

Writing Curricular Calendar

First Grade

September/October – Launching with Small Moments

Bend 1: Writers have lots of stories to tell.

Bend 2: Writers bring stories to life.

Bend 3: Learning from studying other writers' craft.

Bend 4: Fixing and fancying up our best work: revision and editing.

October / November – Authors as Mentors: Craftsmanship and Revision

Bend 1: Learning to live like an author.

Bend 2: Writing stronger and longer drafts under the influence of an author: Writers study authors we admire and try the published author's craft in our own writing.

Bend 3: Deeper, More Thoughtful Revision.

Bend 4: Wrapping up the unit.

November / December – Informational Books

Bend 1: Writers choose topics of personal expertise and plan and draft many books.

Bend 2: Revising and writing to support categorization: Writers revise books in their folders and make new books even more ambitious.

Bend 3: Information writers revise by elaborating – and then write longer books, right from the start.

Bend 4: Information writers draft and revise longer chapter books, with increasing independence.

Bend 5: One final grand edit as part of the work of preparing to publish.

January / February – Persuasive Writing: Opinions, Reviews, and Stories

Bend 1: Writers examine and judge collections in order of rank, compare, and justify their opinions.

Bend 2: Review, review, review: Writers lift the level of persuasive writing by zooming in, and adding details and more specific language.

Bend 3: Writers discover the issues in their lives and write lots and lots of persuasive picture books.

February / March – Poetry: Powerful Thoughts in Tiny Packages

Bend 1: Living and writing like poets.

Bend 2: Drafting and revising with precise words, phrases, and line breaks to create images and music in our poems.

Bend 3: Using poetic language to develop meaning.

Bend 4: Writing songs.

Bend 5: Editing, publishing, and celebrating our best poems and anthologies.

April / May – Informational Writing About Science

Bend 1: Scientists write to learn about the world, experiment to answer lingering questions, and use what they know about informational writing to teach others what they have learned.

Bend 2: Scientists collaborate with partners and record their experiments, raising the level of their non-narrative writing.

Bend 3: Scientists put all of their learning together and publish informational books.

May / June – Realistic Fiction

Bend 1: Becoming series writers.

Bend 2: Welcome to the revision party!

Bend 3: Do it again!

Bend 4: Bringing our series to publication.