



STORYWORKS®

Storyworks® Meets Common Core State Standards



Storyworks is aligned to the Common Core State Standards. This language arts magazine supports anchor standards in English Language Arts. Using these magazines as authentic texts will also help you meet key standards in Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening, and Language.

Anchor Standards for Reading

Storyworks

Key Ideas and Details

1

Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.

- Every Student Edition features enticing content for students to read, including narrative nonfiction, original fiction, Readers Theater plays, poetry, debates, mysteries, and compare & contrast nonfiction articles.
- “Up Close” boxes at the beginning of major features help students set a purpose for reading and look for specific textual evidence as they read.
- Writing prompts at the end of major features guide students to make inferences and use textual evidence to write a paragraph about the feature.
- “Sentence Chef” activities following nonfiction features guide students to use details from text to support an argument.
- Compare & contrast features in the Student Edition prompt students to cite text evidence to identify similarities and differences.
- Online material accompanying the compare & contrast features prompts students to cite textual evidence to compare content and genres, and to write essays.
- “Micro-Mystery” features in the Student Edition provide opportunities for students to make inferences and cite details to support conclusions.
- Debate features in the Student Edition prompt students to identify supporting evidence on each side of a debate.
- Online “Debate Essay” kit guides students to write an essay using textual evidence and drawing a conclusion.
- Lesson plans in the Teacher’s Guide include critical-thinking and discussion questions that prompt students to use comprehension strategies, including making inferences, citing details from text, identifying the main idea, comparing and contrasting, and drawing conclusions.
- Lesson plans in the Teacher’s Guide include extension activities that prompt students to speak and write about texts.
- Reading comprehension quizzes—available in both interactive and non-interactive formats—reinforce comprehension strategies, such as making inferences, drawing conclusions, and identifying supporting details.
- Up to 20 printable activity sheets for each issue are available online. These focus on specific reading strategies for each feature in the magazine.

Key Ideas and Details

2

Determine central ideas or themes of a text and analyze their development; summarize the key supporting details and ideas.

- “Up Close” boxes at the beginning of major features set a purpose for reading, often prompting students to identify central ideas or themes.
- Writing prompts at the end of major features ask students to write a paragraph identifying elements such as theme.
- Lesson plans in the Teacher’s Guide include critical-thinking and discussion questions and extension activities that ask students to discuss themes and provide examples to support their ideas.
- Digital lesson plans focus on central ideas within one feature or bridging multiple features.
- Printable activity sheets available online guide students to identify central ideas or themes of stories and to use text evidence to support their ideas.

3

Analyze how and why individuals, events, and ideas develop and interact over the course of a text.

- High-interest nonfiction articles, original fiction, and plays provide ideal material for students to analyze individuals, events, and ideas, and how they interact.
- “Up Close” boxes and writing prompts on major features guide students to analyze how elements within a text affect each other.
- Informational sidebars add insights and perspectives to various elements of the text.
- Lesson plans in the Teacher’s Guide focus on critical thinking and analyzing elements such as character and plot.
- Printable “Reading and Thinking” activity sheets provide scaffolded support for students to analyze nonfiction and fiction texts; these activity sheets are available in basic and advanced versions.

Craft and Structure

4

Interpret words and phrases as they are used in a text, including determining technical, connotative, and figurative meanings, and analyze how specific word choices shape meaning or tone.

- Vocabulary words are highlighted in bold in major features and defined in the Teacher’s Guide; students are prompted to find these “Word Nerd” words.
- “Word Nerd’s Word Workout,” available online, reinforces vocabulary words.
- A crossword puzzle available online for each issue reinforces vocabulary words.
- Teachers can prompt students to determine the meanings of challenging words through context.
- Every Student Edition includes “Vocab Lab,” which has fun activities to help students interpret and use new vocabulary words in context.
- “Scavenger Hunt” features in the Student Edition guide students to identify literary devices in text.
- Lesson plans in the Teacher’s Guide ask students to analyze word choice when appropriate

Craft and Structure

5

Analyze the structure of texts, including how specific sentences, paragraphs, and larger portions of the text (e.g., a section, chapter, scene, or stanza) relate to each other and the whole.

6

Assess how point of view or purpose shapes the content and style of a text.

Integration of Knowledge and Ideas

7

Integrate and evaluate content presented in diverse formats and media, including visually and quantitatively, as well as in words.

8

Delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, including the validity of the reasoning as well as the relevance and sufficiency of the evidence.

- Features in the Student Edition offer varying text structures, including sequence, cause & effect, problem & solution, and compare & contrast.
- Text features such as headlines, subheads, and genre labels help students comprehend text structure.
- Every issue includes two poems by highly regarded poets; lesson plans and writing prompts help students understand poetry structures.
- Lesson plans in the Teacher's Guide focus on important reading skills, such as determining the importance of specific parts of a text.

