

Unit 5- Expository Nonfiction

Content Area: **Language Arts**
Course(s): **E/LA 3**
Time Period: **Marking Period 2**
Length: **6 weeks**
Status: **Published**

Essential Questions

- How can we write engaging and clear expository nonfiction?
- How do we develop into effective writers?
- What role does writing play in our lives?
- What is the purpose of applying grammar, mechanical skills, and correct spelling?
- How do writers use language to effectively communicate their desired purpose in a piece of writing?

Big Ideas

- Students immerse themselves in nonfiction texts about animals.
- Each pair of students writes, revises, and publishes an informational report about an animal.
- Students learn research skills such as taking notes, categorizing information by subtopic, and conducting effective Internet searches.
- Students learn about features of expository text and write an introduction to their report that captures the reader's interest.
- Students use facts, details, and definitions to add substance to their writing; transitional words and phrases to link ideas; and conclusions that bring a report to a close.
- Students practice relevant skills and conventions, such as correcting run-on sentences and fragments.

Handwriting and Spelling

Handwriting Goals:

- Using the Handwriting Without Tears Program, teachers will provide formal and structured instruction for students to learn cursive writing. Students will learn a new physical approach to writing and motor control developed for learning cursive.
- Teachers will provide 3 stages of instruction:
 - Stage 1 Direct Instruction- Watch someone form a letter first, and then write it.
 - Stage 2 Guided Practice-Look at a letter and then write it
 - Stage 3 Independent Practice - Write without watching someone or seeing the letter

- Begin Unit 4 tow truck letters o, w, b, v

Spelling:

Spelling List 7- Long Vowel Digraphs

Spelling List 8- -augh/-ough/-igh

Assessments

- Expository Nonfiction Individual Writing Assessment
- Expository Nonfiction Student Self-Assessment

Writing Piece [Rubric](#)

Resources

- Wild in the City: A Guide to Urban Animals Around the World
- Cute as an Axolotl: Discovering the World's Most Adorable Animals
- Agouti"

Handwriting Goals: