

THE WRITING ACADEMY®, LLC
A TRUE SUPPLEMENTAL SUPPORT SYSTEM

Core Curriculum Connection Activities

GRADE 3 • CLUSTER 3

Grade 3, Cluster 3. 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

Colonial America

Bluebonnet Grade 3 Knowledge Unit

THE WRITING

Cluster 3 • Module 1 • Prompt Analysis and Thesis

Teach BIG™ Grade 3 • Informational
Extended Constructed Response

WHAT YOUR CLASS ALREADY KNOWS

Your students have studied the first colonies in Bluebonnet. They know how settlers built new communities and solved the problems they met.

THE WRITING WE ADD

Cluster 3 builds the full TREES answer, Thesis, Reason, Evidence, Explanation, and Significance. Module 1 shapes the prompt with the Three Shapes and writes a thesis that answers Why or How.

TWO WAYS TO RUN IT, TEACHER'S CHOICE

USING BLUEBONNET CORE CONTENT

Write a prompt from the Bluebonnet Colonial America reading and have students shape it, then write a thesis.

USING THE WRITING ACADEMY SUPPLEMENTAL CONTENT

Or use our Cluster 3 passage, Why We Need Laws, with the Three Shapes to practice the same skill.

A FIVE MINUTE BRIDGE

Put a Colonial America prompt on the board. Ask students to shape it and write one thesis sentence. In five minutes they have the T of TREES.

CORE CURRICULUM CONNECTION ACTIVITY

THE CORE READING

Light and Sound

Bluebonnet Grade 3 Knowledge Unit

THE WRITING

Cluster 3 • Module 2 • Reasons or Relationships

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 2 sharpens prompt analysis. Students read clue words beyond why and how and sort prompts into ones that ask for reasons and ones that ask for relationships.

TWO WAYS TO RUN IT, TEACHER'S CHOICE

USING BLUEBONNET CORE CONTENT

Give students Bluebonnet Light and Sound prompts and have them sort each one as a reasons prompt or a relationships prompt.

USING THE WRITING ACADEMY SUPPLEMENTAL CONTENT

Or use our Cluster 3 drama, The Lunchroom Discoveries, to practice sorting the same way.

A FIVE MINUTE BRIDGE

Show two prompts about light or sound. Ask students which asks for reasons and which asks for a relationship, with one reason each. In five minutes they will read clue words closely.

CORE CURRICULUM CONNECTION ACTIVITY

THE CORE READING

Native American Cultures

Bluebonnet Grade 3 Knowledge Unit

THE WRITING

Cluster 3 • Module 3 • Magnifying the Reasons

Teach BIG™ Grade 3 • Informational
Extended Constructed Response

WHAT YOUR CLASS ALREADY KNOWS

Your students have learned how Native American cultures lived and adapted to the land in Bluebonnet. They can describe daily life and the reasons behind it.

THE WRITING WE ADD

Module 3 teaches the magnifying process. Students brainstorm many reasons, group them, narrow each group, and choose the three strongest reasons for their body paragraphs.

TWO WAYS TO RUN IT, TEACHER'S CHOICE

USING BLUEBONNET CORE CONTENT

Have students brainstorm reasons from the Bluebonnet Native American Cultures reading, then narrow to their three strongest.

USING THE WRITING ACADEMY SUPPLEMENTAL CONTENT

Or use our Cluster 3 passages with the magnifying process to choose three reasons from our content.

A FIVE MINUTE BRIDGE

Ask students to brainstorm four reasons, then cross out until three remain. In five minutes they will have chosen their body paragraphs.

CORE CURRICULUM CONNECTION ACTIVITY

THE CORE READING

The Human Body

Bluebonnet Grade 3 Knowledge Unit

THE WRITING

Cluster 3 • Module 4 • Matching Evidence and Explanation

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 4 matches each reason to a quote and an explanation. Students use CSI to pick evidence and try three ways to explain it, by definition, by expert testimony, and by a short story.

TWO WAYS TO RUN IT, TEACHER'S CHOICE

USING BLUEBONNET CORE CONTENT

Have students match a Bluebonnet Human Body reason to a detail and explain how the detail proves it.

USING THE WRITING ACADEMY SUPPLEMENTAL CONTENT

Or use our Cluster 3 passages and the CSI match to pair reason, evidence, and explanation from our content.

A FIVE MINUTE BRIDGE

Give students a reason and a quote. Ask them to write one explanation sentence that tells how the quote proves the reason. In five minutes they close the E of TREES.