Course Description:

The 5th grade Language Arts curriculum integrates reading, writing, speaking, listening, and the study of vocabulary and grammar in a way that engages today's learners and supports them in building a broad and diverse set of literacy skills. Students study classic literature as well as more contemporary forms, including media and multimedia products. Writing assignments in semester A focus on narrative and persuasive modes and emphasize the use of reasoning and details to support opinions. Each writing assignment spans several lessons and guides students through a writing process that begins with prewriting and ends by emphasizing one or more aspects of conventions of standard written English. Students also learn how to participate in collaborative discussion and peer review sessions. In each lesson, engaging and relevant models and step-by-step instruction guide students toward mastery and appreciation of 21st century communication in all its forms and functions.

Module	Lesson Title	Objectives
Module 1: The Language Arts	1.1: Where to Begin	• Identify the purpose of a language arts class. • List the forms that literature can take. • Identify patterns in the student's own reading preferences.
	1.2: Reading as a Process	• Relate the concept of a strategy to the process of reading. • Identify patterns in the student's own reading process.
	1.3: Growing as a Reader	• Define fluency and comprehension in the context of reading. • Set goals for improving reading ability.
	1.4: Writing as a Process	• Distinguish among the stages of the writing process. • Explain how the writing process can vary.
	1.5: Growing as a Writer	• Apply current knowledge of writing strategies to the process of writing. • Predict (set goals) for writing growth.
	1.6: Survey the Scene	• Apply the concept of strategic thinking to literary text. • Predict what will happen next in a narrative.

Module	Lesson Title	Objectives
	1.7: Zoom Out	• Apply concept of context clues to reading process. • Use context clues to determine the meaning of words. • Distinguish among different kinds of context clues.
	1.8: Crack the Code	• Define decoding as a reading skill. • Apply reading strategies that make use of decoding skills, using them to define unfamiliar words and phrases.
	1.9: Your Best Guess	• Draw conclusions (make inferences) based on the details in a story.
	1.10: Mystery Solved?	• Apply multiple reading strategies independently to a short story.
	1.11: Good Idea	• Categorize writing topics according to mode of writing. • Select a topic suitable for a personal essay. • Apply the concept of prewriting to a writing topic or assignment.
	1.12: Just Keep Going	• Apply a specific writing strategy for essay writing. • Create text in response to a personal narrative writing prompt. • Write for a set period of time.
	1.13: Get It Together	• Group related ideas into paragraphs. • Revise paragraphs for cohesion.

Module	Lesson Title	Objectives
	1.14: Fill It Out	• Revise an essay, using sensory details to develop an experience or idea.
	1.15: Give It Time	• Revise an essay, adding an introduction. • Modify sentences, using transition words to signal shifts in time.
Module 2: **The Storyline**	2.1: The Parts	• Identify the basic elements of narrative. • Analyze a story, identifying its parts and explaining how they work together.
	2.2: The Problem	• Define *conflict* as a literary term. • Distinguish between internal and external conflict. • Apply the concept of conflict to a specific story.
	2.3: The Solution	• Identify the stages of plot in a story. • Apply the concept of plot (and plot elements) to a specific story.
	2.4: The Message	• Define and identify examples of themes. • Relate plot to theme. • Apply the concept of theme to a specific story.
	2.5: The Conversation	• Define collaboration and collaborative discussion. • Distinguish between helpful and nonhelpful contributions to a discussion. • Apply the concept of collaborative discussion to interactions with peers.

