Knowledge Building with Writing Activities (2nd-5th) Course Guide

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Course Guide Information

This guide was created to help you process and take action on the information provided in the corresponding course.

How to Use this Guide

Lesson Overview

Each lesson includes an overview with a brief description of the lesson and major objectives. Rate your current knowledge of the information on the scale before watching the lesson.

Notes Page

As you watch each lesson, a page is provided for taking notes, allowing you to refer back to them whenever needed.

Reflection Page

After you watch the lesson, use the reflection questions to think about what you learned and how you can apply it to improve instruction.

Extension Activities

After you finish the entire lesson, rate your knowledge again to self-assess how much you learned.

There is a list of relevant activities you can do to further deepen your understanding and improve your practice.

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Lesson 1: Knowledge Building Writing Activities

In this lesson, you will learn how to use sentence-, paragraph-, and essay-level writing activities to build students' knowledge, vocabulary, organization of ideas, and reading comprehension.

Major Goals for the Lesson Are To:

1. Identify knowledge-building writing activities that support children's language, vocabulary, mental models, and reading comprehension.
2. Evaluate and plan writing activities that reinforce content knowledge and give children meaningful opportunities to use new vocabulary.

Rate Your Knowledge

On a scale of 1–10, rate your knowledge of the lesson topic.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Notes

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Take Notes

Gradual Release of Responsibility

I Do	We Do	You Do it Together	You do

Sentence Writing

Paragraph Writing

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Reflect

What was your biggest takeaway from this lesson?

Reflect

What are you currently doing that supports what you learned?

Reflect

What action step(s) will you take as a result of this lesson?

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Lesson 1: Knowledge Building Writing Activities

Revisit Lesson Goals:

1. Identify knowledge-building writing activities that support children's language, vocabulary, mental models, and reading comprehension.
2. Evaluate and plan writing activities that reinforce content knowledge and give children meaningful opportunities to use new vocabulary.

Rate Your Knowledge

Now that you have completed lesson one, rate your knowledge of the lesson topic on a scale of 1 - 10.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Application Checklist

- Review a writing activity in an upcoming unit. Consider how you could revise it to help children use content knowledge and vocabulary rather than simply complete a writing task.
- Plan a sentence expansion or sentence combining activity using content from an upcoming lesson. Include time for students to orally rehearse their ideas before writing.
- Choose an upcoming paragraph or essay task and identify one scaffold you can provide- such as a topic sentence, transition words, sentence frames, or an evidence-and-reasoning structure—and how you will gradually remove that support.