

THE WRITING ACADEMY®, LLC  
A TRUE SUPPLEMENTAL SUPPORT SYSTEM

# Core Curriculum Connection Activities

## GRADE 5 • CLUSTER 1

*Grade 5, Cluster 1. Four activities, one per module, showing how the Teach BIG Short Constructed Response ladder 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

#### World War II

Bluebonnet Grade 5 Knowledge Unit

### THE WRITING

#### Cluster 1 • Module 1 • Building the Short Constructed Response

Teach BIG™ Grade 5 • Informational Short Constructed Response

### WHAT YOUR CLASS ALREADY KNOWS

*Your students have studied World War II in Bluebonnet. They can describe the causes, the events, and the people who lived through it.*

### THE WRITING WE ADD

*Cluster 1 builds the Short Constructed Response. Module 1 joins a clear central idea, one piece of exact evidence, and an explanation of what it proves.*

### TWO WAYS TO RUN IT, TEACHER'S CHOICE

#### USING BLUEBONNET CORE CONTENT

*Have students write a short response from the Bluebonnet World War II reading, a central idea with evidence and an explanation.*

#### USING THE WRITING ACADEMY SUPPLEMENTAL CONTENT

*Or use our Cluster 1 passage, From Tension to Revolution, to build the same response from our content.*

### A FIVE MINUTE BRIDGE

*Give students a prompt. Ask them to write the central idea and one evidence sentence. In five minutes they will begin a short response.*

## CORE CURRICULUM CONNECTION ACTIVITY

### THE CORE READING

## The Renaissance: Art and Culture

Bluebonnet Grade 5 Knowledge Unit

### THE WRITING

## Cluster 1 • Module 2 • Writing a Strong Thesis

Teach BIG™ Grade 5 • Informational Short Constructed Response

### WHAT YOUR CLASS ALREADY KNOWS

*Your students have studied the Renaissance in Bluebonnet. They can describe its art, its thinkers, and how new ideas changed the world.*

### THE WRITING WE ADD

*Module 2 focuses on the thesis. Students write a central idea that answers the prompt directly.*

### TWO WAYS TO RUN IT, TEACHER'S CHOICE

#### USING BLUEBONNET CORE CONTENT

*Have students write a central idea sentence from the Bluebonnet Renaissance reading.*

#### USING THE WRITING ACADEMY SUPPLEMENTAL CONTENT

*Or use our Cluster 1 passage and the thesis frame to write the same sentence from our content.*

### A FIVE MINUTE BRIDGE

*Ask each student to answer a prompt in one clear sentence. In five minutes they will have a thesis a reader cannot miss.*

## CORE CURRICULUM CONNECTION ACTIVITY

### THE CORE READING

## Chemical Matter

Bluebonnet Grade 5 Knowledge Unit

### THE WRITING

## Cluster 1 • Module 3 • Choosing Strong Evidence

Teach BIG™ Grade 5 • Informational Short  
Constructed Response

### WHAT YOUR CLASS ALREADY KNOWS

*Your students have studied matter and chemistry in Bluebonnet. They can explain how matter changes, and they are full of science facts ready to use.*

### THE WRITING WE ADD

*Module 3 chooses evidence. Students select strong text evidence that connects to the thesis, not just any detail.*

### TWO WAYS TO RUN IT, TEACHER'S CHOICE

#### USING BLUEBONNET CORE CONTENT

*Have students pick the two strongest details from the Bluebonnet Chemical Matter reading for an idea.*

#### USING THE WRITING ACADEMY SUPPLEMENTAL CONTENT

*Or use our Cluster 1 passage to choose strong evidence from our content.*

### A FIVE MINUTE BRIDGE

*Read one paragraph together. Ask students to find two details that prove the idea, then say which is stronger. In five minutes they will choose evidence on purpose.*

## CORE CURRICULUM CONNECTION ACTIVITY

### THE CORE READING

#### Early American Civilizations

Bluebonnet Grade 5 Knowledge Unit

### THE WRITING

#### Cluster 1 • Module 4 • Explaining the Evidence

Teach BIG™ Grade 5 • Informational Short  
Constructed Response

### WHAT YOUR CLASS ALREADY KNOWS

*Your students have studied the early American civilizations in Bluebonnet, the Maya, Aztec, and Inca. They can describe their cities, beliefs, and achievements.*

### THE WRITING WE ADD

*Module 4 completes the response. Students write the explanation that tells what the evidence proves and why it matters.*

### TWO WAYS TO RUN IT, TEACHER'S CHOICE

#### USING BLUEBONNET CORE CONTENT

*Have students add an explanation to a fact from the Bluebonnet Early American Civilizations reading.*

#### USING THE WRITING ACADEMY SUPPLEMENTAL CONTENT

*Or use our Cluster 1 passage to explain the evidence from our content.*

### A FIVE MINUTE BRIDGE

*Give students a thesis and one piece of evidence. Ask them to add a sentence beginning with This shows that. In five minutes they will finish a short response.*