

***Open Court Writing Prompts
2008-2009

Possible Dates:	Lesson:	Possible Writing Prompt:
Getting Started Aug.25-Sept. 12 (14 days)	Getting Started Lessons 1-15	Intro. The Writing Process & Step Up to Writing Set up Writer's Notebooks: -List writing topics in W.N. <u>Creative writing:</u> (Workshop option) Write your own version of "Little Red Riding Hood"
Sept. 15-19	Unit 1, Lesson 1 Ant and the Three Little Pigs	Write about your experience reading with a family member at home. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • " I like to read with _____ for many reasons." <u>Creative Writing:</u> (Workshop Option) Write your own version of The Three Little Pigs.
Sept. 22-26	Unit 1, Lesson 2 Come Back Jack	Write about the reasons you do or do not like reading. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "I enjoy reading for 3 reasons." • " I do not enjoy reading for 3 reasons." Write about the reasons why reading is important. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Reading is important for many reasons." <u>Creative Writing:</u> (Workshop Option) Write a story where Jack is your main character in a nursery rhyme.
Sept. 29-Oct. 3	Unit 1, Lesson 3 The Library	Write about what you like doing the most. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • " _____ is something that I really like to do." <u>Creative Writing:</u> (Workshop Option) Write about spending the night in a library.
Oct. 6-10	Unit 1, Lesson 4 Story Hour	Write about a special time you have had with your mom or dad alone. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Once I had a special day with my mom/dad." <u>Creative Writing:</u> (Workshop Option) Write a story about being able to fly.
Oct. 13-17	Unit 1, Lesson 5 Tomas and the Library Lady	Write about a visit to the library. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "The first time I remember going to the library, I was ___ years old." <u>Creative Writing:</u> (practice prompt) Write about your birthday party.
Oct. 20-24 (parent conf...)	S.C.O.E. Testing	Write about a special time or event narrative " _____ was a special time for me."

Oct. 27-31	Unit 2, Lesson 1 Mushroom in the Rain	Intro. Friendly Letter Format Write a letter to your friend to tell them 3 things you liked about this story. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "I want to tell you why I liked <u>Mushroom in the Rain.</u>" <u>Creative Writing:</u> (Workshop Option) Write a story about an ant going on an adventure.
Nov. 3-7	Unit 2, Lesson 2 The Elves & the Shoemaker	Friendly Letter: Pretend you are the shoemaker and write a thank you to the elves for all they did for the shoemaker. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "I want to thank you for___." <u>Creative Writing:</u> (Workshop Option) Write a story about two little elves going on an adventure.
Nov. 10-14	Unit 2, Lesson 3 The Paper Crane	Write a thank you letter to the stranger for the paper crane. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Thank you for the gift of the paper crane." Write a thank you letter to a friend who is always kind to you. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Thank you for being so kind to me." <u>Creative Writing:</u> (Workshop Option) Write a story about someone meeting a magical creature.
Nov. 17-21	Unit 2, Lesson 4 The Butterfly House	Write a letter to a friend giving step-by-step directions for how to make a butterfly house. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "I want to tell you how to make a butterfly house." <u>Creative Writing:</u> (Workshop Option) Write a story about a butterfly.
Dec. 1-4	Unit 2, Lesson 5 Corduroy	Write a letter to Lisa thanking her for adopting Corduroy. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "I want to thank you for adopting Corduroy." Write a letter from Lisa to her mom thanking her for Corduroy. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "I want to thank you for letting me buy Corduroy." <u>Creative Writing:</u> (Workshop Option) Write a story about a stuffed animal that can talk.

Dec. 8-12	Unit 2, Lesson 6 Story of the 3 Whales	Write a friendly letter to a special person in your life telling them how you appreciate them. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "I want to tell you how much I appreciate you." <u>Creative Writing:</u> (Workshop Option) Write a story about a whale going on an ocean adventure.
Dec. 15-19	Unit 2, Lesson 7 Cinderella SC.O.E. Testing	Friendly Letter: Tell about a gift you received. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "I want to thank you for _____" <u>Creative Writing:</u> (Workshop Option) Write your own version of Cinderella.
Jan. 5-9	Unit 3, Lesson 1 I See Animals Hiding	Choose an animal from the story and write an explanation for how it was camouflaged. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "A _____ uses camouflage." <u>Creative Writing:</u> (Workshop Option) Write a story about some animal friends playing hide and seek.
Jan. 12-16	Unit 3, Lesson 2 They Thought They Saw Them	Write and explain how you found something that was once lost. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Once I lost _____ and had to find it." Write about what you would do if you lost a pet. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "If I lost my _____, I would do many things to find it." <u>Creative Writing:</u> (Workshop Option) Write about a little chameleon going on an adventure.
Jan. 20-23 (no school Mon.)	Unit 3, Lesson 3 Hungry Little Hare	Write step-by-step directions for how you would take care of a pet bunny rabbit. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Pet bunnies need lots of care." <u>Creative Writing:</u> (Workshop Option) Write about a rabbit going on an adventure.
Jan. 26-30	Unit 3, Lesson 4 How to Hide an Octopus	Write and explain how a sea creature can use camouflage. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A _____ lives in the ocean and uses camouflage." <u>Creative Writing:</u> (Workshop Option) Write about a giant octopus living in an ocean cave.
Feb. 2-6	Unit 3, Lesson 5 How the Guinea Fowl Got Her Spots	Write and explain how to make something. (i.e. macaroni and cheese) (test prep) *unrelated to story <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • _____ is something anyone can learn to make.

