



Welcome to blackbird & Company's language arts program!

After exploring and familiarizing yourself with all of the materials included in your 4th Grade Collection, it's time to map out the schedule of work for the year. We use "grade level" merely as a common reference point. Every student will fall individually across a range of levels in different subjects, and even within a single subject. Our materials are designed to be flexible for students and teachers, allowing for complete differentiation as needed. These elements can be staggered and/or spaced out in order to meet your particular needs, creating a varied and comprehensive learning experience that is best for your students.

As you look at your unique school schedule and students, be sure to block out any weeks that you will be off campus for holidays, field trips, in-service, testing or other activities. If your school adds in special days of crafts or activities surrounding holidays, be sure to take that into consideration as you look at each piece of curriculum and how it will best fit into your program with fluidity and continuity where required.

Things to Consider:

Literature & Writing Discovery requires 36 weeks to complete. This is core and needs to take precedence in scheduling.

Research: Significant People requires 20 weeks of work if all 4 units are completed. Each unit requires 5 weeks to complete and can stand alone. Learning how to research and write a biographical essay is an important skill. If you have the time, do all 4 in one year. If you feel it would be better to slow down the work, or stagger this concentrated work with other writing, you should schedule for fewer units to be completed over the year. These can be used over several years or can be utilized and assigned as summer work.

Storymaker: Fun Tales requires 30 weeks to complete but is utilized only once per week. This work can be broken up into smaller daily bites if preferable.

One True Sentence: Punctuation requires 21 weeks to complete but needs only 15-30 minutes per day, 3 days per week. The segments can be started around the 3rd week and can be done consecutively or broken up.

Operation Lexicon: Ted Hughes requires 25 weeks of work to complete but needs only 15-30 minutes per day, 3 days per week. The segments can be done consecutively or broken up.

The following sample schedule is provided as a tool to help you as you lay out your curriculum schedule for the year. Please make adjustments to cater this to your particular circumstances. Utilize our subject specific information for more detailed scheduling notes and information.



Sample Weekly Schedule:

This mock schedule is mapped out for a 5 day per week program. This format can be easily adapted to a 4 day per week program by adjusting the daily workload and times. Our schedule assumes a 40 week school year with ample room for activities, holidays, and fun. We will jump weeks at times when a static schedule has been demonstrated and pick it up where a new element is added in to the schedule.

Week 1

Subject	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
Literature & Writing #1: Charlotte's Web 45 Minutes/Day	Section 1 work	Section 1 work	Section 1 work	Section 1 work	Section 1 completion Section 2 reading
Research Significant People #1: Ada Lovelace 60-90 Minutes/Week	Section 1				
Storymaker C: Fun Tales 45 Minutes/Week		Complete week 1			
Operation Lexicon: Ted Hughes 15-30 Minutes/Day			Week 1, Day 1	Week 1, Day 2	Week 1, Day 3

Week 2

Subject	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
Literature & Writing #1: Charlotte's Web 45 Minutes/Day	Section 1 discussion Section 2 work	Section 2 work. Section 5 brainstorm	Section 2 work	Section 2 work	Section 2 completion Section 3 reading Section 5 development
Research Significant People #1: Ada Lovelace 60-90 Minutes/Week	Section 2				
Storymaker C: Fun Tales 45 Minutes/Week		Week 2 completion			
Operation Lexicon: Ted Hughes 15-30 Minutes/Day			Week 2, Day 1	Week 2, Day 2	Week 2, Day 3



Week 3

Subject	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
Literature & Writing #1: Charlotte's Web 45 Minutes/Day	Section 2 discussion Section 3 work	Section 3 work	Section 3 work	Section 3 work	Section 3 completion Section 4 reading Section 5 development
Research Significant People #1: Ada Lovelace 60-90 Minutes/Week	Section 3				
Storymaker C: Fun Tales 45 Minutes/Week		Final draft of selected story			
Operation Lexicon: Ted Hughes 15-30 Minutes/Day			Week 3, Day 1	Week 3, Day 2	Week 3, Day 3

Week 4

Subject	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
Literature & Writing #1: Charlotte's Web 45 Minutes/Day	Section 3 discussion Section 4 work	Section 4 work	Section 4 work	Section 4 work	Section 4 completion Section 5 work
Research Significant People #1: Ada Lovelace 60-90 Minutes/Week	Section 4				
Storymaker C: Fun Tales 45 Minutes/Week		Week 3 completion			
One True Sentence B: Punctuation 15 Minutes/Day			Week 1, Day 1	Week 1, Day 2	Week 1, Day 3
Operation Lexicon: Ted Hughes 15-30 Minutes/Day			Week 4, Day 1	Week 4, Day 2	Week 4, Day 3



Week 5

Subject	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
Literature & Writing #1: Charlotte's Web 45 Minutes/Day	Section 4 discussion Section 5 work	Section 5 work	Section 5 work	Section 5 completion	Section 5 present & submit
Research: Significant People #1: Ada Lovelace 60-90 Minutes/Week	Section 5 project development				
Storymaker C: Fun Tales 45 Minutes/Week		Week 4 completion			
One True Sentence B: Punctuation 15 Minutes/Day			Week 2, Day 1	Week 2, Day 2	Week 2, Day 3
Operation Lexicon: Ted Hughes 15-30 Minutes/Day			Week 5, Day 1	Week 5, Day 2	Week 5, Day 3

Week 6

Subject	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
Literature & Writing #2: The City of Ember 45 Minutes/Day	Section 1 reading for book 2	Section 1 reading for book 2			Catch-up or review as needed for book #1.
Research Significant People #1: Ada Lovelace 60-90 Minutes/Week	Section 5 present & submit				
Storymaker C: Fun Tales 45 Minutes/Week		Final draft of selected story			
One True Sentence B: Punctuation 15 Minutes/Day			Week 3, Day 1	Week 3, Day 2	Week 3, Day 3
Operation Lexicon: Ted Hughes 15-30 Minutes/Day			Week 6, Day 1	Week 6, Day 2	Week 6, Day 3

This completes the first six weeks of scheduling. Literature will jump back in **Weeks 7-11** with Book 2 Guide work following the pattern demonstrated above. All other work continues as demonstrated above. We will now jump to **Week 11** when a new Research Journal is started.



Week 11

Subject	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
Literature & Writing #2: The City of Ember 45 Minutes/Day	Section 4 discussion Section 5 work	Section 5 work	Section 5 work	Section 5 completion	Section 5 present & submit
Research Significant People #2: Fred Rogers 60-90 Minutes/Week	Week 1 work				
Storymaker C: Fun Tales 45 Minutes/Week		Week 8 completion			
One True Sentence B: Punctuation 15 Minutes/Day			Week 8, Day 1	Week 8, Day 2	Week 8, Day 3
Operation Lexicon: Ted Hughes 15-30 Minutes/Day			Week 11, Day 1	Week 11, Day 2	Week 11, Day 3

This same pattern will be utilized through the end of the year with Guides dropping off at different times:

- **Literature & Writing** continues the pattern of 5 weeks on, one week off. The 6th Literature book concludes on **Week 35**.
- **Storymaker** concludes on **Week 30**.
- **One True Sentence** concludes on **Week 24**.
- **Operation Lexicon** has 14 more weeks to complete. Those can be done consecutively or staggered every other week as desired.
- **Research Significant People** will complete the current Guide on **Week 15**. There are two more guides available for the year. It will take 10 weeks (plus a week in between if desired) to complete these.

