Writing Trails in American History

by Laurie Barrie

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Other books by Laurie Barrie:

Immigrant Trails in American History

Acknowledgements

This writing program is based upon the format of key word outlining in the "Institute for Excellence in Writing"

C119 Writing Trails

American History

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Writing Trails in American History

Introduction

The goal of this resource is for children to learn to create a key word outline and retell the basic ideas of the text by using their key words. This resource provides a routine format of outlining, vocabulary study, thesaurus study, and cursive practice to develop competency, independence, and creativity in writing.

Overview

- 1. INTRODUCTION: A sample has been given on page vi and vii. Use this sample as an introduction to this writing program. Write the Mayflower story on the board. Choose a student reader to read the story aloud. After the story has been read, tell the students they should choose three words that will help them remember the main idea of each sentence. Have the students write down three key words for each numbered section on notebook paper. Next, divide the students into pairs and have them retell the story by using their key word outlines. Tell the students the goal is not to retell the story verbatim. The goal is not to memorize the story. The goal is to communicate the main idea of the story by using their key words. After the stories have been retold, have the class openly discuss which key words should most likely have been chosen, and write them on the board. Talk briefly about the importance of choosing KEY words. Read the Mayflower rewrite. Point out how the new chosen synonyms were used in the story. Encourage the students to write expressively and add creativity to the story while maintaining the facts from their key words.
- 2. STORIES FOR OUTLINING: Use the following format for weekly writing assignments:

a. student reader reads story aloud

e. thesaurus work independently

b. students read story silently

f. key word outline independently

c. rewrite title

g. retell story in pairs

d. vocabulary work independently

- h. writing independently
- 3. VOCABULARY: Have a dictionary readily available for every student. Be sure to inform students that some vocabulary words contain suffixes, and they should look up the root word. Have them carefully match the proper meaning of the word by reading the vocabulary word in context. When choosing a new synonym, have them add the original suffix to the new word.
- 4. THESAURUS: Have a thesaurus readily available for every student. Be sure to inform the students that each thesaurus word chosen will be used in place of the vocabulary words when rewriting from their key word outline.
- 5. KEY WORD OUTLINE: Have the students choose three key words from each section. They are to look at their key word outlines only, not the original story when writing.
- 6. ROUGH DRAFT: Every lesson should have a rewrite from the key word outline in rough draft form. Each rough draft should be double-spaced to allow plenty of room for editing. Rough drafts should be due two days after the writing assignment has been given.
- 7. FINAL DRAFT: After editing, the final draft should be written with single spacing, and carefully checked by the students before turning in. All three papers should be included when turning in the assignment. The final draft should be placed on top, with the rough draft and outline following.
- 8. GRADING: Follow the grading sheet provided on page viii and staple to each student's paper.

Proposed Schedule

Week	Lesson	Page #	Weekday	Work Assigned
		1	Monday	Read story aloud
One	Paul Revere	&		Begin worksheet
		2	by Friday	Complete #1-4
			Monday	Begin rough
				draft
Two	Paul Revere	2	Wednesday	Rough draft due
			Friday	Final draft due
	War for	3	Monday	Read story aloud
Three	Independence	&		Begin worksheet
		4	by Friday	Complete #1-4
			Monday	Begin rough
	War for			draft
Four	Independence	4	Wednesday	Rough draft due
		_	Friday	Final draft due
	Writing the	5	Monday	Read story aloud
Five	Declaration of	&	$\langle . \rangle \rangle$	Begin worksheet
	Independence	6	by Friday	Complete #1-4
	TYTE OF		Monday	Begin rough
g.	Writing the		, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	draft
Six	Declaration of	6\\	Wednesday	Rough draft due
	Independence		D : 1	F: 1.1.0.1
	G :		Friday	Final draft due
0	Cursive practice		Monday	Begin cursive
Seven	on the Dec. of		W- 1 1	practice
	Independence	0	Wednesday	Paper due
Eight \	The Constitution	8	Monday	Read story aloud
Eight	The Constitution	& 9	har Emidaes	Begin worksheet
		9	by Friday	Complete #1-4
			Monday	Begin rough draft
Nine	The Constitution	9	Wednesday	Rough draft due
NIIIC	The Constitution	9	Wednesday	Rough draft duc
			Friday	Final draft due
		10	Monday	Read story aloud
Ten	The Lewis and	&	wionady	Begin worksheet
1011	Clark Expedition	11	by Friday	Complete #1-4
			Monday	Begin rough
	The Lewis and			draft
Eleven	Clark Expedition	11	Wednesday	Rough draft due
	rr			
			Friday	Final draft due
		12	Monday	Read story aloud
Twelve	The War of 1812	&		Begin worksheet
		13	by Friday	Complete #1-4
			Monday	Begin rough
			_	draft
Thirteen	The War of 1812	13	Wednesday	Rough draft due
			Friday	Final draft due

