



4th Grade ELA Learning at a Glance

	QUARTER 1	QUARTER 2	QUARTER 3	QUARTER 4
TOPIC	Module 1: Poets and Becoming Writers	Module 2: Animal Defense Mechanisms	Module 3: The American Revolution	Module 4: Responding to Inequality: Ratifying the 19 th Amendment
Writing Tasks	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Revising a Literary EssayPoetry Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Informative Essay: Putterfish Defense MechanismsNarrative Writing: Animal Defenses- Choose your own adventure	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Text-Based Discussion: American RevolutionOpinion Writing: Loyalist Broadside	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Opinion Writing: PSA ScriptTaking Action Project Press Release
Texts we will use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>Love That Dog</i>, Sharon Creech<i>A River of Words</i>, Jen Bryant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>Can You Survive the Wilderness?</i>, Matt Doeden<i>Venom</i>, Marilyn Singer<i>Animal Behavior: Animal Defenses</i>, Christina Wilsdon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>Colonial Voices Hear them Speak</i>, Kay Winters<i>Divided Loyalties: The Barton Family During the American Revolution</i>, Gare Thompson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>The Hope Chest</i>, Karen Schwabach
Description	We will launch the year by exploring what inspires writers to write- specifically what inspires poets to write poetry. We will begin by reading <i>Love That Dog</i> and learn about the characteristics of poetry by closely reading famous poems. We will read about what inspired famous poets and this will lead to students writing their own poems. For the performance task, students will present their poem to an audience.	Students will examine the defense mechanisms of one specific animal about which they will build an expertise. They will write an informative piece and a choose your own adventure piece about this animal. Students will read closely to practice drawing inferences as we begin research and make observations and synthesize information. In their writing piece, students will describe their animal's physical characteristics, habitat, predators, and defense mechanisms.	How does one's perspective influence his or her opinion? We will consider the answer to this question through the lens of the American Revolution. We will begin building background knowledge about the Revolutionary war and the perspectives of the colonists. We will read informational texts as well as a historical fiction play to deepen our understanding of the Patriot and Loyalist perspectives. At the end of the module, we will synthesize our research to write an opinion piece from the Patriot perspective outlining the reasons colonists should join the cause in the form of a broadside.	Students will be introduced to gender and racial inequality issues in the United States in the first half of the 20 th century through literature and informational texts. We will learn about the ratification of the 19 th Amendment. We will read <i>The Hope Chest</i> and firsthand and secondhand accounts of real-life responses to inequality. We will wrap up the unit by focusing on how we can make a difference and contribute to a better world. We will research how students around the world have made a difference before taking action as a class on an issue in our community.