

Unit Overview: This unit begins with a close study of characters. Talk to any avid reader about the book he or she is reading, and that reader will tell you about the characters. Characters lure us into books and keep us reading. In the first bend, children will study characters deeply, investigate patterns that reveal deeper traits and motivations, and articulate evidence-based theories. Readers will use those theories to make predictions as they follow their character on a journey that takes the shape of a predictable story, considering the big lessons that characters learn and how those lessons relate to the larger message a story conveys.

This unit continues to support students in the foundational skills that were front and center during the first fiction unit of the year. You'll assess your students' abilities to be resourceful word solvers and teach them how to envision and predict. You will ask students to assess their prediction against the learning progression.

Finally, students will learn to do important compare-and-contrast work. They will compare and contrast not only characters, but also the problems characters encounter and their reactions to those problems. They'll also think about ways setting and themes in similar books are the same and different.

Concept Understanding: Students will learn how to grow ideas about characters as they read. They will back up and refine theories as they accumulate evidence and let those theories become more insightful as they think, read and talk more.

Essential Questions: How can I live inside the world of the story, identifying with the main characters, seeing the world from the person's perspective, and letting all of this, help me predict? How can I get better at checking that I am making sense of what I read, and that I have strategies to use when the text is confusing to me? How do I synthesize my thinking about books and characters and push myself to develop more thematic ideas that relate, not just to one text, but also to life and the world, in general?

Sessions	Writing Standards	Reading Standards	Speaking & Listening Standards	Language Standards
Bend I: Getting to Know a Character as Friend				
1	W.3.3 Target Skills: Narratives	RL.3.1, RL.3.2, RL.3.3 , RL.3.4, RL.3.6 , RL.3.10 Target Skills: Ask and Answer Questions; Central Message, Lesson, or Moral; Characterization; Word and Phrase Meaning; Point of View; Read and Comprehend Grade Level Text	SL.3.1, SL.3.2, SL.3.6 Target Skills: Engage Students in Collaborative Discussions; Main Ideas and Supporting Details; Speaking in Complete Sentences	L.3.1, L.3.3, L.3.4, L.3.6 Target Skills: Grammar and Usage; Language Conventions; Multiple-Meaning Words and Phrases; Spatial and Temporal Relationships Words

		<p>Writing about reading suggested activity Include important details from the content of an informational text</p>		
2	<p>W.3.3</p> <p>Target Skills: Narratives</p>	<p>RL.3.1, RL.3.2, RL.3.3, RL.3.4, RL.3.6, RL.3.10</p> <p>Target Skills: Ask and Answer Questions; Central Message, Lesson, or Moral; Characterization; Word and Phrase Meaning; Point of View; Read and Comprehend Grade Level Text</p> <p>Writing about reading suggested activity Include details that show a character’s traits</p>	<p>SL.3.1, SL.3.2, SL.3.4, SL.3.6</p> <p>Target Skills: Engage Students in Collaborative Discussions; Main Ideas and Supporting Details; Facts and Details; Speaking in Complete Sentences</p>	<p>L.3.1, L.3.3, L.3.6</p> <p>Target Skills: Grammar and Usage; Language Conventions; Spatial and Temporal Relationship Words</p>
3	<p>W.3.3</p> <p>Target Skills: Narratives</p>	<p>RL.3.1, RL.3.2, RL.3.3, RL.3.4, RL.3.6, RL.3.10, RF.3.4</p> <p>Target Skills: Ask and Answer Questions; Central Message, Lesson, or Moral; Characterization; Word and Phrase Meaning; Point of View; Read and Comprehend Grade Level Text; Accuracy and Fluency</p> <p>Writing about reading suggested activity Revisit texts for ideas or to check details when writing or drawing</p>	<p>SL.3.1, SL.3.4, SL.3.6</p> <p>Target Skills: Engage Students in Collaborative Discussions; Facts and Details; Speaking in Complete Sentences</p>	<p>L.3.1, L.3.3, L.3.6</p> <p>Target Skills: Grammar and Usage; Language Conventions; Spatial and Temporal Relationship Words</p>
4	<p>W.3.3, W.3.10</p> <p>Target Skills: Narratives; Discipline-Specific Tasks,</p>	<p>RL.3.1, RL.3.2, RL.3.3, RL.3.4, RL.3.6, RL.3.9, RL.3.10</p> <p>Target Skills: Ask and Answer Questions; Central Message, Lesson, or Moral; Characterization; Word and</p>	<p>SL.3.1, SL.3.2, SL.3.4, SL.3.6</p> <p>Target Skills: Engage Students in Collaborative Discussions;</p>	<p>L.3.1, L.3.2, L.3.3, L.3.6</p> <p>Target Skills: Grammar and Usage; Conventions of Proper English; Language</p>

