Redbird Language Arts & Writing: Course Outline

Grade 2

Simple Sentences
- Nouns
- A Fable
- Proper Nouns

Telling a Story
- Time and Places
- Story Elements
- Beginning a Sentence

Telling Your Stories
- Poetry
- Special Nouns
- The First Part of a Sentence

Realistic Writing
- Ownership Nouns
- Pronouns
- The Second Part of a Sentence

Stories of the Past
- Adjectives for Describing
- Writing for Good Manners
- Adjectives for Comparing

Stories of Make-Believe
- Verbs and Articles
- Kinds of Sentences
- Asking Questions

Sentence Variety
- Another Fairytale
- Tense and Number Agreement
- Commands

Writing about Science
- Informing Your Reader
- Using the Verb “Be”
- Using the Verb “Have”

Explaining and Persuading
- Telling How and Why
- Agreement with Helping Verbs
- Adverbs for Describing

Giving Directions
- Step by Step
- Constructions for Quicker Writing
- Words that Sound Alike

Reading Passages

Fables
- The Lion and the Mouse (Aesop)
- The Shepherd Boy and the Wolf (Aesop)

Poetry
- The Bean-Stalk (Edna St. Vincent Millay)

Realistic Fiction
- A Unique Name (DuEwa Frazier)

History Texts
- Sarah Winnemucca
  (Nevada Women’s History Project; Sarah Winnemucca)

Fairytales
- Cinderella (Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm)
- The Poor Turkey Girl (Zuni fairytale)

Science Text
- The Life Cycle of the Butterfly (Pacific Science Center)

Persuasive Writing
- Creating a Butterfly Garden at School (National Wildlife Federation)

Step-By-Step Directions
- How to Make a Bird Feeder (National Audubon Society)

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Grade 3

Reading Folktales
- Practice with Nouns
- Narrative Paragraphs
- Phrases in Sentences
- Kinds of Sentences
- Pronouns

Reading Drama
- Narrative Writing
- More Pronouns
- Lead Sentences
- Supporting Sentences

Writing a Narrative
- Possessives
- Irregular Nouns
- More Narrative Writing
- Practice with Irregular Nouns

Concluding a Narrative
- Introduction to Myths
- Articles in Noun Phrases
- Practice with Articles
- Adjectives

Reading about Science
- Introduction to Science Reading
- Punctuation with Commas
- Adverbs
- Verb Tenses
- Present Tense
- Conjoined Noun Phrases

Reading Passages

Folktale
The Tiger, the Brahman, and the Jackal
(Indian folktale)

Drama
The Tiger and the Brahman
(Shirley Simon, Sylvia Kamerman)

Poetry
The Tyger
(William Blake)

Myth
Odysseus and the Cyclops
(Greek myth)

Science Text
How Caves Form
(USGS)

Step-By-Step Directions
How to Build a Cave
(Crystal Cave)

Writing to Inform
- Reading Directions
- Future Tense
- Simple Subjects
- Writing Information Paragraphs

Writing an Opinion
- Realistic Fiction
- Opinion Paragraphs
- Comparative Adjectives
- Compound Subjects
- Simple and Complete Predicates
- Writing Opinion Paragraphs
- Helping Verbs
- Opinion Statements
- Compound Verbs and Predicates

Historical Writing
- Historical Documents
- Irregular Verbs
- Practice with Irregular Verbs
- Punctuation for Titles

Persuasive Writing
- Reading Persuasive Writing
- Prepositions
- Practice Writing Opinion Paragraphs
- Compounds

Completing an Opinion
- Contractions with “Not”
- Tricky Homophones
- Commas and Quotations
- Practice Writing Opinions

Realistic Fiction
Little House in the Big Woods
(Laura Ingalls Wilder)
The Birchbark House
(Louise Erdrich)

Historical Document
The Constitution of the Five Nations
(Iroquois Confederacy)

Persuasive Writing
The American Bald Eagle
(U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs)

History Text
The Great Seal of the United States
(U.S. Dept. of State)

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## Grade 4

### Reading and Writing Fiction
- Kinds of Paragraphs
- Practicing Narrative Paragraphs
- Singular and Plural Nouns
- Practicing Kinds of Sentences
- Writing in the Present Tense

