



Curriculum Units by Fellows of the National Initiative
2025 Volume II: The Art of Writing and Revision

Using Micro-Mentor Texts to Promote Self-Discovery in Writing

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This two-week unit explains how micro-mentor texts can be used to improve students' writing craft. In this unit, students will analyze short passages and sentences from exemplar texts to build the practice of crafting sentences intentionally. The unit's culminating assessment requires students to revise and expand on one of the daily writing pieces with craft moves in mind. Students will practice using sound devices and elements of diction, specifically focusing on strong verbs. Following a discussion and analysis of an author's craft, students will have opportunities to imitate these craft moves in their own writing. Students will understand the intentional choices that authors make when crafting and revising their own writing pieces for improved sound and meaning. The culminating assessment is scaffolded for students through the frequent writing opportunities provided to them. After completing this unit, students will have built their stamina as writers while also developing a better understanding of how word choice contributes to an author's message. By implementing this unit, one's students will explore personal identities through frequent writing, will gain knowledge of what it means to think like writers, and will work to strengthen their individual writing abilities.

(Developed for Reading Intervention, grades 7-8; recommended for English Language Arts, grades 6-8)

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