

Teacher Guide

Narrative Unit:

Animals

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This narrative unit is designed as a companion to [4th grade EL Education Module 2: Researching to Build Knowledge and Teach Others: Animal Defense Mechanisms](#). The activities included in this unit are meant to give students an opportunity to learn about, practice and/or apply their knowledge of narrative during a unit that is otherwise focused on informative reading and writing. The informative texts in *Venom* by Marilyn Singer are used throughout so students can use what they learn from informational texts to help them craft realistic and engaging narratives about animals. This unit is also designed to be easily used as a stand-alone unit with *Venom* by Marilyn Singer as a base text. The [slideshow](#), linked to each lesson in the sequence overview, is the primary driver of instruction for the unit.

Lesson Sequence Overview

Lesson One	Lesson Two	Lesson Three	Lesson Four
Narrative Writing Introduction <u>Goal:</u> provide clarity around narrative writing with characteristics	+ # Bee Narrative: Character <u>Goal:</u> connect informative learning; analyze prompt, explicitly teach character development, write paragraph	+ # Snake Narrative: Setting <u>Goal:</u> connect informative learning; analyze prompt, explicitly teach setting development, write paragraph	+ # Starfish Narrative: Conflict <u>Goal:</u> connect informative learning; analyze prompt, explicitly teach conflict development, write paragraph

Lesson Five	Lesson Six	Lesson Seven	Lesson Eight
+ # Scorpion Narrative: Resolution <u>Goal:</u> connect informative learning; analyze prompt, explicitly teach resolution development, write paragraph	* # Animal Friends Narrative: Dialogue <u>Goal:</u> analyze prompt, explicitly teach dialogue, write paragraph	* Zoo Capture Narrative: Descriptive Details <u>Goal:</u> explicitly teach descriptive details & precise vocabulary, write paragraph	* Zoo Escape Narrative: Transitions <u>Goal:</u> explicitly teach transitional words & phrases, write paragraph

- * Day with Stand-Alone Writing Prompt
- + Day with Text-Based Writing Prompt
- # Day with Prompt De-Construction