### Different Kinds of Myths
- Writing in the Past Tense
- Practicing Verb Tenses
- Working with Myths
- Possessive Nouns

### Working with Drama
- Practicing with Adjectives
- Writing with Adjectives
- Numerals
- Conjunctions
- Writing with Articles

### Practicing Narrative Writing
- Demonstratives
- Prefixes and Suffixes
- Working with Legends
- Practicing Prefixes and Suffixes

### First-Person Fiction
- Simple and Complete Subjects
- Writing with Complete Subjects
- Forms of the Verb "Be"
- Practice with Helping Verbs
- Third-Person Fiction
- Paragraphs of Information
- Writing with Personal Pronouns
- Compound Subjects

### Seeing Different Points of View
- Firsthand and Secondhand Accounts
- Opinion Paragraphs
- Reflexive Pronouns
- Writing with Adverbs
- Reading on Problems and Solutions
- Writing with Comparative Adjectives
- Direct and Indirect Objects
- Practicing Opinion Paragraphs

### Persuasion in Reading and Writing
- Reading Persuasive Writing
- Writing with Irregular Verbs
- Practicing Writing Opinions
- Poetry and Point of View
- Negatives

### Reading Technical Directions
- Coordinated Verbs
- Writing with Prepositions
- Appositives
- Negative Contractions

### Punctuation and Contractions
- Pronoun Contractions
- Using Parentheses
- Working with Pronoun Contractions
- Adjective and Adverbs

### Reading Passages

#### Myth
- A Norse Myth *(Mary Pope Osborne)*

#### Narrative
- The Beginning of Armadillos *(Rudyard Kipling)*

#### Drama
- Gluscabi and His Magic Game Bag *(L.E. McCullough)*

#### Legend
- Johnny Appleseed: The Legend and the Man *(American legend)*

#### Fiction
- Bless Me, Ultima *(Rudolfo Anaya)*
- Nilda *(Nicholasa Mohr)*

#### Firsthand and Secondhand Accounts
- César Chávez *(CA Dept. of Education; César Chávez)*

#### Problems and Solutions
- Caring for the Land *(Utah State University)*

#### Persuasive Writing
- Eat Local *(Jennifer Maiser)*

#### Poetry
- Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening *(Robert Frost)*

#### Technical Steps
- Making a Robot Finger *(Slater Harrison)*

#### Science Text
- Glacial Erosion *(American Geosciences Institute)*

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**Grade 5**

### Drama and Narratives
- Reading Drama
- Revisiting Narrative Paragraphs
- Starting the Narrative
- More Practice with Verbs

### Adventure Fiction
- Realism in Fiction
- Practicing Verb Tenses
- Practicing the Future Tense
- Concluding the Narrative
- Practicing Narrative Writing
- Direct and Indirect Objects
- Practicing with Objects
- Possessives

### Writing with Adjectives
- Poetry and Narratives
- Proper Adjectives
- Affixes in Words
- Demonstratives

### Concluding the Narrative
- Supporting the Narrative
- Reading in Science
- Writing with Varied Subjects
- Practicing Writing Narratives
- Step-By-Step Directions
- Helping Verb “Be”
- Practicing with the Verb “Be”

### Informative and Historical Writing
- Paragraphs of Information
- Helping Verb “Have”
- Historical Speech
- Autobiography
- Personal Pronouns
- Possessive Pronouns
- Opinion Paragraphs
- Reading History
- Practicing Comparative Adjectives

### Realistic and Persuasive Writing
- Realistic Fiction
- Comparative Adverbs
- Using Adjectives or Adverbs
- Reading Persuasive Writing
- Writing Opinion Paragraphs
- Practicing with Prepositions

### Reading Government Documents
- Practicing with Modifiers
- Negation and Constructions
- Practicing Irregular Verbs
- Completing Opinion Paragraphs

### Historical Accounts
- Synonyms and Antonyms
- Confusible Verb Pairs
- Writing with Synonyms and Antonyms
- Practicing Opinion Paragraphs

### Reading Poetry
- Contractions with “Have”
- Indefinite Pronouns
- Homophones and Homographs
- Writing with Homophones and Homographs

