

PROHUMAN CURRICULUM - GRADE 3

OVERVIEW OF UNITS:

Unit 1	September	Optimism
Unit 2	October	Grit
Unit 3	November	Gratitude
Unit 4	December	Curiosity
Unit 5	January	Courage
Unit 6	February	Compassion
Unit 7	March	Fairness
Unit 8	April	Understanding
Unit 9	May	Humanity

UNIT 1: OPTIMISM

LESSON 3: WRITING AN INFORMATIVE TEXT ABOUT OPTIMISM

SUMMARY:

The Prohuman Grade 3 curriculum is aligned to two sets of standards: [Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts](#) and [Character and Social Emotional Development \(CSED\) National Guidelines](#). The full collection of units introduces all nine of the prohuman character strengths: optimism, grit, gratitude, curiosity, courage, compassion, fairness, understanding, and humanity.

Unit 1, Lesson 3, “Writing an Informative Text about Optimism,” reinforces the vocabulary word optimism. Students will write an informative text about a nonfiction text, [Lift as You Climb: The Story of Ella Baker](#) by Patricia Hruby Powell. This informative text will examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.

SUGGESTED TIME: 20 minutes

RELATED SUBJECT: English Language Arts

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- Introduce a topic and group related information together
- Develop the topic with facts, definitions, and details
- Use linking words and phrases (e.g., *also*, *another*, *and*, *more*, *but*) to connect ideas within categories of information
- Provide a concluding statement or section
- Demonstrate understanding of standard English sentence structure and grammar

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

- Prohuman Grade 3 Unit 1 Worksheet 3: Writing an Informative Text about Optimism

VOCABULARY:

Optimism: I have hope and believe my actions will help things turn out well.

ELA COMMON CORE STANDARDS MET

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.3.2	Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.	✓
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.3.2.B	Develop the topic with facts, definitions, and details.	✓
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.3.2.C	Use linking words and phrases (e.g., <i>also</i> , <i>another</i> , <i>and</i> , <i>more</i> , <i>but</i>) to connect ideas within categories of information.	✓
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.3.2.D	Provide a concluding statement or section.	✓
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.3.10	Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time	✓

	frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.	
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.3.1	Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.	✓
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.3.1.B	Form and use regular and irregular plural nouns.	✓
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.3.1.C	Use abstract nouns (e.g., <i>childhood</i>).	✓
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.3.1.D	Form and use regular and irregular verbs.	✓
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.3.2	Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.	✓
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.3.3	Use knowledge of language and its conventions when writing, speaking, reading, or listening.	✓

CHARACTER AND SOCIAL EMOTIONAL (CSED) NATIONAL STANDARDS MET

Moral Character B3	Provide an example of a friend or role model who “stood up” for what he or she thought was wrong or unfair	✓
Performance Character B4	Provide an example of a role model who demonstrates grit (perseverance and passion for a long-term goal)	✓
Civic Character A4	Explain why it is important for everyone to serve and contribute to their family, school, community, nation, globally	✓

Civic Character B1	Describe how a role model exemplifies fairness	✓
Civic Character B6	Describe how a role model volunteers and contributes to the common good	✓
Social-Awareness A5	Explain what empathy means (e.g., the ability to sympathetically understand and personally identify with the emotional states, needs and feelings of others)	✓
Responsible and Ethical Decision-Making A1	Write and share with your classmates an ethical principle you wish everyone in the world would follow all the time (e.g., all people are created equal, be honest, be kind)	✓

LESSON PROCEDURE

Today we will write an informative text about Ella Baker.

- 1.) Write informative text on the board.
The informative texts we write should do three things. Let's go through all three things.
- 2.) First, the informative text should develop the topic with facts, definitions, and details.
- 3.) Second, it should use linking words and phrases (e.g., *also*, *another*, *and*, *more*, *but*) to connect ideas within categories of information.
- 4.) Finally, it should provide a concluding statement or section.
- 5.) Now you will write your own informative text about Ella Baker on your worksheet.

NOTE: Collect and keep the worksheet on the following page for the next day's lesson in which students will share their stories with a partner.

GRADE 3 UNIT 1 WORKSHEET 3: WRITING AN INFORMATIVE TEXT ABOUT OPTIMISM

Optimism: I have hope and believe my actions will help things turn out well.

ACTIVITY:

Write an informative text of 5 sentences about Ella Baker that:

- Includes 3 facts about what she did.
- Uses linking words and phrases (e.g., *also*, *another*, *and*, *more*, *but*)
- Provides a concluding statement or section.