



**WOODRIDGE**  
SCHOOL DISTRICT 68

## **Common Core Writing Newsletter**

### **2nd Grade**

### **How-To Writing**

*This unit allows second grade writers to continue and refine the work they did in first grade as they wrote nonfiction chapter books. The writing will become more sophisticated and students will end the unit by writing different kinds of nonfiction books with independence.*

#### **About this Unit**

Students will begin this unit by writing many information books quickly. Writers will spend only a day or two on a book before beginning a new one. Students will also be furiously reading nonfiction books to study the ways authors teach their readers.

The next set of lessons asks students to really focus on their audience. The students will continue to ask themselves what their audience wants to know, to drive their work as writers. Since the books are teaching others about their expert topic, students will learn techniques to enhance their writing for their intended audience.

The remaining lessons ask students to study more mentor texts and consider the structure of the writing in the books they are authoring. Students will work in inquiry groups to study the work of nonfiction authors with the intent of using some of the craft in their own teaching books.

The unit ends with a celebration! The class will have a learning expo where published pieces will be showcased. Each writer will choose their own unique way to feature their writing!

#### **Additional Information**

Students will continue to participate in a writer's workshop during a daily, dedicated writing time. The daily workshop is set up so that students will be presented with a mini-lesson and then be sent off to write as the teacher confers with students both individually and in small groups.

Attached to this newsletter are a grade level specific checklist and an example of proficient student writing for this unit's genre of writing. Please contact your student's teacher should you have any further questions.