Fourteen on: The Star-Spangled Banner		Cursive practice		Monday	Begin cursive
Spangled Banner	Fourteen	•	14	,	
Fifteen The Oregon Trail & Monday Begin worksheet Complete #1-4 Sixteen The Oregon Trail 16 Wednesday Read story aloud Begin worksheet Complete #1-4 Seventeen War Between & Monday Begin rough draft due Begin worksheet Complete #1-4 Eighteen War Between the States 18 by Friday Complete #1-4 Eighteen War Between the States 18 Wednesday Begin rough draft due Begin worksheet Complete #1-4 Final draft due Begin rough draft due Begin worksheet Complete #1-4 Famous Inventors (Edison) Friday Complete #1-4 Famous Inventors (Edison) Friday Friday Complete #1-4 Famous Inventors (Edison) Friday Begin rough draft due Begin worksheet (Carver) 23 by Friday Complete #1-4 Famous Inventors (Carver) Friday Final draft due Begin worksheet Complete #1-4 Famous Inventors (Carver) Friday Friday Complete #1-4 Famous Inventors (Carver) Friday Final draft due Begin rough draft due Begin rough draft due Begin rough draft due Begin worksheet Complete #1-4 Famous Inventors (Carver) Friday Final draft due Begin rough draft due Begin rou		Spangled Banner		Friday	
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Nineteen Cursive practice: The Gettysburg Address 19	S	States			
Nineteen Cursive practice: The Gettysburg Address 19				Friday	Final draft due
Nineteen The Gettysburg Address		Cursive practice:			
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Twenty-four Immigration to & Begin worksheet America 25 by Friday Complete #1-4 Monday Begin rough draft				Friday	Final draft due
America 25 by Friday Complete #1-4 Monday Begin rough draft			24	Monday	Read story aloud
Monday Begin rough draft	Twenty-four	Immigration to	&		Begin worksheet
draft		America	25	by Friday	Complete #1-4
				Monday	Begin rough
Twenty-five Immigration to 25 Wednesday Rough draft due					draft
1	Twenty-five	Immigration to	25	Wednesday	Rough draft due
America		America			
Friday Final draft due				Friday	Final draft due
26 Monday Read story aloud				Monday	-
Twenty-six Ellis Island & Begin worksheet	Twenty-six	Ellis Island			
27 by Friday Complete #1-4			27		Complete #1-4
Monday Begin rough				Monday	
draft					
Twenty-seven Ellis Island 27 Wednesday Rough draft due	Twenty-seven	Ellis Island	27	Wednesday	Rough draft due
Friday Final draft due				Friday	Final draft due

		28	Monday	Read story aloud
Twenty-eight	World War I	&		Begin worksheet
		29	by Friday	Complete #1-4
			Monday	Begin rough
				draft
Twenty-nine	World War I	29	Wednesday	Rough draft due
			Friday	Final draft due
Thirty	World War II	30	Monday	Read story aloud
		&		Begin worksheet
		31	by Friday	Complete #1-4
			Monday	Begin rough
				draft
Thirty-one	World War II	31	Wednesday	Rough draft due
			Di dala	Einal draft dua
			Friday	Final draft due

Name: Date:



The Mayflower

(Example page)

(1) The pilgrims waited eagerly to board the Mayflower. (2) The ship
would soon leave, and carry 102 passengers to the New World. (3) They set
sail from Plymouth, England, on September 16, 1620.
(4) Excited for the journey, they knew they had made the right choice
to leave England. (5) They were looking for a place to worship freely, (6) a
place where they wouldn't <u>fear</u> prisøn.
(7) The journey was long and difficult. (8) On December 21, 1620, the
pilgrims landed. (9) There, they founded Plymouth Colony. (10) Plymouth
was the birthplace of true freedom.

1. Read the story above and create a new title on the line below:

•	Journey to the New World

- 2. Vocabulary: In the story above, underline the vocabulary words listed below, and define each one.
 - a. journey: <u>a traveling from one place to another</u>
 - b. fear: distressing emotion caused by danger
 - c. difficult: requiring special effort or skill; hard

3. Thesaurus: Look up the vocabulary words in the thesaurus and write a new synonym to replace each vocabulary word.

Vocabulary word	Synonym word
a. journey	a. <i>pilgrimage</i>
b. fear	b. dread
c. difficult	c. hard

4. Outline the story by choosing three key words from each numbered section. Use your synonym choice in place of each vocabulary word.

(1) <u>pilgrims, board, Mayflower</u>	(6) wouldn't, <mark>dread</mark> , prison
(2)(102)passengers, New, World	(7) journey, long, hard
(2) 102 pumangen, vino, usuu	
(3) <u>left, England, 9-16-1620</u>	(8) <u>12-21-1620, pilgrims, landed</u>
(4) <u>pilgrimage,</u> right, choice	(9) <u>founded, Plymouth, Colony</u>
(5) place, worship, freely	(10) Flymouth, birthplace, freedom

Using your key-word outline, rewrite the story. Use your new title for the story and underline your chosen synonym words.

Journey to the New World

The pilgrims were ready to board the Mayflower. There were 102 passengers that boarded the large ship to head to the New World. The Mayflower left England on September 16, 1620. Their pilgrimage to the New World was the right choice. They were going to the New World to find a place where they could worship freely. They knew in the New World, they wouldn't dread prison.

The journey was very long and hard for the pilgrims. Then on December 21, 1620, the pilgrims finally landed. They founded Plymouth Colony and made that their new home. Plymouth Colony became their birthplace of freedom in the New World.



Grading Writing

Rough Draft

Title/Indent	6	
Synonyms used	9	
Sentence structure	15	
Spell./punct./cap.	25	
Story Line	20	
Total	75	

Final Draft

	1 6616	
Title/Indent	5	
Handwriting	10	
Corrections	25	
Punctuation	15	
Spelling \	10	
Capitalization		
Neatness	5	
Total)	75	

Cursive Practice

Title/Indent	<u>_</u> 5/	
Copy errors	50 _	
Cursive	15	
Overall neatness	5	
	_	
Total	75	