**Mini-Lessons for the Trait of Ideas**

***Mini-Lessons about Topics to Write About***

 ABC chart of topics

 ME chart

 Inspiration books

 Picture/Photo file

 Topics collage

 Inventory lists

 Silent field trips

 Heart maps/Life maps

 Writing territories (things you know & care about)

 Writing to a prompt

— On-demand, no-choice writing topics

— Decoding a prompt (RUPR)

— Unfamiliar/uninteresting topics

 Writing to communicate (P.A.T.)

— Writing for a purpose

— Writing to an audience

— Writing about a topic

— Telling stories





***Mini-Lessons about Drawing***

 Draw with color detail

 Draw with true-to-life color detail

 Add details to a picture (revision)

 Draw details in proportion

 Draw details in position (above, below)

 Draw using the whole page (spatial details)

 Draw character details

 Draw setting details

 Draw close-up details (eyelashes, fingernails, etc.)

 Draw objects by first seeing them in shapes

 Draw more than one object to represent quantity



***Mini-Lessons about Labeling Images***

 Label with letters

 Label with words

 Pictures match words/letters

 Label the room

— Objects in the classroom

— Label pictures in big book

— Label stickers on a page

— Label diagram/illustration

***Mini-Lessons to Elaborate Narrative***

 Narrow topic

 Stay on topic (focus)

 Develop ideas completely (coherent, clear)

 ABC details develop an idea (ABC Detail Machine)

 Incorporate details (Pump up the writing)

— Number details

— Name details

— Color details

— Descriptive details

— Sensory details (5 senses)

— Comparison details

—

 Develop characters (major/minor)

— Physical description

— Personality, characteristics, gestures, habits

— Mood, attitude

—

 Develop the setting

— Location, time, season, weather, mood

—

 Develop the plot

— Problem/Solution

— Wish/Want

— Problem, climax, resolution

***Mini-Lessons to Elaborate on***

***Expository & Persuasive Writing***

 Narrow topic

 Stays on topic (focus)

 Develops ideas completely (coherent, clear)

 ABC details develop an idea (ABC Detail Machine)

 Incorporate details (Pump up the writing)

— Number details

— Name details

— Color details

— Descriptive details

— Sensory details (5 senses)

— Comparison details

—

—

 Identify thesis/purpose/argument

 Reveal position/opinion

 Topic sentences reveal main ideas

 Elaborate with support sentences

 Paraphrase ideas

 Research

— Note taking

— Primary & secondary sources

— Cite relevant evidence

 Types of supporting sentences

— Giving reasons

— Providing examples

— Defining vocabulary terms

— Revealing statistics (number facts)

— Describing anecdotes

— Adding support (quotations)

***—*** Explaining/Justifying interpretations

***—***

***—***

***—***

**Mini-Lessons for the Trait of Organization**

***Mini-Lessons about List Writing***

 To-do lists

 Shopping lists

 Sequence lists *(getting ready)*

 Topic/All about lists *(animals, snacks, etc.)*

 Noun lists

 Verb lists

 Adjective lists

 Make lists from photos/pictures

***Mini-Lessons about Focus/Support***

 Select a focus

 Stay on topic

 Organize related ideas

 Arrange ideas

 Unify important ideas

 Use a thematic focus

 Use a time focus

 Progression of ideas

 Topic sentences

 Supporting sentences

 Supporting paragraphs

 Pacing ideas

 Slowing down ideas with snapshots

 Slowing down ideas with thought-shots

***Mini-Lessons about Pre-writing***

 Grocery list details

 BME organizer

 Webbing

 ABC details (organize the sticky notes)

 T-Charts

 Venn diagrams

 Outlining

 Note taking

 Organizing research notes

***Mini-Lessons about Structure***

 Arrange by order of importance

 Topic sentence/Supporting detail organization

 Use subtitles

 Sequence of events/chronological order

 Compare—Contrast organization

 Question—Answer organization

 Problem—Solution organization

 Flashback/Foreshadow organization

 Letter structure

— Invitation

— Friendly

— Thank you

— Business

— Persuasive

 Poem structure

— Haiku poem

— Concrete poem

— List poem

— Acrostic poem

— Cinquain

— Limerick

— Found poem

***Mini-Lessons about Titles***

 Purpose of a title

 Types of titles

— Character titles

— Action titles

— One-word titles

— Line-from-the-writing titles

— Setting titles

— Object titles

— Question titles

— Main idea titles

***Mini-Lessons about Introd./Beginnings***

 3-part writing— beginning, middle, ending

 First liners (hooks)

 Types of beginnings

­— Question

— Sound effect

— Action

— Descriptive

— Person

— Setting

— Feeling

— Fact

 Introductory paragraphs

 Thesis statement

 Tie beginnings and endings together

***Mini-Lessons about Conclusions/Endings***

 Purpose of an ending

 Types of endings

—Circle ending

— Repeat ending

— Summary ending

— Feeling ending

— What I learned ending

— Question ending

— Clincher ending

— Take-action ending

— So what’s the good news?

— Echo ending

— So what? Who cares?

