

ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

Syllabus

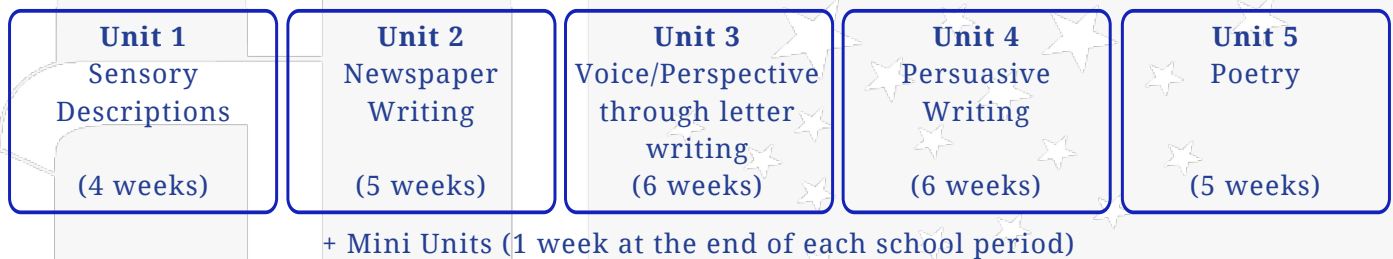


CM2

ORGANISATION

The five exciting units for reading and writing will allow children to solidify their writing skills and deepen their reading fluency and comprehension. Each writing unit will include engaging project work that the children can be proud of, enabling creative and purposeful application of key literacy skills. In reading, classic as well as modern titles from a variety of genres will open their horizons to new books, as the activities develop their reading independence and an opportunity to gain information about the world around them.

Just before each vacation, the children will use their reading and writing skills to create exciting projects based on a range of subjects and themes such as science and geography. The year will be filled with activities that will make the children happy to connect to class and each week children will discover the English syllabus through a new and exciting lens.



HOMework

Students will be expected to complete **30-45 minutes** of homework per week, which would consist of reading a chapter from the books studied, watching an education video or doing a short writing exercise for example. Optional home activities will be offered to students.

MINI-UNITS

Regular shorter units will spice up the rigorous reading and writing curriculum by allowing the students to transfer those skills to other areas. Possible ideas for these units include :

KITCHEN SCIENCE

Experiments with baking soda and yeast
Mini-project: writing science report

STEM WEEK

Using the design process : airplane
Mini-project : making an advertisement for the invented device

BOOK DAY

Dress like a character, make a character bedroom (diorama)

Mini assessment : write a book critique/review

CREATING A SETTLEMENT

Final product of the newspaper writing unit
Mini-project : oral presentation to "pitch" the website

RESEARCH PROJECT

Taking notes and identifying essential themes
Mini-project : virtual poster creation, oral presentation

UNITS

Unit 1 – Sensory Descriptions (4 weeks)

Students will begin by thinking deeply about sensory story-telling. Children will learn about characters, setting, and plot, and how to expand their descriptive vocabulary in those areas by using more specific verbs and nouns, as well as figurative language.

Possible mini-projects :

- Writing the opening chapter to a fantasy story

Possible titles studied :

- *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*, by CS Lewis

Unit 2 – Newspaper Writing (5 weeks)

Students will analyse newspaper articles and learn to use headlines, subheadings and captions to get a full understanding of topics. Students will also learn how to layout an entire page of newspaper, using the appropriate features of this text type. This fun project should allow students to explore high interest topics, in reading and writing, that reflect their own personal interest and engage their motivation to learn.

Possible mini-projects :

- Create one page of newspaper (three short articles, pictures with captions, fact box)

Possible titles studied :

- First News
- Newsela
- Time Magazine (Time for Kids)

Unit 3 – Voice/Perspective through letter writing (6 weeks)

In this unit, children will explore memorable and lovable characters through different points of view. They will develop their abilities to empathise with the characters and explore how authors create connections between the reader and the characters.

Possible mini-projects :

- Letter Exchange imitating between characters

Possible titles studied :

- *Dear Ms. Larue* by Mark Teague
- *Voices in the Park* by Anthony Brown
- *Wonder* by RJ Palacio

Unit 4 – Persuasive Writing (6 weeks)

Using robust language and explicitly taught rhetorical techniques, students will learn to make their voices heard. By exploring rich persuasive mentor texts, they will further their understanding of how authors lead readers to conclusions. They will be able to explore their own interests and passions, as well as open their minds to the outside world when choosing topics that they can advocate for. In addition to writing persuasive texts, the unit will offer opportunities for the children to debate a topic. Prepare to defend your positions !

Possible mini-projects :

- Giving a speech
- Writing a persuasive essay

Possible titles studied :

- *Class Action* by Steven B. Frank
- *Front Desk* by Kelly Yang

Unit 5 – Poetry (5 weeks)

This engaging unit will allow students to experience laughter and tears in poetry. Children will first try to understand what a poem is through unique mentor texts that will surprise them. Children will also explore the language and word choice that creates a visual, sensory poem. Plenty of opportunities for dramatic performance here !

Possible mini-projects :

- Joke writing to develop word play
- Writing a poem that reflects your year of the online class

Possible titles studied :

- *Love that Dog* by Sharon Creech
- *A kick in the head : An everyday guide to poetic forms* selected by Paul B Janeczko

Please note that all named texts are subject to change, as each class' syllabus will be tailored to suit the needs and interests of students