

Overview for Grade 4 Unit 1, The Arc of Story: Writing Realistic Fiction

Session/Minilesson		Conferring and Small-Group Work		Mid-Workshop Teaching		Share
BEND I: Creating and Developing Stories and Characters that Feel Real						
1	Imagining Stories from Ordinary Moments	Using Your Imagination to See Promise and Power in Children's Work	Using Notebooks to Plan Possible Stories	Revisiting the Third-Grade Narrative Writing Checklist		
2	Imagining Stories We Wish Existed in the World	Using an Exemplar Text to Respond to Predictable Problems	Sharing Struggles with Characters	Practicing Storytelling through a Return to Fairy Tales		
3	Developing Believable Characters	Anticipating the Help Children Will Need Developing Their Characters	Building the Character's Self-View	Creating Complex Characters		
4	Giving Characters Struggles and Motivations	Showing Characters by Writing Scenes	Sharing a Scene that Shows a Character's Traits	Mining Past Learning to Apply to Current Pieces		
5	Plotting with a Story Arc	Building Story Arcs	Finding Story Arcs in Published Stories	Choosing the Story Arcs that Map Our Stories the Best		
BEND II: Drafting and Revising with an Eye toward Believability						
6	Show, Don't Tell: Planning and Writing Scenes	Moving from Summary to Story	Matching Writing with Story Arcs	Acting in Scenes to Get Ready for Drafting		
7	Feeling and Drafting the Heart of Your Story	Writing in Summaries and Writing in Scenes	Revising Leads	Using the Narrative Checklist to Ratchet Up the Writing		
8	Studying Published Texts to Write Leads	Learning from Mentor Texts	Using Dialogue Deliberately	Testing Out Leads Can Help You Revise		
9	Orienting Readers with Setting	Weaving Together Action, Thought, and Dialogue	Using Mentor Texts in Revision	Studying a Mentor for Setting Techniques		
10	Writing Powerful Endings	Reining in Last-Minute Additions	Partnering in Revision	Learning about Endings from Colleagues		
BEND III: Preparing for Publication with an Audience in Mind						
11	Revision: Rereading with a Lens	Helping Reluctant Revisers	Revising the Story's Sound	Revision		
12	Making a Space for Writing	Learning from Our Writing Patterns	Using Prepositional Phrases to Communicate Complexity	Revising with a Checklist		
13	Using Mentor Texts to Flesh Out Characters	Helping Struggling Readers	Naming an Author's Techniques	Turning to a Text to Help Show Character Emotion		
14	Editing with Various Lenses	Making Editing Choices	Editing with Attentiveness	Editing with a Writing Partner		
15	Letter to Teachers: Publishing Anthologies: A Celebration					
BEND IV: Embarking on Independent Fiction Projects						
16	Letter to Teachers: Launching Independent Fiction Projects					
17	Planning and Drafting Stories with Agency	Creating Active Characters to Create Strong Narratives	Making a Pacing Calendar	Working on Independence through Partnerships		
18	Mining the Connections between Reading and Writing Fiction	Developing Conflict and Tension	Learning to Support Other Writers	Gearing Writing Toward a Particular Audience		
19	Focusing the Reader's Gaze	The Power of the Perfect Word	Creating Leads that Move Quickly into the Action and Don't Just Give Background Information	Returning to the Narrative Checklist with Increasing Independence		
20	Choosing Punctuation for Effect	Setting Students Up for Independent Success by Pulling Groups with Similar Needs and Placing Them on a Similar Path	Fixing Run-On Sentences	Preparing Tools for Independent Fiction Success		
21	Letter to Teachers: Surveying Your Work and Planning for the Future					

5-6 weeks