



BLUE VALLEY CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION  
 English Language Arts | Fifth Grade  
 Writing



<b>Unit: 1</b>	<b>Memoirs</b>
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**essential skills and content**

<p><b>Overview</b></p>	<p>A memoir is a writing that covers a short period of time of the life of the person writing it. Memoirs focus on the events, thoughts and feelings of that person. They are often about a specific time or place or a moment in history that is important to the writer. Memoirs communicate the conflict or drama as they unfold, but with a strong personal point of view. (<a href="#">Newcomers to America</a> pg.2)        W.5.3 W.5.4 W.5.5 W.5.6</p> <p>Time Frame-4 weeks</p>	
<p><b>Essential Questions</b></p>	<p>How can I use my life experiences to write a memoir?        How can I use the writing process to create a published piece of writing?</p>	
<p><b>Learning Targets</b></p>		
<p><b>Content/Skills</b></p>	<p><b>Writing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Compare and contrast a personal narrative to a memoir</li> <li>• Mentor memoirs</li> <li>• Features of a memoir</li> <li>• Brainstorm using a timeline</li> <li>• Narrow the focus</li> <li>• Explain sequential and descriptive text structures</li> <li>• Organizing ideas</li> <li>• Word choice</li> <li>• Draft and publish</li> <li>• Self- reflection</li> </ul>	<p>Additional Lessons</p>

	<p><b>Grammar:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Compound subjects (BLM 5, 7 for lesson on pgs. 38-39)</li> <li>• Compound sentences (Lead 21)</li> <li>• Capitalization rules (Lead 21)</li> <li>• Types of sentences (Lead 21)</li> <li>• Dialogue (BLM 9 for lesson on pgs. 42-43)</li> <li>• Possessive nouns (Lead 21)</li> </ul>	
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## balanced assessment

COMPONENT	REQUIRED	SUGGESTED
Formative Assessment	Narrative Informative, nonfiction topic Persuasive Conferring	
Summative Assessment		
District-Wide Common Assessment		

## learning experiences

COMPONENT	REQUIRED	SUGGESTED
Suggested Resources/ Learning Experiences	Benchmark Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Memory String by Bunting</li> <li>• Grandfather's Journey by Say</li> <li>• The Relatives Came by Rylant</li> <li>• Thank You Mr. Falker by Polacco</li> <li>• Aunt Flossie's Hats (and Crab Cakes Later) by Howard</li> </ul>

COMPONENT	REQUIRED	SUGGESTED
Content Literacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Respond to and interpret text</li> <li>• Analyze the genre</li> <li>• Distinguish and evaluate fact and opinion</li> <li>• Identify sequence of events</li> </ul>	
Technology / Media		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Computers for word processing</li> </ul>
Differentiation / Intervention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conferencing with students</li> <li>• Mini-lessons as needed</li> </ul>	

content-specific components		
COMPONENT	REQUIRED	SUGGESTED