

THE WRITING ACADEMY®, LLC
A TRUE SUPPLEMENTAL SUPPORT SYSTEM

Core Curriculum Connection Activities

GRADE 3 • CLUSTER 2

Grade 3, Cluster 2. Four activities, one per module, showing how the Teach BIG Extended Constructed Response plugs straight into the Bluebonnet core the state already gives your district. Run it either way, from their content or from ours.

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CORE CURRICULUM CONNECTION ACTIVITY

THE CORE READING

Ancient Rome

Bluebonnet Grade 3 Knowledge Unit

THE WRITING

Cluster 2 • Module 1 • Shaping the ECR Prompt

Teach BIG™ Grade 3 • Informational
Extended Constructed Response

WHAT YOUR CLASS ALREADY KNOWS

Your students have learned how ancient Rome grew in Bluebonnet. They can describe its people, its daily life, and the choices that made it powerful.

THE WRITING WE ADD

Cluster 2 grows a longer answer, an extended constructed response. Module 1 teaches students to shape the prompt first, marking the topic, the charge, and the clue word, then deciding whether it asks Why or How.

TWO WAYS TO RUN IT, TEACHER'S CHOICE

USING BLUEBONNET CORE CONTENT

Write an extended response prompt from the Bluebonnet Ancient Rome reading and have students mark the topic, charge, and clue word.

USING THE WRITING ACADEMY SUPPLEMENTAL CONTENT

Or use our Cluster 2 passage on Laura Ingalls Wilder with the Shape the Prompt marks to practice the same skill.

A FIVE MINUTE BRIDGE

Put one prompt about Rome on the board. Ask students to circle the topic, box the charge, and mark the clue word, then say whether it asks Why or How.

CORE CURRICULUM CONNECTION ACTIVITY

THE CORE READING

The Human Body

Bluebonnet Grade 3 Knowledge Unit

THE WRITING

Cluster 2 • Module 2 • Writing the Thesis (The Trunk)

Teach BIG™ Grade 3 • Informational
Extended Constructed Response

WHAT YOUR CLASS ALREADY KNOWS

Your students have studied the body's systems in Bluebonnet. They can explain how the parts of the body work together to keep us healthy, and they are full of facts ready to be written down.

THE WRITING WE ADD

Module 2 builds the trunk of the answer, the thesis. Students write a central idea from a noun of importance, a verb of importance, and their own answer to the prompt.

TWO WAYS TO RUN IT, TEACHER'S CHOICE

USING BLUEBONNET CORE CONTENT

Have students write a thesis sentence about the body's systems straight from the Bluebonnet Human Body reading.

USING THE WRITING ACADEMY SUPPLEMENTAL CONTENT

Or use our Cluster 2 passage and the TREE thesis frame to grow the same trunk from our content.

A FIVE MINUTE BRIDGE

Give students a Human Body prompt. Ask them to write one thesis sentence that names the topic and gives their answer. In five minutes they have the trunk of an ECR.

CORE CURRICULUM CONNECTION ACTIVITY

THE CORE READING

Animal Classification

Bluebonnet Grade 3 Knowledge Unit

THE WRITING

Cluster 2 • Module 3 • Growing the Reasons (First Branch)

Teach BIG™ Grade 3 • Informational
Extended Constructed Response

WHAT YOUR CLASS ALREADY KNOWS

Your students have studied how scientists sort animals into groups in Bluebonnet. They know the shared traits that place an animal in each group, and their reading is full of details they can point to.

THE WRITING WE ADD

Module 3 grows the branches. Students magnify the reading, gather details into baskets, and turn each basket into a clear reason that supports the thesis.

TWO WAYS TO RUN IT, TEACHER'S CHOICE

USING BLUEBONNET CORE CONTENT

Have students gather Bluebonnet Animal Classification details into baskets and name one reason from each basket.

USING THE WRITING ACADEMY SUPPLEMENTAL CONTENT

Or use our Cluster 2 passage with the basket sort to build three reasons from our content.

A FIVE MINUTE BRIDGE

Read one paragraph together. Ask students to group two or three details into one basket and name the reason it proves. In five minutes they have a branch.

CORE CURRICULUM CONNECTION ACTIVITY

THE CORE READING

Light and Sound

Bluebonnet Grade 3 Knowledge Unit

THE WRITING

Cluster 2 • Module 4 • Proving Each Branch with Evidence

Teach BIG™ Grade 3 • Informational
Extended Constructed Response

WHAT YOUR CLASS ALREADY KNOWS

Your students have explored light and sound in Bluebonnet. They can explain how light travels and how sound is made, and they have plenty of science facts to work with.

THE WRITING WE ADD

Module 4 proves each branch. Using CSI, students Connect a detail to the reason, check that it Supports the idea, and Infer what it shows.

TWO WAYS TO RUN IT, TEACHER'S CHOICE

USING BLUEBONNET CORE CONTENT

Have students choose Bluebonnet Light and Sound evidence for a reason and test it with Connect, Support, and Infer.

USING THE WRITING ACADEMY SUPPLEMENTAL CONTENT

Or use our Cluster 2 passage and the CSI check to pick the strongest evidence from our content.

A FIVE MINUTE BRIDGE

Give students a reason and two details. Ask them to keep the detail that Connects and Supports best, then say what it shows. In five minutes they have proven a branch.