

Leander ISD Elementary Library Curriculum

1st Nine Weeks: Setting Up Systems in the Library

Unit Summary:

The purpose of our units of study is to support and extend the grade level language arts units of study, including the technology applications TEKS, while providing a guaranteed and viable library curriculum. In this unit, we will be setting up library systems and expectations, fostering literature appreciation, and introducing the concept of digital citizenship to start our year off right.

One of the main goals in setting up a system is to develop accountability and independence in students while providing purposeful experiences where students have access to instructional materials to explore and expand literacy. In this unit of study, librarians will develop a schedule that has sufficient time set aside for varied instruction. The librarian and students will develop procedures and set clear, explicit expectations so that the library runs smoothly and effectively, providing maximum use of time. Systems put in place will ensure productivity and engagement and enable all students to maximize their learning.

Listening and speaking are also emphasized in this integrated approach. Students will learn strategies to actively listen with a purpose, ask questions to clarify meaning, and participate in student-led discussions identifying points of agreement and disagreement.

Students should have opportunities all year long to appreciate literature, and one way to do that at the beginning of the year is by listening to and reading books that discuss library procedures and book care. Lifelong readers self-select books from a variety of genres in order to apply a wide range of strategies to comprehend, interpret, evaluate, and appreciate texts. Librarians guide students in decision making for student ownership and differentiation in kindergarten through fifth grade. School wide reading programs such as the Texas Bluebonnet children's choice program are initiated through the library in third through fifth grade.

Digital citizenship is a way of preparing our students to be safe and responsible in a world of technology. We will be examining how students can understand and practice ethical, legal, and safe uses of technology. They will understand, explain and practice copyright principles; understand and explain the negative impact of inappropriate technology use; practice and explain safe and appropriate online behavior, personal security guidelines, digital identity, digital etiquette, and acceptable use of technology. Students will also learn how different forms of media serve different purposes connected to the digital world.

2nd Nine Weeks: Exploring Fiction and Non Fiction

Unit Summary:

The purpose of our units of study is to support and extend the grade level language arts units of study, including the technology applications TEKS, while providing a guaranteed and viable library curriculum.

In this unit of study, each grade level will explore various genres.

- Kindergarten will focus on fiction with an emphasis on traditional literature.
- First grade will focus on nonfiction and media literacy.
- Second grade will focus on fiction with an emphasis on traditional literature and making connections, and expository with an emphasis on text features.
- Third grade will focus on fiction through summarizing and character interactions.
- Fourth grade will focus on expository with an emphasis on text features and questioning.
- Fifth grade will focus on themes in fiction and distinguishing fact from opinion in expository texts.

Librarians will continue to reinforce concepts about digital citizenship so that students continue to deepen their understanding of how to be safe and responsible in a technology-filled world. Librarians should continue to consider the TA TEKS when planning lessons and integrate technology when applicable.

Year at a Glance:

https://docs.google.com/a/leanderisd.org/document/d/1N9He1rQ-6IU60noY_b5mVD38mo0QfhfitQeONpLpef0/view

3rd Nine Weeks: Inquiring Minds Want to Know

Unit Summary:

The purpose of our units of study is to support and extend the grade level language arts units of study, including the technology applications TEKS, while providing a guaranteed and viable library curriculum.

Our primary focus in this introductory unit is to lay a foundation for deeper research that will be done later in the year. At the most basic level, we want to teach students how to generate questions that will guide inquiry and teach them how to use search strategies to access information from a variety of digital resources. We also want to start students on the path to citing sources. For 1st and 2nd Grade, the third nine weeks is the primary research unit of study in Language Arts, whereas the other grade levels have their large unit in the fourth nine weeks. We are frontloading the learning to maximize the time students have to learn, practice, and apply these skills. Beyond research, genre study in traditional literature can occur during this unit as well.

The Research TEKS are cross-disciplinary skills that span all content areas. They are also College and Career Readiness Standards that engage students in deeper ways of thinking in the areas of critical thinking, data analysis, and reasoning.

The Research TEKS are included in their entirety; however for this nine weeks, our focus is only on the underlined portion.

Year at a Glance –

https://docs.google.com/a/leanderisd.org/document/d/1N9He1rQ-6IU60noY_b5mVD38mo0QfhfltQeONpLpef0/view

4th Nine Weeks: Inquiring Minds Want to Know: The Quest Continues...

Unit Summary:

The purpose of our units of study is to support and extend the grade level language arts units of study, including the technology applications TEKS, while providing a guaranteed and viable library curriculum.

We are continuing our focus on research in this last unit to lay a deeper foundation in research, specifically focusing on curiosity and research organization. Curiosity allows the mind to engage in active thinking and it allows students to be open to new ideas and possibilities. Curiosity will allow students to generate questions that will guide inquiry and teach them how to use search strategies to access information from a variety of digital resources. We will continue to work with students on the path to citing sources in grades 3-5. We will also work with students on understanding the difference between taking notes and plagiarism, so there is an understanding why the latter is unacceptable.

It should be noted that the Language Arts Research UBD's reference a [Research Libguide](#) that was put together by librarians and teacher leaders and serves as a resource to all teachers and librarians in Leander ISD.

Beyond research, literature appreciation is a focus in this unit as well, specifically as it relates to Summer Reading. The goal is to share the instructional benefits of continued reading over summer as well as sharing the benefits of "getting lost in a book" during the summer months.

The TA TEKS used are not to be taught in isolation, but meant to be integrated into the lessons. They are not "one-more-thing" to teach, but logically fit in with the lessons we are already teaching where applicable.

The Research TEKS are cross-disciplinary skills that span all content areas. They are also College and Career Readiness standards that engage students in deeper ways of thinking in the areas of critical thinking, data analysis, and reasoning.

The Research TEKS are included in their entirety; however for this nine weeks, our focus is only on the underlined portion of the TEK.

Year at a Glance -

https://docs.google.com/a/leanderisd.org/document/d/1N9He1rQ-6IU60noY_b5mVD38mo0QfhfltQeONpLpef0/view