

2020-2021 K-6 Humanities Curriculum Overview for Hybrid/Remote Learning

This curriculum overview document identifies the main topics that will be taught throughout the year, and across the grade levels, in the subject areas of reading, writing, and social studies.

The teaching of reading and writing in the elementary program at the Wappingers Central School District follows the philosophies and practices of the Reading and Writing Project at Teachers College, which is led by Lucy Calkins. Our District's primary resources for teachers are the [Units of Study for Teaching Reading](#) and the [Units of Study for Teaching Writing](#), written by Lucy Calkins and her colleagues from the Reading and Writing Project.

Our District's primary resource for Social Studies is the curriculum created and distributed by Putnam/Northern Westchester BOCES, the Wappingers Central School District Integrated Technology Enhanced Units, and the Inquiry Units found on EngageNY.

Kindergarten

Date	Reading	Writing	Social Studies
Sept-Oct	We Are Readers (Book 1)	Launching the Writing Workshop (Book 1, Bends I & II + Sessions 18 & 19)	Unit 2: How Can I Be a Good Citizen
Oct-Nov	Emergent Reading: Looking Closely at Familiar Texts (<i>If...Then...</i>) *ONLINE Heinemann.com under your registered resources	Show and Tell: From Labels to Pattern Books (New Book 2018)	Constitution Day, Election Day and Veteran's Day

Dec-Jan	Super Powers: Reading with Print Strategies and Sight Word Power (Book 2)	Launching the Writing Workshop (Book 1, Bends III) leads into Writing for Readers (Book 2)	EngageNY "What Makes Holidays Special?" Inquiry Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Feb-March	Bigger Books, Bigger Reading Muscles (Book 3)	How-to Books: Writing to Teach Others (Book 3)	EngageNY "Is Everyone Unique?" Inquiry President's Day
Apr-June	Becoming Avid Readers (Book 4)	Persuasive Writing of All Kinds (Book 4)	Unit 3: Understanding Economics and Geography Earth Day, Memorial Day and Flag Day

First Grade

Date	Reading	Writing	Social Studies
Sept-Oct	Building Good Reading Habits (Book 1)	Small Moments: Writing with Focus, Detail, and Dialogue (Book 1)	Unit 1 - Rules and Laws *Technology Enhanced Unit
Oct-Nov	Word Detectives Use All They Know to Solve Words (New Book in 2016)	Writing How-to-Books <i>(If...Then...Curriculum book, pages 30-40)</i>	EngageNY "Why Should I be a Global Citizen?" Inquiry
Dec-Jan	Learning About the World: Reading Nonfiction (Book 2)	Nonfiction Chapter Books (Book 2)	Inquiry Unit- Engage NY "What Do Family Stories Tell Us About the Past?" Inquiry Presidents' Day
Feb-March	Readers Have Big Jobs to Do: Fluency, Phonics, and Comprehension (Book 3)	Writing Reviews (Book 3)	Unit 3 - Unity in Community
Apr-June	Meeting Characters and Learning Lessons: A Study of Story Elements (Book 4)	From Scenes to Series: Writing Fiction (Book 4)	Unit 4 - Economics Flag Day

Second Grade

Date	Reading	Writing	Social Studies * Unit 1 Lesson 5 : Government holidays to be taught throughout the year.
Sept-Oct	Second Grade Reading Growth Spurt (Book 1)	Lessons from the Masters: Improving Narrative Craft (Book 1)	Unit 1: Active Citizenship EngageNY "What Symbol Best Represents the United States?" Inquiry
Oct-Nov	Becoming Experts: Reading Nonfiction (Book 2)	A How-to Guide to Nonfiction Writing (*Additional spiral-bound book)	
Dec-Jan	Studying Characters and Their Stories (<i>If...Then...Online Curriculum</i> click on the hyperlink to print)	Writing About Reading (Book 3)	Unit 2: Urban, Rural, Suburban Communities *Includes Technology Enhanced Unit
Feb-March	Bigger Books Mean Amping Up Reading Power (Book 3)	Poetry: Big Thoughts in Small Packages (Book 4)	Inquiry Unit- EngageNY "How Do We Shape Our Environment?" Inquiry
Apr-June	Series Book Clubs (Book 4)	Nonfiction Writing Projects (*New Virtual Unit)	Inquiry Unit- EngageNY "What Makes Me Become We?" Inquiry

Third Grade

Date	Reading	Writing <i>*Will include the introduction and practice of cursive writing as outlined in the WCSD cursive writing Instruction Document</i>	Social Studies
Sept-Oct	Building a Reading Life (Book 1)	Crafting True Stories (Book 1)	Unit 1 - Geography EngageNY "Where Are We?" Inquiry
Oct-Nov	Mystery: Foundational Skills in Disguise (*Additional spiral-bound book)	Changing the World: Persuasive Speeches, Petitions, and Editorials (Book 3)	Inquiry Unit- EngageNY "Is Sharing and Trading Across Cultures Always a Good Thing?" Inquiry
Dec-Jan	Reading to Learn: Grasping Main Ideas and Text Structures (Book 2)	The Art of Information Writing (Book 2)	Unit 4 - China
Feb-March	Character Studies (Book 3)	Baby Literary Essay: (<i>*New Virtual Unit</i>)	Unit 5 - Kenya
April	Test Prep Unit (Design Your Own Unit) *This unit is subject to change based on NYS decisions regarding State Testing	Test Prep Unit (Design Your Own Unit) *This unit is subject to change based on NYS decisions regarding State Testing	Unit 3 - Brazil (Lesson 1 - 7)
May-June	Research Clubs: Elephants, Penguins, and Frogs, Oh My! (Book 4)	Writing About Research (<i>*New Virtual Unit</i>)	Inquiry Unit- EngageNY "Do People Around the World Care about Children's Rights?" Inquiry

