

Welcome to Mystery Writing



Let's get set up!



- ✓ Got your laptop?
- ✓ Click on your organization's join link:
[\[Paste join link here so teachers can see it\]](#)
- ✓ Now you have access and are ready to go!

What's a join link? It's a custom link that let's teachers instantly join your organization's Mystery Writing account.

Don't have the link? Ask your administrator for the link, or create a teacher account at writing.mysteryscience.com. Use your school email and select your school/district when creating your account.

Why use Mystery Writing?



Easy to Teach

Low-prep lessons with clear, step-by-step instruction.



Flexible

Choose the lessons that fit your teaching goals and schedule.



Supports Every Writer

Built-in scaffolds help students develop skills and confidence.

How Mystery Writing grows with students



Kindergarten & 1st Grade

Short, guided lessons build foundational writing skills.

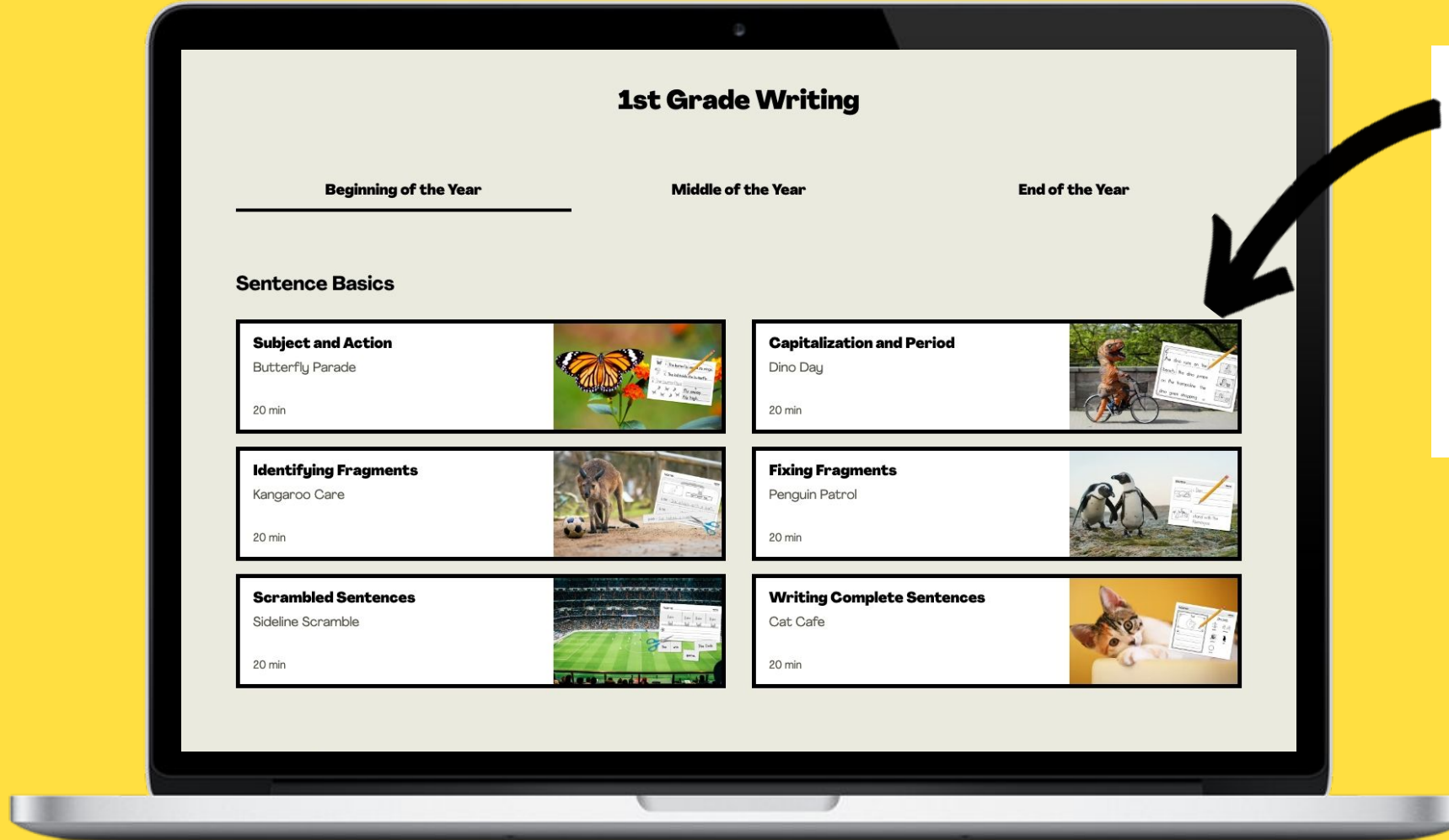


2nd Grade – 5th Grade

Genre units teach the writing process from start to finish.

Kindergarten – 1st Grade

Kindergarten & 1st Grade Writing



- Short, guided lessons help students build foundational writing skills.
- Lessons teach one skill at a time and progress developmentally through the school year.

Kindergarten Concepts

Beginning of the Year

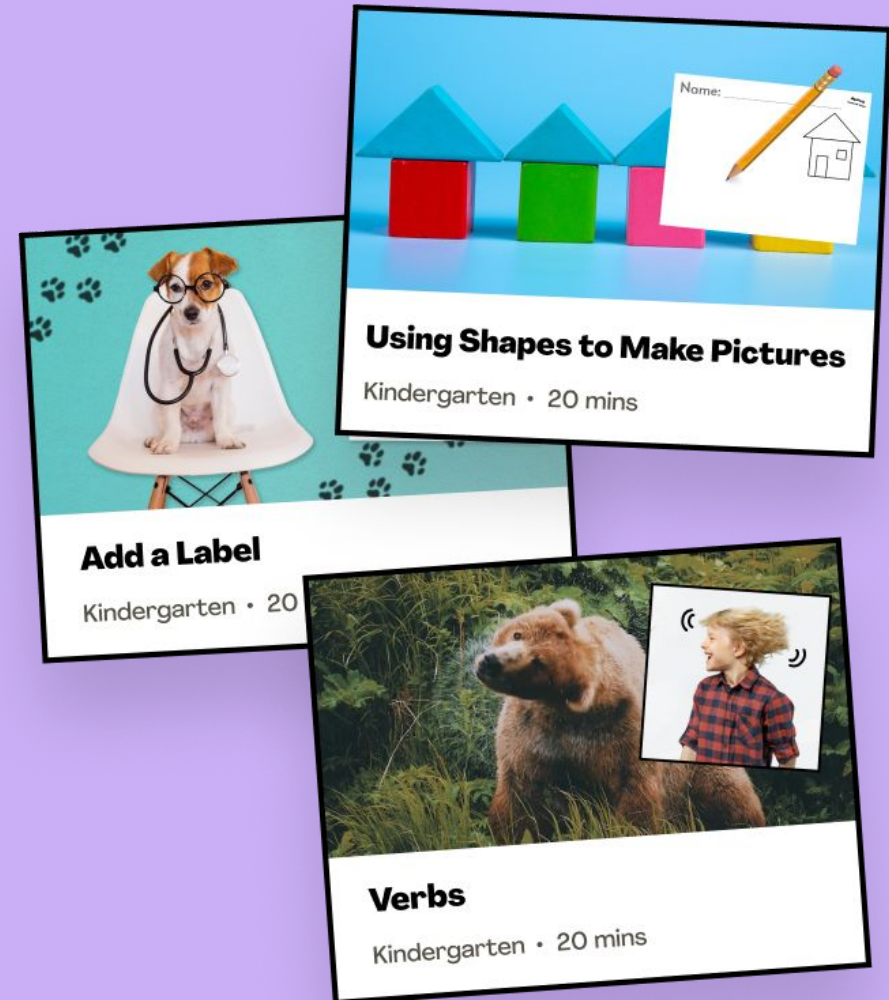
- Drawing to Write (5 lessons)

Middle of the Year

- Parts of a Sentence (5 lessons)

End of the Year

- Simple Sentences (Coming Jan '27)



Example Lesson: Kindergarten



In This Lesson

- Students learn that labels help identify people, places, and things.
- In a writing activity about a vet's office, they match animals to the correct rooms and practice sounding out and writing animal names as labels.