	Purposes, and Audiences	Phrase Meaning; Point of View; Compare and Contrast; Read and Comprehend Grade Level Text Writing about reading suggested activity Reflect both prior knowledge and evidence from the text in responses to texts	Main Ideas and Supporting Details; Facts and Details; Speaking in Complete Sentences	Conventions; Spatial and Temporal Relationship Words
5	W.3.3 Target Skills: Narratives	RL.3.1, RL.3.2, RL.3.3 , RL.3.5 , RL.3.6, RL.3.10 Target Skills: Ask and Answer Questions; Central Message, Lesson, or Moral; Characterization; Sequence; Point of View; Read and Comprehend Grade Level Text Writing about reading suggested activity List significant events in a story or ideas in an informational text	SL.3.1, SL.3.2, SL.3.4, SL.3.6 Target Skills: Engage Students in Collaborative Discussions; Main Ideas and Supporting Details; Facts and Details; Speaking in Complete Sentences	L.3.1, L.3.3, L.3.6 Target Skills: Grammar and Usage; Language Conventions; Spatial and Temporal Relationship Words
6	W.3.3 Target Skills: Narratives	RL.3.1 , RL.3.2, RL.3.3 , RL.3.4, RL.3.5, RL.3.6, RL.3.9, RL.3.10, RF.3.3, RF.3.4 Target Skills: Ask and Answer Questions; Central Message, Lesson, or Moral; Characterization; Word and Phrase Meaning; Sequence; Point of View; Compare and Contrast; Read and Comprehend Grade Level Text; Grade Level Phonics and Word Analysis; Accuracy and Fluency Writing about reading suggested activity Follow, remember, and discuss a longer series of events in a text	SL.3.1, SL.3.4 , SL.3.6 Target Skills: Engage Students in Collaborative Discussions; Facts and Details; Speaking in Complete Sentences	L.3.1, L.3.3, L.3.6 Target Skills: Grammar and Usage; Language Conventions; Spatial and Temporal Relationship Words

Bend II: Following a Character's Journey				
7	W.3.3 Target Skills: Narratives	RL.3.1, RL.3.2, RL.3.3, RL.3.5, RL.3.6, RL.3.10 Target Skills: Ask and Answer Questions; Central Message, Lesson, or Moral; Characterization; Sequence; Point of View; Read and Comprehend Grade Level Text Writing about reading suggested activity Reflect awareness of the author's underlying messages (themes)	SL.3.1, SL.3.2, SL.3.4, SL.3.6 Target Skills: Engage Students in Collaborative Discussions; Main Ideas and Supporting Details; Facts and Details; Speaking in Complete Sentences	L.3.1, L.3.3, L.3.6 Target Skills: Grammar and Usage; Language Conventions; Spatial and Temporal Relationship Words
8	W.3.3 Target Skills: Narratives	RL.3.1, RL.3.2, RL.3.3, RL.3.5, RL.3.6, RL.3.10 Target Skills: Ask and Answer Questions; Central Message, Lesson, or Moral; Characterization; Sequence; Point of View; Read and Comprehend Grade Level Text Writing about reading suggested activity Describe implications of factual information	SL.3.1, SL.3.6 Target Skills: Engage Students in Collaborative Discussions; Speaking in Complete Sentences	L.3.1, L.3.3, L.3.6 Target Skills: Grammar and Usage; Language Conventions; Spatial and Temporal Relationship Words
9	W.3.3 Target Skills: Narratives	RL.3.1, RL.3.2, RL.3.3, RL.3.5, RL.3.6, RL.3.9, RL.3.10 Target Skills: Ask and Answer Questions; Central Message, Lesson, or Moral; Characterization; Sequence; Point of View; Compare and Contrast; Read and Comprehend Grade Level Text	SL.3.1, SL.3.4, SL.3.6 Target Skills: Engage Students in Collaborative Discussions; Facts and Details; Speaking in Complete Sentences	L.3.1, L.3.3, L.3.6 Target Skills: Grammar and Usage; Language Conventions; Spatial and Temporal Relationship Words

