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 PieceRubric

Resources

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