

This is more than a unit on information reading - **it is a Unit on RESEARCH**. The work your students undertake in this unit will be challenging, but has the power to change their lives. To begin, students form clubs to study an animal. They will preview a collection of texts on their animal, then each club member will read about a subtopic across several books, developing background knowledge, first by reading easier texts, then progressing to more challenging texts. You will teach club members to synthesize and organize what each of them is learning individually, using the learning progression to ratchet up their skill levels as they read for the main idea and engage in cross-text synthesis. At the end of the unit, clubs transfer what they learned into the study of a second animal. Eventually you will teach children to compare and contrast across animals and apply their newly acquired knowledge to solve real world problems.

Concept Understanding: Students begin to read, record, cumulate and think about the information they are studying. Students become confident enough to teach others about what they have learned.

Essential Questions: How do I use resources to organize information on the topic I am learning about? How can I gain ideas about nonfiction text by paying close attention to the traits, motivations and/or struggles of my subject? How can I use text structures to help organize my notes and my learning? When studying nonfiction, what are some patterns and relationships I should look for? What types of questions do I need to ask when I research the similarities and differences between things?

Sessions	Writing Standards	Reading Standards	Speaking & Listening Standards	Language Standards
Bend I: Researching A Topic				
1	W.3.2, W.3.4, W.3.7, W.3.8 Write informative/explanatory text to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly; Produce grade-level writing with appropriate task and purpose; Conduct short research project that build knowledge about a topic; Recall information from experiences;	RF.3.3, RF.3.4, RI.3.1, RI.3.2, RI.3.3, RI.3.5, RI.3.7 , RI.3.10 Know and apply grade-level phonics; Read with accuracy and fluency; Ask and answer questions; Determine the main idea of a text; Describe the relationship between a series of historical events, scientific ideas or concepts; Use text features to locate information; Use illustrations to gain information; Read and comprehend grade level informational text.	SL.3.1, SL.3.4, Engage in collaborative discussions; Report on a topic with facts and details	L.3.3, Use knowledge of language when writing, speaking, reading, or listening;

		<p>Writing about reading suggested activity Follow, remember, and discuss a longer series of events in a text (including fast moving adventure series)</p>		
2	<p>W.3.2, W.3.7, W.3.8, W.3.10 Write informative/explanatory text to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly; Conduct short research project that build knowledge about a topic; Recall information from experiences; Write for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes and audiences.</p>	<p>RI.3.1, RI.3.2, RI.3.3, RI.3.5, RI.3.7, RI.3.9, RI.3.10 Ask and answer questions; Determine the main idea of a text; Describe the relationship between a series of historical events, scientific ideas or concepts; Use text features to locate information; Use illustrations to gain information; Compare and contrast the most important points and details in a text; Read and comprehend grade level informational text.</p> <p>Writing about reading suggested activity Write summaries reflecting understanding of graphic features (labels, heading, subheading, sidebar, legends)</p>	<p>SL.3.1, Engage in collaborative discussions</p>	<p>L.3.1, L.3.2, L.3.3, L.3.6 Demonstrate command of English grammar and usage; Demonstrate command of capitalization, punctuation and spelling; Use knowledge of language when writing, speaking, reading, or listening; Use accurate grade-appropriate words and phrases</p>
3	<p>W.3.2, W.3.7, W.3.8, W.3.10 Write informative/explanatory text to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly; Conduct short research project that build knowledge about a topic; Recall information from experiences; Write for a</p>	<p>RI.3.1, RI.3.2, RI.3.3, RI.3.5, RI.3.7, RI.3.9, RI.3.10 Ask and answer questions; Determine the main idea of a text; Describe the relationship between a series of historical events, scientific ideas or concepts; Use text features to locate information; Use illustrations to gain information; Compare and contrast the most important points and details in a text; Read and comprehend grade level informational text.</p>	<p>SL.3.1, SL.3.6 Engage in collaborative discussions; Speak in complete sentences</p>	<p>L.3.1, L.3.2, L.3.3, L.3.6 Demonstrate command of English grammar and usage; Demonstrate command of capitalization, punctuation and spelling; Use knowledge of language when writing, speaking, reading, or listening; Use accurate</p>

