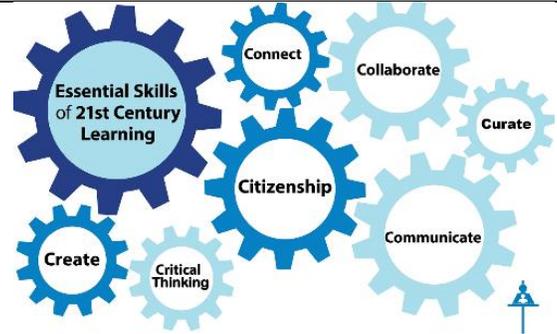


Lesson: Writing an Expository Piece

Curriculum Areas: ELA – Writing, Research Skill (Animal Report)

Curricular Outcome(s):

- CC2.1 AN2.1
- CC2.2 AN2.2
- CC2.4 AN2.3
- AR2.2



Resources /Materials:

This lesson is an addition to the Lucy Calkins Grade 2 Unit 2 Lab Reports and Science Books (expository).

- Animal Research Report
- Crayons or markers

Websites and Digital Resources:

- Online databases (found on [Resources Online](#))

Source:

Adapted from: Common Sense Media:

https://d2e111jq13me73.cloudfront.net/sites/default/files/uploads/classroom_curriculum/k-2-unit1-abcsearching-2015.pdf

21st Century Essential Skills:

- Create
- Curate
- Communicate

Digital Citizenship Concepts and Skills: RESPECT, EDUCATE, PROTECT

- RESPECT
- EDUCATE

Digital Citizenship Essential Questions:

- Are students infringing on others' rights by the way they use technology?
- Should technology be used to access information to learn new concepts?
- How can students use digital technologies to best take advantage of the educational opportunities available to them?

Essential Knowledge - See Digital Fluency Continuum

- Knowledge: What will students understand?
 - Other people created and own the content that is posted online.
 - There are various ways of organizing information and we need to learn skills to find the information we are looking for.
 - I cannot believe everything that I find online.
- Skills: What will students be able to do?
 - Search for copyright free images on appropriate websites and name their source.
 - Navigate appropriate websites as provided by the teacher.
 - Tell an adult if they find content online that makes them feel uncomfortable.

Essential Question:

How can you use the alphabet or images to find things online?

How can you use online databases to support expository writing pieces?

Before:

Warm-up (5 minutes)

DEFINE the Key Vocabulary term **dictionary**.

INVITE students to join you in looking at a picture dictionary. Tell them that this kind of dictionary arranges pictures of things by the letters of the alphabet, instead of words and definitions. Pictures of things whose names begin with the letter A are first, followed by pictures of things whose names begin with B, and so on.

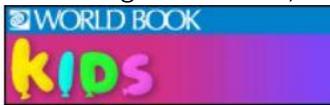
ASK:

Where would you find a picture of a cat?	Sample response: Under the letter C
Where in this book would you find pictures of things whose names begin with Z?	Sample response: At the very end
If you wanted to find information on an animal, what category would you search under?	Sample response: animals

EXPLAIN to students that they can also use letters of the alphabet and images to find things online.

During:

CHOOSE one of the sites from resources online to explore as a class (for example: World Book Kids). Have students go to the site, or project the site onto a screen for students to view together.



DEFINE the Key Vocabulary term **search** and **explore**. Explain to students that one way to search for things on the Internet is by using the alphabet and images.

POINT OUT the explore button. When they click on explore it will bring them to various categories. Click the categories until you narrow it down to a list animals or your category.





SCROLL through starting with the letter A to find pictures of things whose names begin with that letter. Have students identify some things by their pictures and, when possible, by their names, then click on the name to go to the page for the selected animal.



READ through the information as a class and extract the important information. You can also HEAR the text read aloud.

EXPLAIN to students that, as a class, they are going to make their own report on an animal.

CURATE and EXTRACT information as a class in point form. MODEL how to extract information and create jot notes.

After:

CREATE an animal report, as a class, using jot notes. Students will publish their writing using the animal research report worksheet.

EXTEND. You can extend this lesson, allowing students to create their own animal research report on their chosen animal.

Assessment:

Use the [rubrics](#) from the English Language Arts moodle page on expository writing.