		<p>Writing about reading suggested activity Provide evidence from the text or from personal experience to support written statements about a text</p>		
10	<p>W.3.3</p> <p>Target Skills: Narratives</p>	<p>RL.3.1, RL.3.2, RL.3.3, RL.3.4, RL.3.7, RL.3.10</p> <p>Target Skills: Ask and Answer Questions; Central Message, Lesson, or Moral; Characterization; Word and Phrase Meaning; Illustrations Contribute to Story; Read and Comprehend Grade Level Text</p> <p>Writing about reading suggested activity Express connections to prior knowledge, to other texts, and to personal background or experience</p>	<p>SL.3.1, SL.3.2, SL.3.4, SL.3.6</p> <p>Target Skills: Engage Students in Collaborative Discussions; Main Ideas and Supporting Details; Facts and Details; Speaking in Complete Sentences</p>	<p>L.3.1, L.3.3, L.3.4, L.3.6</p> <p>Target Skills: Grammar and Usage; Language Conventions; Multiple Meaning Words and Phrases; Spatial and Temporal Relationship Words</p>
11	<p>W.3.3</p> <p>Target Skills: Narratives</p>	<p>RL.3.1, RL.3.2, RL.3.3, RL.3.4, RL.3.5, RL.3.6, RL.3.10</p> <p>Target Skills: Ask and Answer Questions; Central Message, Lesson, or Moral; Characterization; Word and Phrase Meaning; Sequence; Point of View; Read and Comprehend Grade Level Text</p> <p>Writing about reading suggested activity Write or draw about something in the reader's own life when prompted by a text</p>	<p>SL.3.1, SL.3.2, SL.3.4, SL.3.6</p> <p>Target Skills: Engage Students in Collaborative Discussions; Main Ideas and Supporting Details; Facts and Details; Speaking in Complete Sentences</p>	<p>L.3.1, L.3.3, L.3.6</p> <p>Target Skills: Grammar and Usage; Language Conventions; Spatial and Temporal Relationship Words</p>

12	<p>W.3.3</p> <p>Target Skills: Narratives</p>	<p>RL.3.1, RL.3.2, RL.3.3, RL.3.5, RL.3.6, RL.3.10</p> <p>Target Skills: Ask and Answer Questions; Central message, Lesson, or Moral; Characterization; Sequence; Point of View; Read and Comprehend Grade Level Text</p> <p>Writing about reading suggested activity Predict logically, supported by evidence, what will happen in a text or what a character will do</p>	<p>SL.3.1, SL.3.2, SL.3.4, SL.3.6</p> <p>Target Skills: Engage Students in Collaborative Discussions; Main Ideas and Supporting Details; Facts and Details; Speaking in Complete Sentences</p>	<p>L.3.1, L.3.3, L.3.6</p> <p>Target Skills: Grammar and Usage; Language Conventions; Spatial and Temporal Relationship Words</p>
13	<p>W.3.3</p> <p>Target Skills: Narratives</p>	<p>RL.3.1, RL.3.2, RL.3.3, RL.3.5, RL.3.6, RL.3.9, RL.3.10</p> <p>Target Skills: Ask and Answer Questions; Central Message, Lesson, or Moral; Characterization; Sequence; Point of View; Compare and Contrast; Read and Comprehend Grade Level Text</p> <p>Writing about reading suggested activity Describe or illustrate characters' feelings and motivations, inferring them from the text</p>	<p>SL.3.1, SL.3.2, SL.3.4, SL.3.6</p> <p>Target Skills: Engage Students in Collaborative Discussions; Main Ideas and Supporting Details; Facts and Details; Speaking in Complete Sentences</p>	<p>L.3.1, L.3.3, L.3.4, L.3.6</p> <p>Target Skills: Grammar and Usage; Language Conventions; Multiple Meaning Words and Phrases; Spatial and Temporal Relationship Words</p>
14	<p>W.3.3</p> <p>Target Skills: Narratives</p>	<p>RL.3.1, RL.3.2, RL.3.3, RL.3.4, RL.3.6, RL.3.7, RL.3.10</p> <p>Target Skills: Ask and Answer Questions; Central Message, Lesson, or Moral; Characterization; Word and Phrase Meaning; Point of View; Illustration to</p>	<p>SL.3.1, SL.3.2, SL.3.4, SL.3.6</p> <p>Target Skills: Engage Students in Collaborative Discussions; Main Ideas and Supporting Details; Facts and Details;</p>	<p>L.3.1, L.3.3, L.3.6</p> <p>Target Skills: Grammar and Usage; Language Conventions; Spatial and Temporal Relationship Words</p>