	range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes and audiences.	Writing about reading suggested activity Accurately reflect information from a text		grade-appropriate words and phrases
4	W.3.2, W.3.7, W.3.8, Write informative/ explanatory text to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly; Conduct short research project that build knowledge about a topic; Recall information from experiences;	RI.3.1, RI.3.2, RI.3.3, RI.3.4 , RI.3.5, RI.3.7, RI.3.9, Ask and answer questions; Determine the main idea of a text; Describe the relationship between a series of historical events, scientific ideas or concepts; Use text features to locate information; Use illustrations to gain information; Compare and contrast the most important points and details in a text Writing about reading suggested activity Include appropriate and important details when summarizing texts	SL.3.1, SL.3.4, Engage in collaborative discussions; Report on a topic with facts and details	L.3.3, L.3.4 , L.3.5, L.3.6 Use knowledge of language when writing, speaking, reading, or listening; Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown words; Use accurate grade- appropriate words and phrases
5	W.3.2, W.3.7, W.3.8, Write informative/ explanatory text to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly; Conduct short research project that build knowledge about a topic; Recall information from experiences;	RI.3.1, RI.3.2, RI.3.3, RI.3.5, Ask and answer questions; Determine the main idea of a text; Describe the relationship between a series of historical events, scientific ideas or concepts; Use text features to locate information Writing about reading suggested activity Write summaries reflecting understanding of graphic features (labels, heading, subheading, sidebar, legends)	SL.3.1 , SL.3.4, SL.3.6 Engage in collaborative discussions; Report on a topic with facts and details; Speak in complete sentences	L.3.1, L.3.2, L.3.3, L.3.6 Demonstrate command of English grammar and usage; Demonstrate command of capitalization, punctuation and spelling; Use knowledge of language when writing, speaking, reading, or listening; Use accurate grade-appropriate words and phrases

6	<p>W.3.2, W.3.4, W.3.7, W.3.8, W.3.10</p> <p>Write informative/ explanatory text to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly;</p> <p>Produce grade-level writing with appropriate task and purpose;</p> <p>Conduct short research project that build knowledge about a topic;</p> <p>Recall information from experiences; Write for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes and audiences.</p>	<p>RL.3.4, RI.3.1, RI.3.2, RI.3.5, RI.3.6</p> <p>Determine the meaning of words and phrases; Ask and answer questions; Determine the main idea of a text; Use text features to locate information; Distinguish point of view</p> <p>Writing about reading suggested activity</p> <p>Use new vocabulary words appropriately to reflect meaning</p>	<p>SL.3.1, SL.3.2, SL.3.3, SL.3.6</p> <p>Engage in collaborative discussions; Determine main idea and details of a text; Ask and answer questions; Speak in complete sentences</p>	<p>L.3.1, L.3.2, L.3.3, L.3.6</p> <p>Demonstrate command of English grammar and usage; Demonstrate command of capitalization, punctuation and spelling; Use knowledge of language when writing, speaking, reading, or listening; Use accurate grade-appropriate words and phrases</p>
Bend II: A Second Cycle of Research				
7	<p>W.3.2, W.3.7, W.3.8,</p> <p>Write informative/ explanatory text to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly;</p> <p>Conduct short research project that build knowledge about a topic;</p> <p>Recall information from experiences;</p>	<p>RI.3.1, RI.3.2, RI.3.6, RI.3.8, RI.3.9, RI.3.10</p> <p>Ask and answer questions; Determine the main idea of a text; Distinguish point of view; Describe the logical connection between sentences and paragraphs in a text; Compare and contrast the most important points and details in a text; Read and comprehend grade level informational text.</p> <p>Writing about reading suggested activity</p> <p>Provide evidence from the text or from personal experience to support written statements about a text</p>	<p>SL.3.1, SL.3.2, SL.3.6</p> <p>Engage in collaborative discussions; Determine main idea and details of a text; Speak in complete sentences</p>	<p>L.3.3, L.3.6</p> <p>Use knowledge of language when writing, speaking, reading, or listening; Use accurate grade-appropriate words and phrases</p>

8	<p>W.3.2, W.3.5, W.3.7, W.3.8, Write informative/ explanatory text to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly; Develop and strengthen writing by planning, revising and editing; Conduct short research project that build knowledge about a topic; Recall information from experiences;</p>	<p>RI.3.1, RI.3.2, RI.3.5, RI.3.7, RI.3.10 Ask and answer questions; Determine the main idea of a text; Use text features to locate information; Use illustrations to gain information; Read and comprehend grade level informational 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.3.4, SL.3.6 Engage in collaborative discussions; Report on a topic with facts and details; Speak in complete sentences</p>	<p>L.3.3, L.3.6 Use knowledge of language when writing, speaking, reading, or listening; Use accurate grade-appropriate words and phrases</p>
9	<p>W.3.2, W.3.7, W.3.8, Write informative/ explanatory text to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly; Conduct short research project that build knowledge about a topic; Recall information from experiences;</p>	<p>RF.3.3, RF.3.4, RI.3.1, RI.3.2, RI.3.3 Know and apply grade-level phonics; Read with accuracy and fluency; Ask and answer questions; Describe the relationship between a series of historical events, scientific ideas or concepts</p> <p>Writing about reading suggested activity Write or draw about something in the readers' own life when prompted by a text</p>	<p>SL.3.1, SL.3.2, SL.3.3, SL.3.4, SL.3.6 Engage in collaborative discussions; Determine main idea and details of a text; Ask and answer questions; Report on a topic with facts and details; Speak in complete sentences</p>	<p>L.3.3, L.3.6 Use knowledge of language when writing, speaking, reading, or listening; Use accurate grade-appropriate words and phrases</p>
10	<p>W.3.2, W.3.7, W.3.8, Write informative/ explanatory text to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly; Conduct short research</p>	<p>RI.3.1, RI.3.2, RI.3.5, RI.3.7, RI.3.8 Ask and answer questions; Determine the main idea of a text; Use text features to locate information; Use illustrations to gain information; Describe the logical connection between sentences and paragraphs in a text</p>	<p>SL.3.1, Engage in collaborative discussions</p>	<p>L.3.1, L.3.2, L.3.3, L.3.6 Demonstrate command of English grammar and usage; Demonstrate command of capitalization, punctuation and spelling;</p>