- Student Edition features include first- and third-person accounts and stories, as well as objective and persuasive pieces.
- "Up Close" boxes prompt readers to look for elements like author's purpose and point of view.
- Paired texts in the Student Edition let readers look at one topic in two different genres, such as nonfiction and poetry, or from different points of view.
- Lesson plans in the Teacher's Guide teach essential reading skills, such as identifying author's purpose and point of view.
- Extension activities in the Teacher's Guide ask students to rewrite a story from a different point of view.
- Printable activity sheets available online focus on point of view and author's purpose.

- The Student Editions incorporate photographs, illustrations, maps, charts, graphs, and sidebars to enhance texts.
- Digital lesson plans integrate video, audio, photographs, and text.
- Lessons in the Teacher's Guide guide students to conduct research using a variety of media.
- Extension activities in the Teacher's Guide ask students to interpret text visually or in other media.
- Links to relevant websites are available online for all major features.

- Debate features in the Student Edition present two sides of an issue and ask students to evaluate them.
- The online "Debate Essay" kit guides students to evaluate arguments and support opinions with text evidence.
- Lesson plans in the Teacher's Guide ask students to practice skills such as analyzing author's purpose and point of view.

Anchor Standards for Reading

Storyworks

Integration of Knowledge and Ideas

9

Analyze how two or more texts address similar themes or topics in order to build knowledge or to compare the approaches the authors take.

- Compare & contrast features pair texts of the same or different genres that share a topic or theme.
- The online compare & contrast supporting material guides students to identify similarities and differences and write an essay comparing two texts.
- Thematic connections can sometimes be made between features in one issue, such as the fiction and nonfiction features.
- Features in the Student Edition are sometimes paired with a text online.
- Lessons in the Teacher's Guide guide students to make connections between texts.

Range of Reading and Level of Text Complexity

10

Read and comprehend complex literary and informational texts independently and proficiently.

- *Storyworks* presents a wide range of texts, including nonfiction, fiction, plays, poetry, and debates.

Anchor Standards for Writing

Storyworks

Text Types and Purposes

1

Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.

- All major Student Edition features conclude with writing prompts that require students to support claims with textual evidence.
- Several writing contests per issue motivate students to respond to writing prompts.
- "Reviews by You" encourages students to write book reviews, supporting their opinions with details from texts.
- "Sentence Chef" activities for nonfiction articles guide students to use details from text to support an argument.
- Teacher's Guide lesson plans include extension activities and writing prompts to develop writing and reasoning skills.
- Online essay kits provide scaffolded support for students to write opinion and compare & contrast essays in response to Student Edition articles.
- Printable activity sheets available online help students practice specific writing and reasoning skills, such as identifying cause & effect, problem & solution, and fact & opinion.

Text Types and Purposes

2

Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.

- Writing prompts and contests in the Student Edition ask students to produce clear, thoughtful, and effective paragraphs.
- Extension activities and writing prompts in the Teacher's Guide let students practice clarity and organization in writing.
- Online essay kits guide students to select and organize ideas to include in various types of essays.

3

Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, well-chosen details, and well-structured event sequences.

- Teacher's Guide writing prompts ask students to write personal narratives and creative stories relating to articles they have read.
- Printable activity sheets available online help students practice specific writing skills and techniques.

Production and Distribution of Writing

4

Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

- Writing prompts throughout the Student and Teacher's Guides provide many opportunities for students to practice clear and coherent writing on interesting topics.
- Extension activities in the Teacher's Guide create varied tasks and hypothetical audiences; for example, writing a letter to a friend, an editorial for a newspaper, a journal entry in the voice of a fictional character, etc.
- Online "Debate Essay" kits guide students to write persuasively.

5

Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach.

- Writing activities in the Student Edition, Teacher's Guide, and online can be further developed by following the steps of the writing process.
- Articles in the Student Edition can be used as exemplar texts of published writing.

6

Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing and to interact and collaborate with others.

- Digital lesson plans, designed specifically for use on an interactive whiteboard or with a projector, integrate a variety of media, including links to websites, and conclude with students performing a writing task.
- Extension activities prompt students to use technology to research and write about a topic.
- Teachers can adapt writing prompts to use on class web pages and wikis.

Anchor Standards for Writing

Storyworks

7

Research to Build and Present Knowledge

Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects based on focused questions, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation.

- Critical-thinking and discussion questions in the Teacher's Guide ask students to search within articles for answers to probing questions.
- Extension activities in the Teacher's Guide ask students to conduct more in-depth research on a topic presented in the magazine, using a variety of sources.

8

Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, assess the credibility and accuracy of each source, and integrate the information while avoiding plagiarism.

- Digital lesson plans present magazine articles along with related print and digital sources and ask students to integrate what they have gleaned from the sources in discussion and writing.
- Links to relevant websites can be found online for each issue.
- Writing prompts, extension activities, and printable activity sheets help students determine author's purpose, which can shed light on the credibility of a source.

9

Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.

- Student Edition articles are high-interest informational and literary texts from which students can draw evidence for a variety of writing assignments.

Range of Writing

10

Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of tasks, purposes, and audiences.

