

Unit 11: Research Project

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

Standards Alignment

New Jersey Student Learning Standards

AAAA.K-12.1	Inquire, think critically, and gain knowledge.
AAAA.K-12.1.1	Skills
AAAA.K-12.1.1.1	Follow an inquiry-based process in seeking knowledge in curricular subjects, and make the real-world connection for using this process in own life.
AAAA.K-12.1.1.2	Use prior and background knowledge as context for new learning.
AAAA.K-12.1.1.3	Develop and refine a range of questions to frame the search for new understanding.
AAAA.K-12.1.1.4	Find, evaluate, and select appropriate sources to answer questions.
AAAA.K-12.1.1.5	Evaluate information found in selected sources on the basis of accuracy, validity, appropriateness for needs, importance, and social and cultural context.
AAAA.K-12.1.1.6	Read, view, and listen for information presented in any format (e.g., textual, visual, media, digital) in order to make inferences and gather meaning.
AAAA.K-12.1.1.7	Make sense of information gathered from diverse sources by identifying misconceptions, main and supporting ideas, conflicting information, and point of view or bias.
AAAA.K-12.1.1.8	Demonstrate mastery of technology tools for accessing information and pursuing inquiry.
AAAA.K-12.1.2	Dispositions in Action
AAAA.K-12.1.2.3	Demonstrate creativity by using multiple resources and formats.
AAAA.K-12.1.2.4	Maintain a critical stance by questioning the validity and accuracy of all information.
AAAA.K-12.1.2.5	Demonstrate adaptability by changing the inquiry focus, questions, resources, or strategies when necessary to achieve success.
AAAA.K-12.1.2.6	Display emotional resilience by persisting in information searching despite challenges.
AAAA.K-12.1.3	Responsibilities
AAAA.K-12.1.3.5	Use information technology responsibly.
AAAA.K-12.2	Draw conclusions, make informed decisions, apply knowledge to new situations, and create new knowledge.
AAAA.K-12.2.1	Skills
AAAA.K-12.2.1.2	Organize knowledge so that it is useful.
AAAA.K-12.2.1.3	Use strategies to draw conclusions from information and apply knowledge to curricular areas, real-world situations, and further investigations.
AAAA.K-12.2.1.4	Use technology and other information tools to analyze and organize information.
AAAA.K-12.2.1.6	Use the writing process, media and visual literacy, and technology skills to create products that express new understandings.

AAAA.K-12.2.2	Dispositions in Action
AAAA.K-12.2.2.4	Demonstrate personal productivity by completing products to express learning.
AAAA.K-12.2.3	Responsibilities
AAAA.K-12.2.3.1	Connect understanding to the real world.
AAAA.K-12.2.4	Self-Assessment Strategies
AAAA.K-12.2.4.3	Recognize new knowledge and understanding.
AAAA.K-12.3	Share knowledge and participate ethically and productively as members of our democratic society.
AAAA.K-12.3.1	Skills
AAAA.K-12.3.1.1	Conclude an inquiry-based research process by sharing new understandings and reflecting on the learning.
AAAA.K-12.3.1.3	Use writing and speaking skills to communicate new understandings effectively.
AAAA.K-12.3.1.4	Use technology and other information tools to organize and display knowledge and understanding in ways that others can view, use, and assess.
AAAA.K-12.4	Pursue personal and aesthetic growth.
AAAA.K-12.4.1	Skills
AAAA.K-12.4.1.1	Read, view, and listen for pleasure and personal growth.
AAAA.K-12.4.4	Self-Assessment Strategies
AAAA.K-12.4.4.1	Identify own areas of interest.