		Contribute to Story; Read and Comprehend Grade Level Text Writing about reading suggested activity Infer characters' feelings and motivations and include evidence from the text to support thinking	Speaking in Complete Sentences	
Bend III: Comparing and Contrasting Characters Across Books				
15	W.3.3 Target Skills: Narratives	RL.3.1, RL.3.2, RL.3.3, RL.3.4, RL.3.6, RL.3.9, RL.3.10 Target Skills: Ask and Answer Questions; Central Message, Lesson, or Moral; Characterization; Word and Phrase Meaning; Point of View; Compare and Contrast; Read and Comprehend Grade Level Text Writing about reading suggested activity Show awareness of temporal sequence, compare and contrast, and cause and effect, and problem-solution	SL.3.1, SL.3.4, SL.3.6 Target Skills: Engage Students in Collaborative Discussions; Facts and Details; Speaking in Complete Sentences	L.3.1, L.3.3 , L.3.4, L.3.5 , L.3.6 Target Skills: Grammar and Usage; Language Conventions; Multiple Meaning Words and Phrases; Figurative Language; Spatial and Temporal Relationship Words
16	W.3.3 Target Skills: Narratives	RL.3.1, RL.3.2, RL.3.3, RL.3.9, RL.3.10 Target Skills: Ask and Answer Questions; Central Message, Lesson, or Moral; Characterization; Compare and Contrast; Read and Comprehend Grade Level Text	SL.3.1, SL.3.2, SL.3.3, SL.3.4, SL.3.6 Target Skills: Engage Students in Collaborative Discussions; Main Ideas and Supporting Details; Ask and Answer	L.3.1, L.3.3, L.3.6 Target Skills: Grammar and Usage; Language Conventions; Spatial and Temporal Relationship Words

		<p>Writing about reading suggested activity Identify and record the genre of a text (realistic and historical fiction, fantasy, traditional literature, biography, informational)</p>	<p>Questions; Facts and Details; Speaking in Complete Sentences</p>	
17	<p>W.3.3</p> <p>Target Skills: Narratives</p>	<p>RL.3.1, RL.3.2, RL.3.3, RL.3.4, RL.3.5, RL.3.6, RL.3.9, RL.3.10</p> <p>Target Skills: Ask and Answer Questions; Central Message, Lesson, or Moral; Characterization; Word and Phrase Meaning; Sequence; Point of View; Compare and Contrast; Read and Comprehend Grade Level Text</p> <p>Writing about reading suggested activity Select examples of the writer's use of language and write opinions about or responses to that language</p>	<p>SL.3.1, SL.3.4, SL.3.6</p> <p>Target Skills: Engage Students in Collaborative Discussions; Facts and Details; Speaking in Complete Sentences</p>	<p>L.3.1, L.3.3, L.3.6</p> <p>Target Skills: Grammar and Usage; Language Conventions; Spatial and Temporal Relationship Words</p>
18	<p>W.3.3</p> <p>Target Skills: Narratives</p>	<p>RL.3.1, RL.3.2, RL.3.3, RL.3.5, RL.3.9, RL.3.10</p> <p>Target Skills: Ask and Answer Questions; Central Message, Lesson, or Moral; Characterization; Sequence; Compare and Contrast; read and comprehend Grade Level Text</p> <p>Writing about reading suggested activity Notice and write the moral lesson of a text</p>	<p>SL.3.1, SL.3.4, SL.3.6</p> <p>Target Skills: Engage Students in Collaborative Discussions; Facts and Details; Speaking in Complete Sentences</p>	<p>L.3.1, L.3.3, L.3.6</p> <p>Target Skills: Grammar and Usage; Language Conventions; Spatial and Temporal Relationship Words</p>