1st Grade Concepts

Beginning of the Year

- Sentence Basics (6 lessons)
- Types of Sentences (4 lessons)

Middle of the Year

- Expanding Sentences (4 lessons)

End of the Year (Available Jan '27)

- Sentences for Narrative Writing
- Sentences for Opinion Writing
- Sentences for Informative Writing



Example Lesson: 1st Grade



Subject and Action
1st Grade • 20 mins

Name: Quinn

1. The butterfly opens its wings.

2. The kid holds the butterfly.

3. The butterflies fly away.

In This Lesson

- In the lesson video, students learn that every sentence has two parts, a subject and an action.
- Next, in the guided activity, they practice identifying each part by boxing and circling them in sentences.

2nd Grade – 5th Grade

3 Types of Lessons

Genre Units

Step-by-step writing projects where students plan, draft, revise, and share their writing.



Essential Skill Lessons

30-minute lessons teach key skills for stronger writing with a guided practice activity.



Writing Prompts

Engaging prompts with scaffolds help students build stamina and independence.



Genre Units (2nd–5th Grade)

Genre units guide students through the writing process from start to finish. Students:

- Learn the characteristics of a genre
- Practice key writing skills
- Develop a complete piece of writing
- Share or present their writing in creative ways



Genre Unit Assessment Tools

In each unit, you'll find...

- A pre-assessment
- A post-assessment
- Rubrics & students checklists

4th Grade Narrative Writing Rubric

Amusement Park

Name: _____

Date: _____

Standard	1	2	3	4	Feedback
W.4.3.a Create a plan for a narrative by using a graphic organizer. Describe character, setting, problem, and resolution before writing.					
W.4.3.b Write a lead that introduces the main character and the setting.					
L.4.2.b Use commas and quotation marks to mark dialogue.					
W.4.3.c Use transition words to order events.					
W.4.3.b Use dialogue to show characters' responses.					
W.4.4, W.4.5 Review work to edit for punctuation, capitalization, and spelling.					

1 = standard not met

My Writing Checklist

Amusement Park

Name: _____

Date: _____

Writing Process	Learning Goals	Not yet ☹️	Starting to... 😊	Yes! 😄
Planning	I can make a plan for my story using a story arc. My plan has all the parts of a story: character, setting, problem, solution, and lesson learned.			
Add an introduction	I can write a lead for my story that introduces/includes the main character and then setting.			
Write and organize	I can use transition words to tell my story in order.			
Add a conclusion	I can write an ending that follows the events in the story and comes to a resolution.			
Fix capitals, spelling, and end marks	I can edit my writing by checking for errors in capitalization, spelling, and punctuation (end marks).			

Sports Stories

Name: _____

Date: _____

Things happen when playing sports, you've probably experienced. Write about a character who is playing a sport or a game. If you want, write about one of the characters in the picture.

Write about a main character and a setting. You can write a story about characters in the picture, or come up with your own.

Write about how your story will go in the lines below. Make sure your story has a beginning, a problem, a solution, and an end. It can be something that happened to you, or a story you imagine.

Plan

Character: _____

mystery

Narrative | Amusement Park

mystery writing

Time-saving Tip!

Use the **“Print all student worksheets”** button to print out the worksheets for every lesson in a genre unit.

You can find it at the bottom of every unit page!

About this Unit

Students write a realistic fiction text for a classroom short story festival. They plan using a story arc, and draft the story using dialogue, action, emotions, and transition words. Lastly, they edit their writing and share with their classmates.

