



Overview of the Year for Fifth-Grade Writers

SEPTEMBER	UNIT 1: Memoir
OCTOBER	UNIT 2: The Interpretive Essay: <i>Exploring and Defending Big Ideas about Life and Texts</i>
NOVEMBER	UNIT 3: Informational Writing: <i>Building on Expository Structures to Write Lively, Voice-Filled Nonfiction Picture Books</i>
DECEMBER	UNIT 4: Research-Based Argument Essays
JANUARY/FEBRUARY	UNIT 5: Historical Fiction or Fantasy Fiction
FEBRUARY/MARCH	UNIT 6: Poetry
MARCH/APRIL	UNIT 7: Literary Essay and Test Preparation in Writing
MAY	UNIT 8: Informational Writing: <i>Reading, Research, and Writing in the Content Areas</i>
JUNE	UNIT 9: Historical Fiction or Fantasy Fiction

This curricular calendar details the Reading and Writing Project’s proposal for a Common Core State Standards–aligned writing curriculum for fifth-grade classrooms. This document has been extensively revised since 2010–2011, and the document will be revised a year from now, in spring of 2012, to reflect all the new