- The writing prompts and activities in the Student and Teacher's Guides and online can be used during instruction to write for a wide variety of purposes.

Anchor Standards for Speaking and Listening

Storyworks

1

Comprehension and Collaboration

Prepare for and participate effectively in a range of conversations and collaborations with diverse partners, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.

- Articles in the Student Edition lend themselves to discussions, which can be held as a class, in small groups, or in partnerships.
- Critical-thinking and discussion questions in the Teacher's Guide guide discussions with probing questions.
- Debate features in the Student Edition can be used to stage classroom debates or informal conversations in various group formats.

Comprehension and Collaboration

2

Integrate and evaluate information presented in diverse media and formats, including visually, quantitatively, and orally.

- Student Edition features include photographs, maps, charts, graphs, and related sidebars.
- Illustrations by acclaimed children’s illustrators enhance fiction, plays, and poetry.
- Digital lesson plans augment information from *Storyworks* articles with video and audio clips and still images.
- Readers Theater plays let students read text aloud while others listen.

3

Evaluate a speaker’s point of view, reasoning, and use of evidence and rhetoric.

- Articles and critical-thinking and discussion questions can be used to spark moderated discussion among students.
- Debate features can be used to stage classroom debates or informal conversations in various group formats. Listeners can identify a speaker’s reasons and evidence for an argument.

Presentation of Knowledge and Ideas

4

Present information, findings, and supporting evidence such that listeners can follow the line of reasoning and the organization, development, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

- Extension activities in the Teacher’s Guide ask students to present findings on a topic to their classmates.
- Topics covered in the Student Edition can be used as springboards for oral presentations about specific topics.

5

Make strategic use of digital media and visual displays of data to express information and enhance understanding of presentations.

- Extension activities in the Teacher’s Guide prompt students to interpret ideas and information visually; for example, in a poster or brochure.
- Digital lesson plans can be used as examples of digital media in presentations.
- Online activity sheets can be used with interactive whiteboards so students can explain their reasoning to the class as they complete them.

6

Adapt speech to a variety of contexts and communicative tasks, demonstrating command of formal English when indicated or appropriate.

- Writing prompts and critical-thinking and discussion questions can be used for oral responses in formal and informal settings.
- Articles in the Student Edition can be used to stimulate discussion about given topics.

Conventions of Standard English

1

Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.

- The Student Edition and other print materials serve as models for standard English grammar and usage.
- Writing prompts and other writing activities in the Student and Teacher’s Guides provide students with many opportunities for writing and speaking using standard conventions.
- “Grammar Cop” and “Wordworks,” in every issue, help students recognize and use standard English grammar.
- Additional “Grammar Cop” activities are available online.

2

Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.

- The Student Edition and other print materials serve as models for correct usage of capitalization, punctuation, and spelling.
- Writing prompts and other writing activities in the Student and Teacher’s Guides provide students with many opportunities for writing using standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling.
- “Grammar Cop,” in every issue, helps students recognize and use standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling.
- Additional “Grammar Cop” activities are available online.

Knowledge of Language

3

Apply knowledge of language to understand how language functions in different contexts, to make effective choices for meaning or style, and to comprehend more fully when reading or listening.

- Articles in the Student Edition provide examples of diverse writing styles.
- Readers Theater plays provide examples of language used in different contexts by a variety of characters.
- “Scavenger Hunt” activities help students identify and understand literary devices.
- A variety of writing activities in the Student and Teacher’s Guides and online require students to determine appropriate writing styles to respond effectively.

Vocabulary Acquisition and Use

4

Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases by using context clues, analyzing meaningful word parts, and consulting general and specialized reference materials, as appropriate.

- Vocabulary words are highlighted in bold in major features and defined in the Teacher's Guide; students are prompted to find these "Word Nerd" words.
- "Word Nerd's Word Workout," available online, reinforces vocabulary words.
- A crossword puzzle available online for each issue reinforces vocabulary words.
- Vocabulary reinforcement exercises are available online for features with more challenging vocabulary.
- Teachers can prompt students to determine meanings of challenging words through context.
- Every Student Edition includes "Vocab Lab," which has fun activities to help students interpret and use new vocabulary words in context.
- Activities such as "Grammar Cop" and online activity sheets teach word roots, prefixes, and suffixes.

5

Demonstrate understanding of word relationships and nuances in word meanings.

- Printable vocabulary activity sheets explain nuances when appropriate.
- The "Scavenger Hunt" feature helps students identify literary devices such as allusion and irony, which require understanding of nuance.
- "Wordworks" activity in the Student Edition helps students understand the role of words in sentences.

6

Acquire and use accurately a range of general academic and domain-specific words and phrases sufficient for reading, writing, speaking, and listening at the college and career readiness level; demonstrate independence in gathering vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression.

- Articles contain academic and topic-specific vocabulary words. The words are supported by printable vocabulary-practice activities.
- Various activities prompt students to use context clues or consult a dictionary to find word meanings.

To order *Storyworks*, for additional editorial information, or to receive product samples:

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