1-1, 6.3.2.GeoGI.2).
TECH.9.4.2.CT.2	Identify possible approaches and resources to execute a plan (e.g., 1.2.2.CR1b, 8.2.2.ED.3).
TECH.9.4.2.CT.3	Use a variety of types of thinking to solve problems (e.g., inductive, deductive).

Integration of Computer Science and Design Thinking

CS.K-2.8.1.2.AP.1	Model daily processes by creating and following algorithms to complete tasks.
CS.K-2.8.1.2.AP.4	Break down a task into a sequence of steps.

Interdisciplinary Connections: NJSLs for ELA, Social Studies, Science and/or Math

SOC.6.1.2.CivicsPD.1	Engage in discussions effectively by asking questions, considering facts, listening to the ideas of others, and sharing opinions.
SOC.6.1.2.CivicsPR.3	Analyze classroom rules and routines and describe how they are designed to benefit the common good.
SOC.6.1.2.CivicsPR.4	Explain why teachers, local community leaders, and other adults have a responsibility to make rules that fair, consistent, and respectful of individual rights.

SEL Competencies

SEL.PK-12.1	Self-Awareness
SEL.PK-12.1.1	Recognize one's feelings and thoughts
SEL.PK-12.1.2	Recognize the impact of one's feelings and thoughts on one's own behavior
SEL.PK-12.1.3	Recognize one's personal traits, strengths, and limitations
SEL.PK-12.1.4	Recognize the importance of self-confidence in handling daily tasks and challenges
SEL.PK-12.2	Self-Management
SEL.PK-12.2.1	Understand and practice strategies for managing one's own emotions, thoughts, and behaviors
SEL.PK-12.2.2	Recognize the skills needed to establish and achieve personal and educational goals
SEL.PK-12.2.3	Identify and apply ways to persevere or overcome barriers through alternative methods to achieve one's goals
SEL.PK-12.3	Social Awareness
SEL.PK-12.3.1	Recognize and identify the thoughts, feelings, and perspectives of others
SEL.PK-12.3.2	Demonstrate and awareness of the differences among individuals, groups, and others' cultural backgrounds

SEL.PK-12.3.3	Demonstrate an understanding of the need for mutual respect when viewpoints differ
SEL.PK-12.3.4	Demonstrate an awareness of the expectations for social interactions in a variety of settings
SEL.PK-12.4	Responsible Decision-Making
SEL.PK-12.4.1	Develop, implement and model effective problem-solving, and critical thinking skills
SEL.PK-12.4.2	Identify the consequences associated with one's actions in order to make constructive choices
SEL.PK-12.4.3	Evaluate personal, ethical, safety, and civic impact of decisions
SEL.PK-12.5	Relationship Skills
SEL.PK-12.5.1	Establish and maintain healthy relationships
SEL.PK-12.5.2	Utilize positive communication and social skills to interact effectively with others
SEL.PK-12.5.3	Identify ways to resist inappropriate social pressure
SEL.PK-12.5.4	Demonstrate the ability to prevent and resolve interpersonal conflicts in constructive ways
SEL.PK-12.5.5	Identify who, when, where, or how to seek help for oneself or others when needed