

Unit Guide

Lessons From Fiction

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This unit is designed to be taught over several weeks in the 45 minute daily reading and writing blocks and revisited throughout the school year. The purpose of this unit is twofold: first, to introduce young children to the story elements in fiction in order to understand story structure and write their own stories. The goal being developing a thoughtfully written piece of realistic fiction highlighting a problem and the actions taken to solve the problem. These written pieces can then be rewritten into different genres as each genre is introduced to students and analyzed. The second purpose is to have the children consider and internalize the lessons fictional characters learn while solving problems and applying those lessons to their own real-life situations. The children will use a five step process for problem solving to make thoughtful decisions to common problems they encounter. While being designed primarily for first grade students, this unit can also be implemented in kindergarten through second grade classrooms.