

Websites to Support Reading-Writing-Listening-Speaking Instruction
Compiled by Karin Hess, Center for Assessment (2010-2011)

1. (free) Interactive text for Garden Helpers, Farm to Market, and (animal) Odd Couples (with supports for young, ELL, or struggling readers). There are more if you subscribe.
<http://www.nationalgeographic.com/ngyoungexplorer/0909/readstory.html>
2. While these are not CC aligned units, there are teacher-developed ELA units/lessons for K-12 on www.readwritethink.org that could be adapted for use with the CCSS standards. Many lessons/units also include brief research-based citations. One link at this site will take you to "Comic Creator" where students can compose short cartoons/graphic novels, selecting backgrounds, etc. and print them out.
<http://www.readwritethink.org/files/resources/interactives/comic/>

Links to writing rubrics for 6+1 traits and scoring guides can also be accessed:

<http://educationnorthwest.org/resource/464>

5-Point Beginning Writer's Rubric for K-2

The 6+1 Trait analytical model for assessing and teaching writing is made up of 6+1 key qualities that define strong writing for our primary students in grades K-2.

5-Point 6+1 Trait® Writer's Rubric for 3-12

The 6+1 Trait analytical model for assessing and teaching writing is made up of 6+1 key qualities that define strong writing.

5-Point 6+1 Trait® Condensed Writer's Rubric for 3-12

This 6+1 Trait scoring guide is the condensed version (aka "The One Pager"). All trait definitions are condensed onto a single sheet of paper front and back.

6-Point Illustrated Beginning Writer's Rubric for K-2

The 6+1 Trait analytical model for assessing and teaching writing is made up of 6+1 key qualities that define strong writing for our primary students in grades K-2. As developing, emergent writers often use pictures and drawings in their first writings, we have provided guidance by offering some illustrations to accompany the text of this rubric.

6-Point Writer's Rubric for 3-12

The 6+1 Trait analytical model for assessing and teaching writing is made up of 6+1 key qualities that define strong writing for our students in grade levels 3-12.

3. While these are not CC aligned units, there are units most useful for gr K-4 on www.readingteachersnetwork.org. [Teachers may want to download the entire set of 16 units which are especially good for ELL students to build vocabulary through oral language activities.]
4. ReadWorks (www.readworks.org) is non-profit organization whose mission is to eliminate the achievement gap in reading comprehension by providing educators with free access to effective researched-based reading comprehension curriculum resources. These are not aligned to CCSS, but they do include suggested texts and specific reading skills can be searched by gr level, K-6.
5. A variety of graphic organizers for planning writing at many grade levels can be found here: Edhelper.com has quite a few kid-friendly graphic organizers that you can download for storytelling and other content areas (e.g., reading informational texts)
http://www.edhelper.com/teachers/graphic_organizers.htm

Here are few specific examples...

sequencing: http://www.edhelper.com/teachers/Sequencing_graphic_organizers.htm
cycles: <http://www.edhelperclipart.com/clipart/teachers/org-cycle4.pdf>

6. Just saw this on PBS recently – model lessons in several subject areas – full comprehension or simple ideas. For example, using a “content-word of the day” as a transition word to have students hear it over and over again - “inspired classrooms series” www.teachingchannel.org
7. Essay focus planning tools (graphic organizers) developed by Barbara Jensen: Home page and “chips” planning tool plus more <http://webpages.yosemite.cc.ca.us/jensenb/index.html>

http://webpages.yosemite.cc.ca.us/jensenb/Handouts/Essay_Help/Bubble_SheetwithChips.pdf

http://webpages.yosemite.cc.ca.us/jensenb/Handouts/Essay_Help/BubbleSheetWithThreeBubbles.pdf

8. Types of Literary Criticism (and more): <http://richardsonenglish.wordpress.com/literary-criticism/basic-types-of-literary-criticism-a-2/>

9. Painted essay - <http://vermontwritingcollaborative.org/Essay.html>

“The painted essay was developed by Diana Leddy, a Vermont elementary teacher. It was based on the idea that students are visual learners, and need a very clear visual model of what informational writing actually looks like as a whole, complete chunk. The painted essay is a way of “seeing things whole”, as Stuart Little might put it. It uses a clear, patterned structure tied to certain colors so that students are able to use and internalize a template for thinking - and therefore, writing.”

The introduction is colored red because it needs to get the reader’s attention.

Next is the focus (controlling idea). It’s green for “Go this way!” Sometimes, the green is omitted for primary children. Point 1 is the “yellow” part of the (green) focus. Point 2 is the “blue” part of the (green) focus

The yellow block is the first body paragraph. Since it supports the first part of the focus, all of its details are yellow.

The blue block is the second body paragraph. Since it supports the second part of the focus, all of its details are blue.

The conclusion comes last. Since it reminds the reader of the focus, and synthesizes the yellow and blue ideas again, it is green. It is both the “what” (here’s a reminder of my focus) and the “so what” (here’s a bit of reflection on or extension of that focus).

You may download this as a pdf file on the [Downloads](#) page.

Some sources for texts in digital form

10. PBS website for downloading social/historical documents by topic – good for multiple texts for research <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/aia/part4/index.html>
11. Website with animated, interactive animal and science topics – good for elementary level and ELL students, since some include oral reading support
<http://www.childrenoftheearth.org/PowerAnimals/shuffle16.html>
12. You can get a digital copy of the story of the week from www.loa.org The Library of America, a nonprofit publisher, is dedicated to publishing, and keeping in print, authoritative editions of America's best and most significant writing. Best-selling authors include James Baldwin, Robert Frost, Dashiell Hammett, Zora Neale Hurston, Thomas Jefferson, H. P. Lovecraft, Flannery O'Connor, Thomas Paine, Alexis de Tocqueville, and Walt Whitman. Good for a range of high school level texts.