Module	Lesson Title	Objectives
	2.6: Watch and Listen	• Identify character traits of characters in a story. • Distinguish between direct and indirect characterization. • Draw conclusions about characters based on an author's use of characterization techniques.
	2.7: Look Who's Talking	• Define the terms *narrator* and *point of view*. • Distinguish between third-person and first-person point of view. • Analyze a story's point of view, connecting point of view to selection of details.
	2.8: Imagine the Difference	• Compare and contrast similar stories narrated from different points of view. • Identify and apply strategies for reading stories written in first-person point of view.
	2.9: See the Possibilities	• Apply the concept of setting to a specific story. • Analyze how a story's setting affects other parts of a story.
	2.10: Read the Signs	• Analyze how a story's elements work together to develop a theme.
	2.11: Far Out Fiction	• Identify elements of science fiction, including in a specific example of the genre. • Apply reading strategies to a specific genre of fiction.
	2.12: Fate of the Future	• Compare and contrast how stories in the same genre approach similar topics.
	2.13: Flawed or Fabulous?	• Support an opinion with reasons and examples.
	2.14: Order in the Court	• Organize and group ideas logically to support an opinion. • Create sections of an opinion essay, including introduction, body, and conclusion.

Module	Lesson Title	Objectives
	2.15: The Finer Points	- Revise an essay, expanding or combining sentences to eliminate sentence fragments. - Revise an essay, using academic vocabulary to connect reasons to opinions. - Edit an essay using a checklist.
Module 3: Going Long	3.1: Preview and Predict	- Predict the elements of a novel based on a preview of the beginning. - Use context clues to confirm or self-correct word knowledge, rereading as necessary. - Use summarizing to make sense of a novel's topics.
	3.2: Look Around	- Use context clues to determine the meaning of figures of speech and idioms. - Make inferences about characters based on details in a narrative.
	3.3: Make Connections	- Relate prior knowledge and experience to a novel's topics or events. - Infer the meaning of a novel's events based on prior knowledge and details in the text.
	3.4: Focus on the Problem	- Connect character traits in a novel to the novel's conflict. - Interpret the conflict in a novel, identifying the ideas it suggests.
	3.5: Search for Meaning	- Summarize a novel's sequence of events. - Predict a novel's theme based on a partial sequence of events.
	3.6: Ask Why	- Make inferences about character traits in a novel. - Analyze a character's motivations.
	3.7: Two of a Kind	- Compare and contrast two characters in a novel. - Analyze the differences among characters.

Module	Lesson Title	Objectives
	3.8: Something Extra	- Define *symbol*. - Interpret symbols in a novel. - Analyze a novel's symbols as evidence of theme.
	3.9: Here and There	Compare and contrast two or more settings in a novel, drawing on details in the text.
	3.10: Let's Investigate	Analyze a scene or chapter in a novel, explaining its part in the story's overall structure.
	3.11: Finally, A Solution	Analyze the climactic scene in a novel, explaining how it resolves one or more of the story's conflicts.
	3.12: Last Words	Analyze the theme of a novel based on how the novel ends.
	3.13: All Together Now	- Explain how a series of chapters, events, and scenes fit together to provide the overall structure of a novel. - Analyze the importance of a scene or event.
	3.14: Please Respond	- Respond to the themes in a novel. - Draw evidence from a novel to support a response to its events and ideas.
	3.15: Response Time	Integrate evidence drawn from a novel to support a response to its events and ideas.

Module	Lesson Title	Objectives
Module 4: Imagine This	4.1: Before You Write	• Generate topics for an original short story.
	4.2: How to Begin	• Create a strong beginning for an original short story. • Explain the role of the perfect tense in storytelling.
	4.3: Paint a Picture	• Create sensory details to develop a setting and describe events.
	4.4: Build Characters	• Develop a character using direct and indirect characterization. • Demonstrate how to punctuate dialogue correctly.
	4.5: Wrap It Up	• Draft a logical and complete conclusion for a short story.
	4.6: Ask a Reader	• Identify the purpose of peer review. • List the stages of the peer-review process.
	4.7: Join a Workshop	• Critique another student's short story. • Apply concepts related to collaborative discussion to a peer-review session.
	4.8: Look Again	• Revise a short story, applying suggestions from peers and/or a teacher.
	4.9: Sentence by Sentence	• Expand, combine, and reduce sentences for meaning, reader/listener interest, and style. • Revise run-on sentences and sentence fragments.

