



The Kindergarten Chronicles

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Looking at the Reading Standards for Informational Text

In this month's edition of *The Kindergarten Chronicles*, links to helpful Reading Standards for Informational Text websites and articles are provided to make your CCSS lesson planning more effective. As stated in the introduction of the CCSS, "In K-5, the Standards follow NAEP's lead in balancing the reading of literature with the reading of informational texts, including texts in history/social studies, science, and technical subjects." Informational texts enable children to experience both language and content simultaneously, i.e., "read to learn." In kindergarten, we lay the foundation on which further learning is built.

Key Ideas and Details

RI.K.1 With prompting and support, ask and answer questions about key ideas in a text.

- **Make-and-Check a Prediction** - In this lesson from the Florida Center for Reading Research, students make, write or illustrate, and check story predictions.
- **Ask and Answer** - In this lesson from FCRR, students will generate and answer questions to comprehend text.

RI.K.2 With prompting and support, identify the main topic and retell key ideas of a text.

- **Reading Informational Texts Using the 3-2-1 Strategy** - In this lesson, students in grades K-2 learn to use the 3-2-1 strategy, which involves writing about three things they discovered, two things they found interesting, and one question they still have.
- **Keys to the Main Idea** - In this lesson from FCRR, students write main ideas by identifying supporting details and facts in expository text.

RI.K.3 With prompting and support, describe the connection between two individuals, events, ideas, or pieces of information in a text.

- **Animal Study from Fiction to Facts** - In this lesson, children identify possible factual information from works of fiction which are read aloud; then they listen to read-alouds of nonfiction texts to identify and confirm factual information.
- **Cause and Effect Organizer** - In this lesson from FCRR, students identify cause and effect relationships in text and record on a graphic organizer.

Craft and Structure

RI.K.4 With prompting and support, ask and answer questions about unknown words in a text.

- **Show-U-Know** - In this lesson from FCRR, students will use multiple strategies to comprehend text, and monitor what they do when they encounter unknown words in text.

RI.K.5 Identify the front cover, back cover, and title page of a book.

- **Parts-of-a-Book Game for Kids** - A list of activities to help children learn book features.

RI.K.6 Name the author and illustrator of a text and define the role of each in presenting the ideas or information in a text.

- **Author Study for Kindergarteners** - This activity encourages students to become life-long readers and develop a love of being read to and "reading."

Integration of Knowledge and Ideas

RI.K.7 With prompting and support, describe the relationship between illustrations and the text in which they appear (e.g., what person, place, thing, or idea in the text an illustration depicts).

- **Every Picture Tells a Story** - In this lesson plan, students examine unusual pictures, describe their impressions, and create stories around the images.
- **Draw a Story** - As a class, students read the wordless picture book *Pancakes for Breakfast* by Tomie dePaola, telling the story themselves as they read the pictures. Next, they draw a picture of a person doing something, and tell the story of their picture.

RI.K.8 With prompting and support, identify the reasons an author gives to support points in a text.

- **Purpose for Reading** - Given a nonfiction book, students will be able to determine a good purpose for reading it using textual clues and background knowledge.

RI.K.9 With prompting and support, identify basic similarities in and differences between two texts on the same topic (e.g., in illustrations, descriptions, or procedures).

- **The Great Big World** - This is a lesson plan building on the diversity of family celebrations, students read about the greater world beyond America.
- **The Ohio Resource Center** - This site gives a comprehensive overview of how the Compare and Contrast skill can be integrated into various grade levels and subject areas. It provides broad strategies, as well as specific ideas for lesson planning.

Range of Reading and Level of Text Complexity

RI.K.10 Actively engage in group reading activities with purpose and understanding.

- **"The Case for Informational Text"** - This article, by Dr. Nell K. Duke, offers insight into the research focused on why younger students need to expand their repertoire and build literacy skills with informational text.
- **Wonders of Nature: Plants, Bugs, and Frogs** - This lesson provides several activities that will engage students with informational text including creating a cause-and-effect table to record class work and reading a book such as *Earth Day* (Trudi Strain Trueit).

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"We want students reading like detectives and writing like investigative reporters."

- David Coleman, CCSS ELA



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