	project that build knowledge about a topic; Recall information from experiences;	Writing about reading suggested activity Predict logically, supported by evidence, what will happen next in a text or what a character will do		Use knowledge of language when writing, speaking, reading, or listening; Use accurate grade-appropriate words and phrases
11	W.3.2, W.3.7, W.3.8, Write informative/ explanatory text to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly; Conduct short research project that build knowledge about a topic; Recall information from experiences;	RI.3.1, RI.3.2, RI.3.3, RI.3.8, RI.3.9 , Ask and answer questions; Determine the main idea of a text; Describe the relationship between a series of historical events, scientific ideas or concepts; Describe the logical connection between sentences and paragraphs in a text; Compare and contrast the most important points and details in a text Writing about reading suggested activity Describe or illustrate characters' feelings and motivations, inferring them from the text	SL.3.1, SL.3.2, SL.3.3 , Engage in collaborative discussions; Determine main idea and details of a text; Ask and answer questions	L.3.1, L.3.2, L.3.3, L.3.6 Demonstrate command of English grammar and usage; Demonstrate command of capitalization, punctuation and spelling; Use knowledge of language when writing, speaking, reading, or listening; Use accurate grade-appropriate words and phrases
12	W.3.2, W.3.7, W.3.8, Write informative/ explanatory text to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly; Conduct short research project that build knowledge about a topic; Recall information from experiences;	RI.3.1, RI.3.2, RI.3.3, RI.3.4, RI.3.8 , RI.3.9, Ask and answer questions; Determine the main idea of a text; Describe the relationship between a series of historical events, scientific ideas or concepts; Describe the logical connection between sentences and paragraphs in a text; Compare and contrast the most important points and details in a text Writing about reading suggested activity Infer characters' feelings and motivations and include evidence from the text to	SL.3.1, Engage in collaborative discussions	L.3.1, L.3.2, L.3.3, L.3.4, L.3.6 Demonstrate command of English grammar and usage; Use knowledge of language when writing, speaking, reading, or listening; Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown words; Use accurate grade-appropriate words and phrases

		support thinking		
Bend III: Synthesizing, Comparing, and Contrasting				
13	W.3.2, W.3.7, W.3.8, Write informative/ explanatory text to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly; Conduct short research project that build knowledge about a topic; Recall information from experiences;	RI.3.1, RI.3.2, RI.3.3, RI.3.9, RI.3.10 Ask and answer questions; Determine the main idea of a text; Describe the relationship between a series of historical events, scientific ideas or concepts; Compare and contrast the most important points and details in a text; Read and comprehend grade level informational text. Writing about reading suggested activity Describe the relationship between illustrations and text	SL.3.1, SL.3.3, Engage in collaborative discussions; Ask and answer questions	L.3.3, L.3.6 Use knowledge of language when writing, speaking, reading, or listening; Use accurate grade-appropriate words and phrases
14	W.3.2, W.3.7, W.3.8, Write informative/ explanatory text to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly; Conduct short research project that build knowledge about a topic; Recall information from experiences;	RI.3.1, RI.3.2, RI.3.3, RI.3.5, RI.3.8, RI.3.9, RI.3.10 Ask and answer questions; Determine the main idea of a text; Describe the relationship between a series of historical events, scientific ideas or concepts; Use text features to locate information; Describe the logical connection between sentences and paragraphs in a text; Compare and contrast the most important points and details in a text; Read and comprehend grade level informational text. Writing about reading suggested activity Write opinions about a text and back them up with specific information or reasons	SL.3.1, SL.3.3, Engage in collaborative discussions; Ask and answer questions	L.3.3, L.3.4, L.3.6 Use knowledge of language when writing, speaking, reading, or listening; Use accurate grade-appropriate words and phrases

