



## Welcome to blackbird & Company's language arts program!

After exploring and familiarizing yourself with all of the materials included in your 8<sup>th</sup> 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 and needs 45–90 minutes per day. This core material goes through most of the year and needs to take precedence in scheduling.

***One True Sentence C4: Tools of Style 4*** requires 20 weeks to complete and needs roughly 15 minutes per day, 5 days per week. The segments can be started around the 5th week and can be done consecutively or broken up.

***Operation Lexicon: The Inklings*** requires 24 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.

***Introduction to Composition: The Essay Volume 3*** requires 10 weeks to complete with about 2 hours per week. We recommend two 1 hour sittings per week. Each lesson is completed over 2 weeks time and can stand on its own. Individual lessons are not dependent on work previously completed. Weekly work does not have to be assigned on consecutive days.

***Research Writing: Elemental Journal*** requires 30 weeks to complete and needs 40–60 minutes per week. This can be done in one block or broken into two 30-minute sessions per week.

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
<b>Literature &amp; Writing #1: The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind</b> 45 Minutes/Day	Section 1 work	Section 1 work	Section 1 work	Section 1 work	Section 1 completion Section 2 reading
<b>Introduction to Composition: The Essay - Volume 3</b> 45 Minutes/Day	Lesson 1, pgs. 17-21	Lesson 1, pgs. 22-26			
<b>Research Writing: Elemental Journal</b> 45 Minutes/Day			Preliminary research, Pgs. 1-3		

**Week 2**

Subject	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
<b>Literature &amp; Writing #1: The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind</b> 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
<b>Introduction to Composition: The Essay - Volume 3</b> 45 Minutes/Day	Lesson 1, pgs. 27-30	Lesson 1, conference, essay final draft			
<b>Research Writing: Elemental Journal</b> 45 Minutes/Day			Preliminary research, Pgs. 4-5		



**Week 3**

Subject	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
<b>Literature &amp; Writing #1: The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind</b> 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
<b>Introduction to Composition: The Essay - Volume 3</b> 45 Minutes/Day	Lesson 2, pgs. 32-35	Lesson 2, pgs. 36-39			
<b>Research Writing: Elemental Journal</b> 45 Minutes/Day			Hydrogen, Pgs. 7-8		

**Week 4**

Subject	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
<b>Literature &amp; Writing #1: The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind</b> 45 Minutes/Day	Section 3 discussion Section 4 work	Section 4 work	Section 4 work	Section 4 work	Section 4 completion Section 5 work
<b>Introduction to Composition: The Essay - Volume 3</b> 45 Minutes/Day	Lesson 2, pgs. 40-30	Lesson 2, conference, essay final draft			
<b>Research Writing: Elemental Journal</b> 45 Minutes/Day			Hydrogen, Pg. 9		

**Week 5**

Subject	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
<b>Literature &amp; Writing #1: The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind</b> 45 Minutes/Day	Section 4 discussion Section 5 work	Section 5 work	Section 5 work	Section 5 completion	Section 5 present & submit
<b>Introduction to Composition: The Essay - Volume 3</b> 45 Minutes/Day	Lesson 3, pgs. 45-49	Lesson 3, pgs. 49-53			
<b>Research Writing: Elemental Journal</b> 45 Minutes/Day			Group 1: Alkali Metals, Pgs. 10-11		
<b>One True Sentence C4: Tools of Style 4</b> 15-30 Minutes/Day	Week 1, exercise 1-4	Week 1, exercise 5-7, practice 1	Week 1, practice 2-3	Week 1, practice 4-5	Week 1, edits, rewrites, or completion



**Week 6**

Subject	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
<b>Literature &amp; Writing #2: Bridge to Terabithia</b> 45 Minutes/Day	Section 1 reading for book 2	Section 1 reading for book 2			Catch-up or review as needed for book #1.
<b>Introduction to Composition: The Essay - Volume 3</b> 45 Minutes/Day	Lesson 3, pgs. 54-57	Lesson 3, conference, essay final draft			
<b>Research Writing: Elemental Journal</b> 45 Minutes/Day			Group 1: Alkali Metals, Pgs. 12-13		
<b>One True Sentence C4: Tools of Style 4</b> 15-30 Minutes/Day	Week 2, exercise 1-4	Week 2, exercise 5-7, practice 1	Week 2, practice 2-3	Week 2, practice 4-5	Week 2, edits, rewrites, or completion
<b>Operation Lexicon: The Inklings</b> 15-30 Minutes/Day		Week 1, Day 1	Week 1, Day 2	Week 1, Day 3	

**Week 7**

Subject	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
<b>Literature &amp; Writing #2: Bridge to Terabithia</b> 45 Minutes/Day	Section 1 work	Section 1 work	Section 1 work	Section 1 work	Section 1 completion Section 2 reading
<b>Introduction to Composition: The Essay - Volume 3</b> 45 Minutes/Day	Lesson 4, pgs. 59-63	Lesson 4, pgs. 63-67			
<b>Research Writing: Elemental Journal</b> 45 Minutes/Day			Group 2: Alkaline Earth Metals, Pgs. 14-15		
<b>One True Sentence C4: Tools of Style 3</b> 15-30 Minutes/Day	Week 3, exercise 1-4	Week 3, exercise 5-7, practice 1	Week 3, practice 2-3	Week 3, practice 4-5	Week 3, edits, rewrites, or completion
<b>Operation Lexicon: The Inklings</b> 15-30 Minutes/Day		Week 2, Day 1	Week 2, Day 2	Week 2, Day 3	

*This completes the first seven weeks of scheduling. All work continues as demonstrated. Refer to each subject's sample lesson planning tool for detailed descriptions of daily work assignments.*



*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.
- **Intro to Composition: The Essay** concludes on week 10 if continued in this pattern.
- **Research Writing: Elemental Journal** concludes on week 30 if continued in this pattern.
- **One True Sentence** concludes on week 24 if continued in this pattern.
- **Operation Lexicon** concludes on week 29 if continued in this pattern.

