



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

The Harlem Renaissance- Uniting A Community of Artists

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The Harlem Renaissance played a key role in laying the foundation for art culture in the United States. This curriculum unit allows students to take a step into the past as we watch a community of artists form through text, music, photographs and paintings. Mentor text lends a hand to seeing examples of various types of writings. As students work through this writing process, they will discover what type of writer they are. Using a reading and writing workshop model, students will learn to work and grow as independent learners. We will put our learning focus on learning materials and writing without worrying about time constraints. The more students read, the more connections they will make to their writing. Writing will be scaffolded through short prompts and grow into a larger finished piece. Revising will be an ongoing process as these narratives grow. Feedback will be shared often through this process to aid in thinking and building a solid piece of information. As a final extension to this curriculum, students will add art pieces onto their writing project. Peer and teacher feedback encourage students to criticize their work and build strong writing practices. Culturally relevant pedagogy will be present through this curriculum unit.

(Developed for ELA, grade 3; recommended for ELA, Social Studies, Art, and Music, grade 3)

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