

## PROHUMAN CURRICULUM - GRADE 2

### 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 3: GRATITUDE

### LESSON 3: WRITING AN OPINION PIECE ABOUT GRATITUDE

#### SUMMARY:

The Prohuman Grade 2 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 3, Lesson 3, “Writing an Opinion Piece About Gratitude,” reinforces the vocabulary word gratitude. Students will write an opinion piece in which they introduce the topic they are writing about, state an opinion, supply reasons that support the opinion, use linking words (e.g., because, and, also) to connect their opinion and reasons, and provide a concluding statement or section.

**SUGGESTED TIME:** 20 minutes

**RELATED SUBJECT:** English Language Arts

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

- Demonstrate comprehension of the word gratitude
- Write an opinion piece that introduces the topic they are writing about, states an opinion, supplies reasons that support their opinion, uses linking words (e.g., because, and, also) to connect their opinion and reasons, and provides a concluding statement or section
- Demonstrate understanding of standard English sentence structure and grammar

**REQUIRED MATERIALS:**

- Prohuman Grade 2 Unit 3 Worksheet 3: Writing an Opinion Piece About Gratitude

**VOCABULARY:**

**Gratitude:** I am thankful for many things, big and small.

**ELA COMMON CORE STANDARDS MET**

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.2.1	Write opinion pieces in which they introduce the topic or book they are writing about, state an opinion, supply reasons that support the opinion, use linking words (e.g., because, and, also) to connect opinion and reasons, and provide a concluding statement or section.	✓
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.2.2	Recount or describe key ideas or details from a text read aloud or information presented orally or through other media.	✓
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.2.6	Produce complete sentences when appropriate to task	✓

	and situation in order to provide requested detail or clarification.	
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.2.1	Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.	✓
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.2.2	Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.	✓
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.2.3	Use knowledge of language and its conventions when writing, speaking, reading, or listening.	✓

## CHARACTER AND SOCIAL EMOTIONAL (CSED) NATIONAL STANDARDS MET

Moral Character A6	Understand what gratitude is (the ability to recognize and express appreciation) and why practicing gratitude is a character strength	✓
Moral Character B	Apply and demonstrate the character strengths of honesty and integrity, caring and compassion, gratitude, and the courage to take initiative	✓
Social-Awareness A3	Demonstrate the ability to listen carefully and intentionally to others	✓
Self-Management A3	Explain the different ways people respond to problems and challenges (e.g., ask for help, try harder, learn from mistakes)	✓
Interpersonal/ Relationship Skills 7	Play games and appropriately participate in small group classroom activities	✓
Responsible and Ethical Decision-Making 1	Describe a rule or principle that everyone should strive to live by (e.g., be kind, be honest, try your best)	✓

## LESSON PROCEDURE

Today, you will write an opinion piece that identifies what you are most grateful for and why.

- 1.) An opinion piece does five things.
- 2.) First, it introduces the topic you are writing about.
- 3.) Second, it states your opinion.
- 4.) Third, it supplies reasons that support your opinion.
- 5.) Fourth, it uses linking words (e.g., because, and, also) to connect opinion and reasons.
- 6.) Finally, it provides a concluding statement or section.
- 7.) Here is an example of an opinion piece. Write on the board:

<b>Topic:</b>	I am grateful for sports. There are many different types of sports such as baseball, basketball, soccer, football, volleyball, and more.
<b>Opinion:</b>	I am most grateful for the sport of basketball.
<b>Reason 1:</b>	Basketball has a lot of action such as running, jumping, and shooting the ball.
<b>Reason 2:</b>	Playing basketball is a fast-moving game, which is exciting.
<b>Conclusion:</b>	In my opinion, I am most grateful for the sport of basketball because it involves a lot of action and it is a fast-moving game.

- 8.) Now each student will write their own opinion piece on their worksheet.

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

## **GRADE 2 UNIT 3 WORKSHEET 3: WRITING AN OPINION PIECE ABOUT GRATITUDE**

**Gratitude:** I am thankful for many things, big and small.

**ACTIVITY:** Write an opinion piece that identifies what you are most grateful for and why. Using complete sentences, you will identify your topic, state your opinion, write two reasons, and provide a closing statement.

**Topic:**

**Opinion:**

**Reason 1:**

**Reason 2:**

**Closure:**