***Mini-Lessons about Transitions***

 Numerical numbers (1, 2, 3)

 Time order words *(first, second, later, after, next)*

 Transition phrases *(later that day, after lunch)*

 Transition sentences

**Mini-Lessons for the Trait of Voice**

***Mini-Lessons about Audience***

 Write to communicate to an audience

 Types of audiences

— Individuals *(principal, teacher, mom, ISTEP Lady)*

— Groups/Organizations *(third grade, ball team)*

— Those that share something in common











***Mini-Lessons about Writing with Feelings***

 Interpret the writer’s attitude toward the topic

 Use feeling words *(love, like, fun, hate, mad,* etc.)

 Utilize voice-filled conventions

— Exclamation points reveal writer feeling

— Underlined words for emphasis

— Bold words for emphasis

— All-capital letter writing for emphasis

— Colored lettering for emphasis

— Build suspense with ellipses...

—

 Talking directly to the audience

— Rhetorical questions asked to the audience

— Parentheses for audience clarification

— Emotional appeals to the audience

— Anticipate & address reader concerns

 Use an appropriate tone for the reader

— Adjust tone & style for the reader











***Mini-Lessons about Point of View***

 State your position

 Maintain a consistent point of view

— Third person

— Second person

— First person

— Character’s point of view

— Narrator’s point of view

— Inanimate object’s point of view

 Acknowledge the opposition’s point of view











**Mini-Lessons for the Trait of Word Choice**

***Mini-Lessons about Collecting Words***

 Notice good words in reading

 Create relevant word banks for writing topics

 List favorite words

 Brainstorm alternative words

— Avoid redundant words (RIP, retired words)

— Avoid cliches

 Kid-made thesaurus

 My words book

 Feeling words

 Color words (shades of crayons)

***Mini-Lessons about Precise Language***

 Specific, exact nouns (vs. general)

 Proper nouns (vs. general)

 Varied word choice (synonyms)

 Notice subtle shades of meaning (synonyms)

 Big words (WOW words, purple words)

 Vocabulary specific to subject

 Vocabulary appropriate for audience

 Accurate word choice

***Mini-Lessons about Description***

 Incorporate adjectives

 Sensory descriptions (5 senses)

 Imagery

 “Show, don’t tell” description

 Strong word phrases

 Comparisons (smells like, looks like, tastes like, etc.)





***Mini-Lessons about Verbs***

 Strong action verbs

 Use of adverbs

 Active voice







***Mini-Lessons about Unique Word Choice***

 Simple rhymes that work

 Sound effect words (onomatopoeia)

 Made-up words

 Creative phrasing

— Alliteration

— Similes

— Metaphors

— Personification

— Idioms

— Hyperboles

—

—









**Mini-Lessons for the Trait of Sentence Fluency**

***Mini-Lessons about First Sentences***

 Complete thoughts (noun and verb)

 Sentence makes sense (word order)

 Read back what you wrote

 Recognize fragments (incomplete thoughts)

— Insert words to complete the thought

 Fix run-on sentences

— Insert punctuation to separate thoughts

 Text wrap words onto the next line





















***Mini-Lessons about Sentence Variety***

 Vary sentence types

— Declarative

— Interrogative (question)

— Exclamatory (exciting)

 Vary sentence structures

— Simple

— Compound

— Complex

— Compound-Complex

— Intentional fragment

 Vary sentence beginnings

 Vary sentence length for impact

— Long sentences for slower thoughts/action

— Short sentences for fast thoughts/action









***Mini-Lessons about Musical Fluency***

 Types of figurative language

— Sound effect words (onomatopoeia)

— Alliteration

— Similes

— Metaphors

— Personification

— Idioms

— Hyperboles

—

—

 Creative phrasing

 Parallel structure













**Mini-Lessons for the Trait of Conventions**

***Mini-Lessons on Spelling/Letter Formation***

Writing left to right, top to bottom

Consonants vs. vowels

Every sound needs a letter

Every word needs a vowel

Sound-out, first-draft spelling

Word family spelling

Singular vs. plural spelling strategies

Spaces between words







***Mini-Lessons about Formatting***

 Typestyles

— Underlining

— Bolding

— Italicizing

 Citations; documenting sources







***Mini-Lessons about Capitals***

 Beginning sentence capitals

 Proper noun capitals

 Stylistic capitals (e.g. shouting, for emphasis)









***Mini-Lessons about Punctuation***

 End marks

— Period

— Question mark

— Exclamation point

 Apostrophes

— Contractions

— Possessives (singular, plural)

 Commas

— In a series

— In a compound sentence (conjunction)

— In dialogue

— With a dependent clause

 Quotation marks

— Character dialogue

— Citing a direct quote

 Parantheses

— To clarify information for the reader

— To indicate missing information

— To cite source

 Ellipses

— To build suspense

— To indicate omitted information

 Colons

 Hyphens

 Dashes

 Brackets

 Semicolons





***Mini-Lessons on Parts of Speech***

 Nouns

— Concrete

— Abstract

— Compound

— Pronouns

 Verbs

 Adjectives

 Adverbs

 Prepositions

 Phrases

 Clauses

 Articles

 Modifiers

 Conjunctions

 Transitions

 Infinitives

 Participles

 Antecedent







***Mini-Lessons about Grammar***

 Subject-verb agreement

 Noun-verb agreement (singular vs. plural)

 Verb tense consistency