Fourth Grade

Date	Reading	Writing <i>*All students will complete final copies using cursive writing to insure mastery of cursive as outlined in the WCSD cursive writing Instruction Document</i>	Social Studies
Sept-Oct	Interpreting Characters: The Heart of the Story (Book 1)	The Arc of Story: Writing Realistic Fiction (Book 1)	Unit 1 - Three Worlds Meet in New York State EngageNY "Does Where You Live Matter?" Inquiry
Nov-Dec	Reading the Weather, Reading the World (Book 2)	Boxes and Bullets: Personal and Persuasive Essays (Book 2)	Unit 2 - Impact of the Colonial and Revolutionary War
Jan-Feb	Detail and Synthesis (*New Virtual Unit)	The Literary Essay: Writing About Fiction (Book 4)	Inquiry Unit- Women to Be Considered "Equal" to Men in New York?" Inquiry
March-April	Test Prep Unit (Design Your Own Unit) *This unit is subject to change based on NYS decisions regarding State Testing	Test Prep Unit (Design Your Own Unit) *This unit is subject to change based on NYS decisions regarding State Testing	Virtual Unit: Every Kid in the Park: Social Studies Focus
May-June	Historical Fiction Book Clubs (Book 4)	Historical Fiction: Tackling Complex Texts (<i>If...Then...Curriculum book, pages 69-82</i>)	

Fifth Grade

Date	Reading	Writing <i>*Will include the maintenance of cursive writing as outlined in the WCSD cursive writing Instruction Document</i>	Social Studies
Sept-Oct	Interpretation Book Clubs: Analyzing Themes (Book 1)	Narrative Craft (Book 1)	Unit 1 - A New World Rising
Nov-Dec	Tackling Complexity: Moving Up Levels of Nonfiction (Book 2)	Literary Essay: Opening Texts and Seeing More (Additional spiral-bound book)	Virtual Unit- EngageNY "How Did Sugar Feed Slavery?" Inquiry
Jan-Feb	Argument and Advocacy: Researching Debatable Issues (Book 3)	The Research-Based Argument Essay (Book 3)	Virtual Unit- EngageNY Government "Why Do Countries Declare Independence?" Inquiry
Mar-April	Test Prep Unit (Design Your Own Unit) *This unit is subject to change based on NYS decisions regarding State Testing	Test Prep Unit (Design Your Own Unit) *This unit is subject to change based on NYS decisions regarding State Testing	Virtual Unit- EngageNY Economics "What is the Real Cost of Bananas?" Inquiry
May-June	Fantasy Book Clubs: The Magic of Themes and Symbols – (Book 4)	Shaping Texts: From Essay and Narrative to Memoir – (Book 4)	Virtual Unit- EngageNY "Should Puerto Rico Be a State?" Inquiry

Sixth Grade

Date	Reading	Writing <i>*Will include the maintenance of cursive writing as outlined in the WCSD cursive writing Instruction Document</i>	Social Studies
Sept-Nov	A Deep Study of Character (spiral-bound book)	Personal Narrative: Crafting Powerful Life Stories (spiral-bound book)	Unit 1- The Neolithic Revolution: Learning About Early Man - Neolithic and Paleolithic Periods
Dec-Jan	Social Issues Book Clubs (spiral-bound book)	The Literary Essay: From Character to Compare/Contrast (spiral-bound book)	Inquiry Unit- Engage NY "Was the Development of Agriculture Good for Humans?" Inquiry
Feb-March	Tapping the Power of Nonfiction (spiral-bound book)	Research-Based Information Writing: Books, Websites and Presentations (spiral-bound book)	Inquiry Unit- Engage NY "Are the Olympics about More than Sports?" Inquiry OR Engage NY "Did the Chinese and Romans Know Each Other?" Inquiry
April	Test Prep Unit (Design Your Own Unit) *This unit is subject to change based on NYS decisions regarding State Testing	Test Prep Unit (Design Your Own Unit) *This unit is subject to change based on NYS decisions regarding State Testing	Inquiry Unit- Engage NY "Does Religious Freedom Exist?" Inquiry
May-June	Historical Fiction Book Clubs (spiral-bound book)	Historical Fiction: Weaving Together Fact and Fiction (<i>If...Then...Curriculum</i> book, pages 59-74)	Inquiry Unit- Engage NY "Why Was the Caliphate of Cordoba a Success?" Inquiry OR Engage NY "Can Disease Change the World?" Inquiry