### Reading Passages

#### Historical Speech
- The National Parks and Forest Reservations  
  *John Muir*

#### Autobiography
- The Story of My Life  
  *Helen Keller*

#### History Text
- The Invention of Braille  
  *American Foundation for the Blind*
- Persuasive Writing
- Common Sense  
  *Thomas Paine*
- The True Interest of America  
  *Charles Inglis*

#### Government Documents
- Preamble to the U.S. Declaration of Independence (1776)
- Preamble to the U.S. Constitution (1787)

#### Historical Accounts
- Paul Revere  
  *(Paul Revere Memorial Association; Robert Lawson)*

### Realistic Fiction
- The Accidental Bully  
  *Natasha Gordon-Chipembere*

### Science Text
- The Life Cycle of a Mineral Deposit  
  *(USGS)*

### Step-By-Step Directions
- How to Grow the Best Crystals  
  *(Scientific American)*

### Drama
- The Adventures of Tom Sawyer  
  *(Timothy Mason)*

### Adventure Fiction
- The Adventures of Tom Sawyer  
  *(Mark Twain)*
- Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland  
  *(Lewis Carroll)*

### Poetry
- Jabberwocky  
  *(Lewis Carroll)*
- Paul Revere’s Ride  
  *(Henry Wadsworth Longfellow)*

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Grade 7

Working with Autobiographies
- Starting a Narrative
- Types of Phrases
- Noun Phrases
- Verbs and Verb Phrases
- Supporting the Narrative
- Subjects and Predicates

Historical Fiction and Non-Fiction
- Using Conjunctions
- Prepositions and Prepositional Phrases
- Ending the Narrative
- Compound Subjects
- First-Person History
- Compound Predicates
- Mood in Sentences
- Declarative Mood

Writing a Narrative
- Practicing Writing Narratives
- Interrogative Mood
- Interrogative Sentences
- Imperative Mood

Biographies and History
- Pronoun Antecedents
- Pronoun Reference
- Using Linking Verbs
- Reflexive Pronouns
- Interrogative Pronouns
- Demonstrative Pronouns
- Writing about Cause and Effect
- Kinds of Clauses

Complex Clauses
- Relative Pronouns
- Subordinating Conjunctions
- Intensive Pronouns
- Introductory Clauses
- Demonstrative Adjectives

Persuasive Writing
- Dependent Clauses
- Independent Clauses
- Forms of Adverbs
- Sentence Fragments
- Writing Opinion Fragments
- Coordinating Conjunctions
- Correlative Conjunctions
- Supporting Your Opinion Paragraph

Non-Fiction and Poetry
- Using Linking Verbs
- Concluding Your Opinion Paragraph
- Relative Clauses
- Practicing Writing Opinions
- Using Relative Clauses
- Misplaced Modifiers
- Practicing Persuasive Writing
- Classifying Sentences
- Purpose in Persuasive Writing

Constructing a Persuasive Argument
- Using Verbal Participles
- Compound Sentences
- Audience in Persuasive Writing
- Punctuating Complex Sentences
- Supporting Your Persuasive Paragraph
- Repairing Comma Splices
- Concluding Your Persuasive Paragraph

Dramatic Writing
- Practicing the Perfect Tense
- Adverb Placement
- Subjunctive Mood
- Voice in Writing
- Practicing Reading Fiction

Reading Passages

Autobiography
- Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl (Harriet Jacobs)
- Narrative in the Life of Frederick Douglass (Frederick Douglass)

Biography
- Abe Lincoln Grows Up (Carl Sandburg)

Historical Accounts
- The Private Campaign of a History that Failed (Mark Twain)
- The Trial of Susan B. Anthony (Susan B. Anthony, et al)

Historical Document
- The Emancipation Proclamation (Abraham Lincoln)

Persuasive Writing
- Why Women Should Vote (Alice Stone Blackwell)
- Against Women’s Suffrage (Mrs. Clarence Hale)

Historical Fiction
- Across Five Aprils (Irene Hunt)
- The Red Badge of Courage (Stephen Crane)

Technical Directions
- Building a Lemon Battery (WGBH)

Science
- Light and Color (NASA)

Fiction
- Herland (Charlotte Perkins Gilman)
- The Ransom of Red Chief (O. Henry)

Poetry
- O Captain! My Captain! (Walt Whitman)

Drama
- The Taming of the Shrew (William Shakespeare)

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