Module	Lesson Title	Objectives
	4.10: Pull It Together	• Revise sentences to make a story flow more smoothly.
	4.11: Break It Up	• Differentiate between compound and complex sentences. • Edit sentences to include commas where appropriate.
	4.12: Be Consistent	• Distinguish among verb tenses. • Revise text, correcting errors in verb tense consistency.
	4.13: Spell Write	• Define *homophone* and identify examples of homophones. • Identify and correct misspellings of homophones.
	4.14: Multiply Meaning	• Define *multimedia* and identify examples of it. • Construct a plan for creating a multimedia story.
	4.15: Make It Happen	• Develop an original story as a multimedia product or performance.
Module 5: Explore More	5.1: Going Onstage	• Differentiate between prose narratives and dramas.
	5.2: Reading Lines	• Identify and describe the parts of a written script.
	5.3: Following Directions	• Interpret the main events in a play by reading the script. • Identify the stages of plot in a play.
	5.4: Acting Out	• Analyze how the parts of a play develop a theme.

Module	Lesson Title	Objectives
	5.5: Talking Back	• Formulate questions about the meaning and structure of a play.
	5.6: A New Dimension	• Identify and describe forms of multimedia. • Analyze how visual and multimedia elements contribute to the meaning, tone, or beauty of a text.
	5.7: Play the Producer	• Construct a plan for using multimedia components to enhance the development of a story's themes.
	5.8: See It Through	• Select visual elements for a multimedia version of a written story.
	5.9: Room for Improvement	• Develop a multimedia version of a written story.
	5.10: Find Your Audience	• Use technology, including the internet, to produce and publish content.
	5.11: Pick Your Own	• Compare and contrast novels in similar genres or categories.
	5.12: Plan Your Trip	• Set goals for independently reading a novel. • Punctuate the titles of books correctly.
	5.13: Stop and Look	• Apply reading strategies to a novel read independently.
	5.14: Roadblock Ahead!	• Apply strategies for defining unfamiliar words. • Read a novel independently.

Module	Lesson Title	Objectives
	5.15: Make It Matter	• Compare and contrast two or more characters, settings, or events in a novel drawing on specific details in the text. • Analyze a scene in a novel, drawing inferences from the text and identifying details that support the inference.
Module 6: Narrative Poetry	6.1: Short and Sweet	• Distinguish between prose and poetry.
	6.2: Special Sauce	• Distinguish between the language of poetry and the language of prose.
	6.3: It's Epic!	• Identify the features of narrative poetry. • Analyze how a series of stanzas fits together to provide the overall structure of a particular narrative poem.
	6.4: A Well-Versed Narrative	• Draft a narrative in the form of a poem.
	6.5: Life Is Poetry	• Compose a narrative poem that uses concrete words, phrases, and sensory details to precisely convey an experience or observation.
	6.6: Learn the Lyrics	• Distinguish between lyric poems and narrative poems. • Interpret a lyric poem, identifying its theme.
	6.7: Share Your Thoughts	• Analyze the structure of a lyric poem. • Draft a lyric poem.
	6.8: Picture This	• Investigate how poets use imagery in lyric poems. • Create a poem that relies on imagery for its effect.

Module	Lesson Title	Objectives
	6.9: Words to Remember	• Define and identify examples of figurative language. • Identify examples of lyrical language in a novel.
	6.10: Little Big Ideas	• Synthesize a novel's elements into a poem.
	6.11: Dare to Compare	• Analyze a poem's use of figurative language. • Construct a poem that uses figurative language to make its point.
	6.12: Rhythm and Rhyme	• Identify and describe the features of poetry that impact its sound.
	6.13: Repeat After Me	• Draft a poem that uses sound effects.
	6.14: Spoken Out Loud	• Perform a poem with accuracy and expression.
	6.15: A Novel Poetry Project	• Draft poems representing a novel's plot, theme, and point of view.