Integration of Career Readiness, Life Literacies and Key Skills

CRP.K-12.CRP1	Act as a responsible and contributing citizen and employee.
CRP.K-12.CRP2	Apply appropriate academic and technical skills.
CRP.K-12.CRP3	Attend to personal health and financial well-being.
CRP.K-12.CRP4	Communicate clearly and effectively and with reason.
CRP.K-12.CRP5	Consider the environmental, social and economic impacts of decisions.
CRP.K-12.CRP6	Demonstrate creativity and innovation.
CRP.K-12.CRP7	Employ valid and reliable research strategies.
CRP.K-12.CRP8	Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
CRP.K-12.CRP9	Model integrity, ethical leadership and effective management.
CRP.K-12.CRP10	Plan education and career paths aligned to personal goals.
CRP.K-12.CRP11	Use technology to enhance productivity.
CRP.K-12.CRP12	Work productively in teams while using cultural global competence.

Technology / Integration of Computer Science and Design Thinking

TECH.8.1.2	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.8.1.2.A	Technology Operations and Concepts: Students demonstrate a sound understanding of

	technology concepts, systems and operations
TECH.8.1.2.A.4	Demonstrate developmentally appropriate navigation skills in virtual environments (i.e., games, museums).
TECH.8.1.2.B	Creativity and Innovation: Students demonstrate creative thinking, construct knowledge and develop innovative products and process using technology.
TECH.8.1.2.B.1	Illustrate and communicate original ideas and stories using multiple digital tools and resources.

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

Capacities of the Literate Individual

Students Who are College and Career Ready in Reading, Writing, Speaking, Listening, & Language

They demonstrate independence.

They build strong content knowledge.

They respond to the varying demands of audience, task, purpose, and discipline.

They value evidence.

They use technology and digital media strategically and capably.

Key Ideas and Details

LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R1 Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences and relevant connections from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.

Craft and Structure

LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R4 Interpret words and phrases as they are used in a text, including determining technical, connotative, and figurative meanings, and analyze how specific word choices shape meaning or tone.

LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R5 Analyze the structure of texts, including how specific sentences, paragraphs, and larger portions of the text (e.g., a section, chapter, scene, or stanza) relate to each other and the whole.

LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R6 Assess how point of view or purpose shapes the content and style of a text.

Integration of Knowledge and Ideas

LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R7 Integrate and evaluate content presented in diverse media and formats, including visually and quantitatively, as well as in words.

Range of Reading and Level of Text Complexity

LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R10 Read and comprehend complex literary and informational texts independently and proficiently with scaffolding as needed.

LA.RI.2 Reading Informational Text

LA.RI.2.1	Ask and answer such questions as who, what, where, when, why, and how to demonstrate understanding of key details in a text.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W	Writing
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W2	Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.
LA.RI.2.4	Determine the meaning of words and phrases in a text relevant to a grade 2 topic or subject area.
LA.RI.2.5	Know and use various text features (e.g., captions, bold print, subheadings, glossaries, indexes, electronic menus, icons) to locate key facts or information in a text efficiently.
LA.RI.2.6	Identify the main purpose of a text, including what the author wants to answer, explain, or describe.
LA.RI.2.7	Explain how specific illustrations and images (e.g., a diagram showing how a machine works) contribute to and clarify a text.
LA.RI.2.10	Read and comprehend informational texts, including history/social studies, science, and technical texts, at grade level text complexity proficiently with scaffolding as needed.
LA.RF.2	Reading Foundation Skills Phonics and Word Recognition
LA.RF.2.3	Know and apply grade-level phonics and word analysis skills in decoding words.
LA.RF.2.3.A	Know spelling-sound correspondences for common vowel teams.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.SL	Speaking and Listening
LA.RF.2.3.E	Recognize and read grade-appropriate irregularly spelled words.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.SL2	Integrate and evaluate information presented in diverse media and formats, including visually, quantitatively, and orally. Fluency
LA.RF.2.4	Read with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support comprehension.
LA.RF.2.4.A	Read grade-level text with purpose and understanding.
LA.RF.2.4.C	Use context to confirm or self-correct word recognition and understanding, rereading as necessary.
LA.W.2.2	Write informative/explanatory texts in which they introduce a topic, use evidence-based facts and definitions to develop points, and provide a conclusion.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.L	Language Conventions of Standard English
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.L1	Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.L2	Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing. Knowledge of Language
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.L3	Apply knowledge of language to understand how language functions in different contexts, to make effective choices for meaning or style, and to comprehend more fully when reading or listening.
LA.SL.2.2	Recount or describe key ideas or details from a text read aloud or information presented orally or through other media.
LA.L.2.1	Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.