 [Pre-Assessment](#)

 [Post-Assessment](#)

 [Print all student worksheets](#)

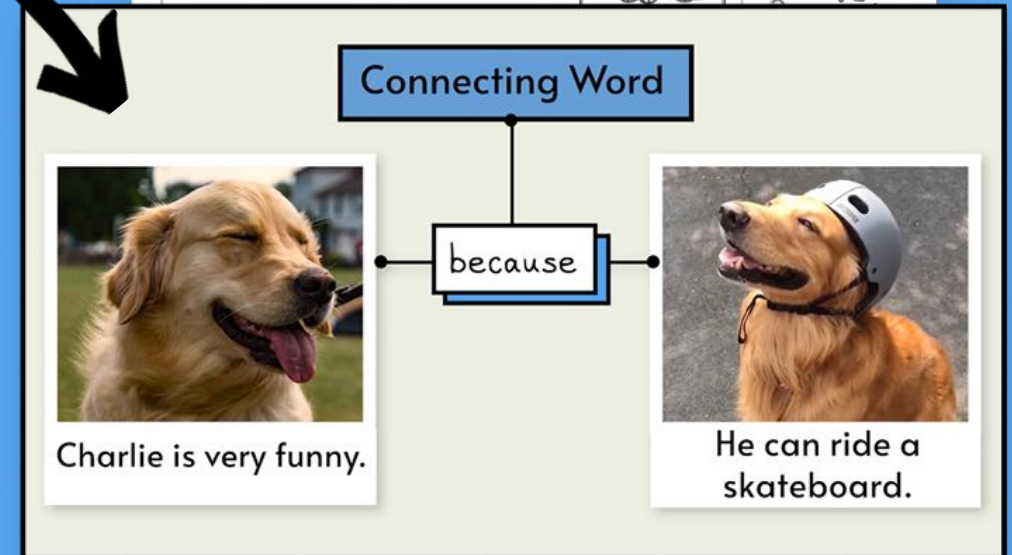


Essential Skill Lessons

30-minute lessons focused on a specific writing skill.

Use them to:

- Introduce a skill
- Reinforce a skill
- Revisit a skill later



Writing Prompts

Writing Prompts

Short writing activities for engaging independent practice.

Great for:

- Morning work
- Small groups
- Journal writing



Make a Monster!

Independent Writing Prompt • 15 mins



The Great Pumpkin Paddle

Independent Writing Prompt • 15 mins

More resources for planning

On the Resources page, you'll find...

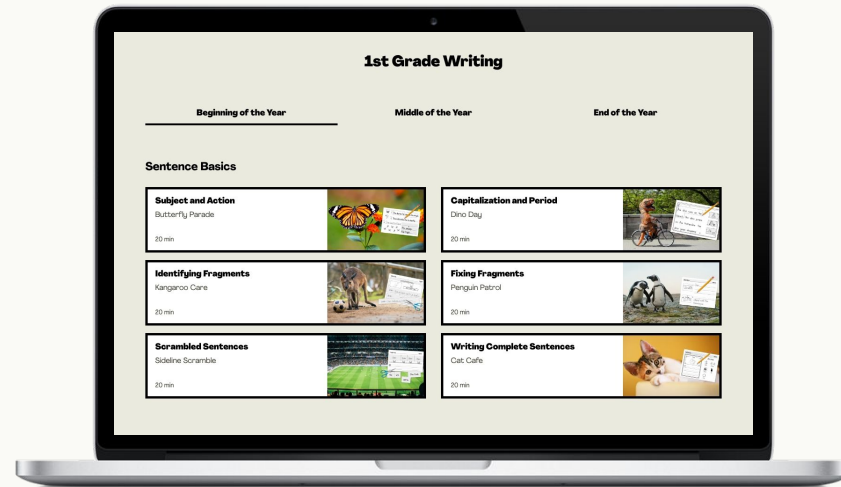
- [Standards Alignment Guide](#)
An overview of all lessons and standards
- [Sample Lesson Sequences](#)
A sample sequence of lessons for the first six weeks



You're ready to get started!

Kindergarten & 1st Grade

Choose a 20-minute lesson from "Beginning of the Year" to start.



2nd Grade – 5th Grade

Choose a genre (Narrative, Opinion, or Informative) and preview the first unit.

