

Writing across the Curriculum

Grade K

In Kindergarten the children receive the basics and foundation for writing. They learn letter sounds, blending, decoding, encoding, and letter formation. They begin labeling and then writing a simple sentence.

Grade 1

In First Grade the children learn all the types of sentences, then they learn nouns, pronouns, adjectives, verbs, synonyms, antonyms, and homophones. They write two related sentences. Sometimes they get to write a small paragraph.

Grade 2

The Second Graders develop their writing skills through various exercises in creative writing. They get lots of exposure in reading complete sentences to help identify nouns, verbs, adjectives and adverbs so in turn they can form interesting and complete sentences of their own. They edit sentences for capitals, punctuation and clarity of ideas. They learn how to write friendly letters, short descriptive narratives, poems, book reviews and research projects. They practice writing all answers to questions using complete sentences. Through integrated projects, critical thinking skills are encouraged as children are taught to put their research information into their own words. Their various research projects include saints, veterans, famous personalities, presidents and animals.

Grade 3

The Third Graders continue more in-depth working on parts of speech, sentences, nouns pronouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, conjunctions, punctuation, capitalization, abbreviations and diagramming. They work on comprehension sentences developing into paragraphs.

Grade 4

The Fourth Graders write sentences for the weekly vocabulary words. The students answer essay questions for each subject in full sentences. They also form paragraphs in spelling using prompts from Connections in Writing. In Math they are introduced to writing their own word problems. They are also introduced to the six traits of writing and begin to peer edit.

Grade 5

The Fifth Graders use writing in Math to explain the steps used in solving a problem. They also have a math journal. Students in fifth grade answer questions in full sentences and begin work on writing five-sentence paragraphs by the end of the year. They also revise and peer edit their writing. The students continue to work on the six traits of writing.

Grade 6

The Sixth Graders develop topic sentences into a unified and cohesive paragraph with a beginning, middle and end. They employ the six steps of the writing process. They develop style and paragraph unity by working with a variety of sentences—simple, compound, and complex. They employ the various forms of writing such as personal, subject, persuasive academic, writing about literature and creative writing.

Grade 7

The Seventh Graders continue to develop the writing skills that were introduced in Grade 6. Concentration will be on the subject writing-descriptive expository, and interviews. Persuasive writing will include editorial, personal commentary and essay of opinion. Academic writing includes essay of comparison, cause and effect essay and problem-solution. Writing about literature includes personal

responses to literature, writing a book review and writing a research paper. Creative writing includes story writing, playwriting and poetry.

Grade 8

In English, the Eighth Graders write narrative, persuasive, expository and descriptive essays as well as compare/contrast and five-paragraph essays. All essays are written using the six steps of the writing process. In Reading students write comprehensive, in-depth analyses of novel text. In Social Studies students answer questions analyzing complex non-fiction text. All essays are written using the six steps of the writing process. Comprehension questions in both reading and social studies must include details from the novel/textbook to support answers.