		<p><u>Creative Writing:</u> (Workshop Option) Write and explain how you think a particular animal got one of its characteristics. (ex. How the camel got its hump)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “People wonder how the _____ got its _____.”
Feb. 9-13	Unit 3, Lesson 6 Animal Camouflage S.C.O.E. Testing	<p>Explain something you know how to do – (i.e. make a Peanut Butter & Jelly Sandwich)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “There are several steps to _____.”
Feb. 23-27	Unit 4, Lesson 1 Fossils of Long Ago	<p>Write a step-by-step procedure of how a fossil is formed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Fossils are not formed quickly.” <p><u>Creative Writing:</u> (Workshop Option) Write a story about someone finding a fossil in their backyard.</p>
March 2-6	Unit 4, Lesson 2 The Dino Who lived in My Backyard	<p>Write about what you would do if you had a dinosaur living in your backyard.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If I had a dinosaur in my backyard, I would _____.” <p>Write about what it would be like to live in dinosaur times.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “ I can only imagine what it would be like to live with dinosaurs.” <p><u>Creative Writing:</u> (Workshop Option) Write about a dinosaur of your choice.</p>
March 9-13	Unit 4, Lesson 3 Dinosaur Fossils	<p>Describe the job of a paleontologist</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “A paleontologist has an important job.” <p>Write about why you would like to be a paleontologist.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “ I would like to be a paleontologist for many reasons.” <p><u>Creative Writing:</u> (Workshop Option)</p>
Mar. 16-20	Unit 4, Lesson 4 Why Did the Dinosaurs Disappear?	<p>Write and explain one theory of why the dinosaurs disappeared.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Many people wonder why the dinosaurs disappeared.” <p><u>Creative Writing:</u> (Workshop Option) Make up your own dinosaur & describe it.</p>

March. 23-27 (min.days)	Unit 4, Lesson 5 Monster Tracks	Write step-by-step directions of how to make a fossil print. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Making a fossil print is easy and fun.” Write about what you would do if you found a dinosaur footprint. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “If I found a dinosaur footprint, I would_____.” <u>Creative Writing:</u> (Workshop Option) Write about finding giant tracks in the jungle.
Mar.30-Apr.3	Unit 4, Lesson 6 Let's Go Dino Tracking S.C.O.E.	Describe your bedroom (test prep) *unrelated to story <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Let me tell you about my bedroom.” S.C.O.E. Prompt: Describe your classroom “Let me tell you about my classroom.”
April 13-17	Unit 5, Lesson 1 Molly the Brave and Me	Write about how the characters in the story showed bravery. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Molly was brave for 3 reasons.” • “Beth was really brave for 3 reasons.” <u>Creative Writing:</u> (Workshop Option) Write about exploring someplace with a friend.
April 20-24	Unit 5, Lesson 2 Dragons & Giants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Frog and Toad showed that they were really cowards in several ways.” <u>Creative Writing:</u> (Workshop Option) Write another adventure for Frog & Toad.
April 27-May 1	Unit 5, Lesson 3 A Hole in the Dike	Write about what makes a hero. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “A hero is someone who_____.” <u>Creative Writing:</u> (Workshop Option) Write a story about a little boy living in a far off place.
May 4-8	Unit 5, Lesson 4 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Dr. Martin Luther King Jr was a hero for three reasons. “ <u>Creative Writing:</u> (Workshop Option) Write a story about a great hero moving to a new place.
May 11-15	Unit 5, Lesson 5 The Empty Pot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write a creative story about how telling the truth takes courage. (model story map) <u>Creative Writing:</u> (Workshop Option) Write a story about moving to a different country (possibly an Asian country).
May 18-22	Unit 5, Lesson 6 Brave as a Mountain Lion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write a creative story about an animal that is brave. <u>Creative Writing:</u> (practice prompt) Write a story about someone moving to 3 rd grade. (begin with story map)

May 26-29	S.C.O.E. Testing	<p>Narrative Prompt: Write a creative story about a character moving to a new place.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• “Once, I had to move to_____.” <p>OR (if one has never moved)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• “I would like to move to _____.”
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