15	<p>W.3.2, W.3.5, W.3.7, W.3.8, Write informative/ explanatory text to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly; Develop and strengthen writing by planning, revising and editing; Conduct short research project that build knowledge about a topic; Recall information from experiences;</p>	<p>RI.3.1, RI.3.2, RI.3.3, RI.3.4, RI.3.5, RI.3.7, RI.3.8, RI.3.9, RF3.3, RF.3.4 Ask and answer questions; Determine the main idea of a text; Describe the relationship between a series of historical events, scientific ideas or concepts; Use text features to locate information; Use illustrations to gain information; Describe the logical connection between sentences and paragraphs in a text; Compare and contrast the most important points and details in a text; Know and apply grade-level phonics; Read with accuracy and fluency</p> <p>Writing about reading suggested activity Show how a text is organized (narrative and expository)</p>	<p>SL.3.1, SL.3.6 Engage in collaborative discussions; Speak in complete sentences</p>	<p>L.3.3, Use knowledge of language when writing, speaking, reading, or listening;</p>
16	<p>W.3.2, W.3.7, W.3.8, Write informative/ explanatory text to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly; Conduct short research project that build knowledge about a topic; Recall information from experiences;</p>	<p>RI.3.1, RI.3.2, RI.3.3, Ask and answer questions; Determine the main idea of a text; Describe the relationship between a series of historical events, scientific ideas or concepts</p> <p>Writing about reading suggested activity Show awareness of temporal sequence, compare and contrast, cause and effect, and problem-solution</p>	<p>SL.3.1, Engage in collaborative discussions</p>	<p>L.3.3, Use knowledge of language when writing, speaking, reading, or listening;</p>
17	<p>W.3.2, W.3.7, W.3.8, Write informative/ explanatory text to examine a topic and</p>	<p>RI.3.1, RI.3.2, RI.3.3, RI.3.6, RI.3.8, RI.3.9, Ask and answer questions; Determine the main idea of a text; Describe the relationship between a series of historical events,</p>	<p>SL.3.1, SL.3.2, Engage in collaborative discussions; Determine main idea and details of a text</p>	<p>L.3.3, Use knowledge of language when writing,</p>

	<p>convey ideas and information clearly; Conduct short research project that build knowledge about a topic; Recall information from experiences;</p>	<p>scientific ideas or concepts; Distinguish point of view; Describe the logical connection between sentences and paragraphs in a text; Compare and contrast the most important points and details in a text</p> <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>speaking, reading, or listening;</p>
18	<p>W.3.2, W.3.7, W.3.8, Write informative/ explanatory text to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly; Conduct short research project that build knowledge about a topic; Recall information from experiences;</p>	<p>RI.3.1, RI.3.2, RI.3.3, RI.3.4, Ask and answer questions; Determine the main idea of a text; Describe the relationship between a series of historical events, scientific ideas or concepts</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.3.3, Engage in collaborative discussions; Ask and answer questions</p>	<p>L.3.3, L.3.4, L.3.6 Use knowledge of language when writing, speaking, reading, or listening; Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown words; Use accurate grade-appropriate words and phrases</p>
19	<p>W.3.2, W.3.5, W.3.6, W.3.7, W.3.8, Write informative/ explanatory text to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly; Develop and strengthen writing by planning, revising and editing;</p>	<p>RI.3.1, RI.3.2, RI.3.3, Ask and answer questions; Determine the main idea of a text; Describe the relationship between a series of historical events, scientific ideas or concepts</p> <p>Writing about reading suggested activity Follow, remember, and discuss a longer series of events in a text (including fast</p>	<p>SL.3.1, SL.3.6 Engage in collaborative discussions; Speak in complete sentences</p>	<p>L.3.3, Use knowledge of language when writing, speaking, reading, or listening;</p>

	Conduct short research project that build knowledge about a topic; Recall information from experiences;	moving adventure series)		
20	W.3.2, W.3.7, W.3.8, Write informative/ explanatory text to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly; Conduct short research project that build knowledge about a topic; Recall information from experiences;	RI.3.1, RI.3.2, RI.3.3, Ask and answer questions; Determine the main idea of a text; Describe the relationship between a series of historical events, scientific ideas or concepts Writing about reading suggested activity Include appropriate and important details when summarizing texts	SL.3.1, SL.3.4, SL.3.5, SL.3.6 Engage in collaborative discussions; Report on a topic with facts and details; Create engaging audio recordings of a story or poem; Speak in complete sentences	L.3.3, Use knowledge of language when writing, speaking, reading, or listening;

***Bold indicates major emphasis**