

THE WRITING ACADEMY®, LLC
A TRUE SUPPLEMENTAL SUPPORT SYSTEM

Core Curriculum Connection Activities

GRADE 4 • CLUSTER 2

Grade 4, 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.

The Writing Academy®, LLC

© 2026 The Writing Academy®, LLC. All rights reserved.

This document is provided for classroom instructional use. No part may be reproduced for resale or distribution outside the purchasing campus without written permission from The Writing Academy®, LLC.

CORE CURRICULUM CONNECTION ACTIVITY

THE CORE READING

Innovation and Industry in Energy

Bluebonnet Grade 4 Knowledge Unit

THE WRITING

Cluster 2 • Module 1 • Growing the Tree

Teach BIG™ Grade 4 • Informational
Extended Constructed Response

WHAT YOUR CLASS ALREADY KNOWS

Your students have studied energy and industry in Bluebonnet. They can explain where energy comes from and how it powers the world around them.

THE WRITING WE ADD

Cluster 2 grows an extended response like a tree. Module 1 builds the trunk, the thesis, then the branches, the reasons, and the leaves, the evidence.

TWO WAYS TO RUN IT, TEACHER'S CHOICE

USING BLUEBONNET CORE CONTENT

Have students grow a tree plan about the Bluebonnet Energy reading, a trunk with branches and leaves.

USING THE WRITING ACADEMY SUPPLEMENTAL CONTENT

*Or use our Cluster 2 passage, *The Energy We Use Everyday*, to grow the same tree from our content.*

A FIVE MINUTE BRIDGE

Give students a topic. Ask them to name a trunk sentence and two branches. In five minutes they will see the shape of an extended response.

CORE CURRICULUM CONNECTION ACTIVITY

THE CORE READING

Eureka! The Art of Invention

Bluebonnet Grade 4 Knowledge Unit

THE WRITING

Cluster 2 • Module 2 • Writing the Thesis (Central Idea)

Teach BIG™ Grade 4 • Informational
Extended Constructed Response

WHAT YOUR CLASS ALREADY KNOWS

Your students have studied inventors and inventions in Bluebonnet. They know how a good idea becomes a real invention and how it changes daily life.

THE WRITING WE ADD

Module 2 writes the thesis. Students name the topic and the writer's point in one clear central idea sentence.

TWO WAYS TO RUN IT, TEACHER'S CHOICE

USING BLUEBONNET CORE CONTENT

Have students write a central idea about a Bluebonnet invention.

USING THE WRITING ACADEMY SUPPLEMENTAL CONTENT

Or use our Cluster 2 passages and the thesis frame to write the same sentence from our content.

A FIVE MINUTE BRIDGE

Ask students to name a topic and a point in one sentence. In five minutes they will have the trunk of the tree.

CORE CURRICULUM CONNECTION ACTIVITY

THE CORE READING

The Middle Ages

Bluebonnet Grade 4 Knowledge Unit

THE WRITING

Cluster 2 • Module 3 • Organizing Reasons and Ways

Teach BIG™ Grade 4 • Informational
Extended Constructed Response

WHAT YOUR CLASS ALREADY KNOWS

Your students have studied the Middle Ages in Bluebonnet. They can describe knights, castles, and kings, and how power and daily life worked in medieval times.

THE WRITING WE ADD

Module 3 organizes the reasons. Students choose two reasons or ways that support the thesis and put them in an order that makes sense.

TWO WAYS TO RUN IT, TEACHER'S CHOICE

USING BLUEBONNET CORE CONTENT

Have students list two reasons from the Bluebonnet Middle Ages reading and order them.

USING THE WRITING ACADEMY SUPPLEMENTAL CONTENT

Or use our Cluster 2 passages to organize two reasons from our content.

A FIVE MINUTE BRIDGE

Ask students to give two reasons for an idea, then decide which comes first and why. In five minutes they will order their branches.

CORE CURRICULUM CONNECTION ACTIVITY

THE CORE READING

American Revolution

Bluebonnet Grade 4 Knowledge Unit

THE WRITING

Cluster 2 • Module 4 • Choosing Evidence

Teach BIG™ Grade 4 • Informational
Extended Constructed Response

WHAT YOUR CLASS ALREADY KNOWS

Your students have studied the American Revolution in Bluebonnet. They know why the colonists sought independence and how a new nation began.

THE WRITING WE ADD

Module 4 chooses the evidence. Students select the strongest proof for each reason and quote the exact words from the passage.

TWO WAYS TO RUN IT, TEACHER'S CHOICE

USING BLUEBONNET CORE CONTENT

Have students choose one exact quote from the Bluebonnet American Revolution reading for a reason.

USING THE WRITING ACADEMY SUPPLEMENTAL CONTENT

Or use our Cluster 2 passages to quote exact evidence from our content.

A FIVE MINUTE BRIDGE

Give students a reason. Ask them to find the exact words that prove it and copy them with quotation marks. In five minutes they will quote like a writer.