LA.L.2.1.A	Use collective nouns (e.g., group).
LA.L.2.1.B	Form and use frequently occurring irregular plural nouns (e.g., feet, children, teeth, mice, fish).
LA.L.2.1.C	Use reflexive pronouns (e.g., myself, ourselves).
LA.L.2.1.D	Form and use the past tense of frequently occurring irregular verbs (e.g., sat, hid, told).
LA.L.2.1.E	Use adjectives and adverbs, and choose between them depending on what is to be modified.
LA.L.2.1.F	Produce, expand, and rearrange complete simple and compound sentences (e.g., The boy watched the movie; The little boy watched the movie; The action movie was watched by the little boy).
LA.L.2.2	Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.
LA.L.2.2.A	Capitalize holidays, product names, and geographic names.
LA.L.2.2.B	Use commas in greetings and closings of letters.
LA.L.2.2.C	Use an apostrophe to form contractions and frequently occurring possessives.
LA.L.2.2.D	Generalize learned spelling patterns when writing words (e.g., cage → badge; boy → boil).
LA.L.2.2.E	Consult print and digital resources, including beginning dictionaries, as needed to check and correct spellings.
	Knowledge of Language
LA.L.2.3	Use knowledge of language and its conventions when writing, speaking, reading, or listening.

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

see Crosswalks

21st Century Life and Careers

Stage I: Desired Results

Transfer/Overview/Rationale

Transfer / Overview / Rationale

Unit Rationale

The purpose of this unit...

21st-Century learners use Internet tools and apps to research a topic and create a presentation demonstrating their knowledge.

This reinforces the 2nd Grade Reader's Workshop unit on "Researching Nonfiction Topics of Interest" (weeks 28-32).

Meaning

Essential Questions

Essential Questions

- In a world of constant change, what skills should we learn?
- How do I organize the information I find when I search online?
- How can students use technology to collaborate, publish, and interact with peers, experts, and other audiences?
- How can students use a variety of media and formats to communicate information and ideas effectively to multiple audiences?

Enduring Understanding/Indicators of Understanding

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- 21st-Century learners use technology as a tool to locate, evaluate, and collect information from a variety of sources.
- 21st-Century learners use technology as a tool to create publications, incorporating research, text, and graphics.

Acquisition (Student Learning Objectives)

Knowledge

Knowledge

Students will know...

- Vocabulary and proper use of Google Slides
- Vocabulary and proper use of web browser software (e.g. address bar, URL, hyperlink, back, forward, refresh, stop, home, print, favorites/bookmarks).

Skills

Skills

Student will be skilled at ...

- Creating a finished publication, incorporating text and graphics.
- Gathering research from an online source.
- Inserting and formatting text.
- Inserting and manipulating graphics.

Stage 3: Learning Plan

Resource and Mentor Texts

Resources and Mentor Texts

- Online publishing software (e.g. Google Slides and/or Google Docs).
- Web browser software (e.g. Google Chrome)
- Template file - see attached file as an option

[Kidrex - Google Search Engine for Kids](#)

[Safe, visual search engine for kids](#)

[Google Slide Project - Plants](#)

Formative Assessment Strategies

Formative Assessment Strategies

- Hand signals

- Web or concept map
- Misconception check
- Student conference
- Observation
- Quiz
- Journal entry
- Choral response
- Debriefing
- Think-pair-share
- Ticket to leave
- Turn to your partner
- Oral questioning

Learning Activities/Unit of Study

Learning Activities/Unit of Study

- "Characteristics of Plants" research project
 - Students will use online resource to collect information about plants.
 - Students will create a Google Slides project from a template giving information about plants.
 - Students will apply basic design principles to layout and font.

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.