Amplify CKLA

Welcome!

Grade 5, Unit 1
In My Own Words: Personal Narratives

In this unit, students will have the opportunity to explore the genre of personal narratives.

What's the story?

Students will read a variety of **personal narratives** and they will focus on identifying the **unique elements** of this genre.

What will my student learn?

Students will build their knowledge of **descriptive writing** and will put that knowledge to use in their own writing. They will examine and use those features of personal narrative writing to **compose** works about their **own lives and experiences**.

This unit will help students discover that they are **capable of personal writing** and that it can be a **fun and creative** way to share what they have to say about themselves. This unit provides a **supportive** environment for them to begin to **identify themselves as writers**.

Conversation starters

Ask your student questions about the unit to promote discussion and continued learning:

1. What has been your favorite personal narrative from this unit?
   Follow up: Why? Could you relate to the person in the story? Why?
2. What is a personal narrative?
   Follow up: How is it different from other genres of writing that you have learned about? What are some of the elements of personal narratives that stand out to you?
3. How can the use of strong verbs and adjectives impact your writing?
   Follow up: What are some strong verbs you could use instead of the word *said* to really make an impact?
4. What is personification?
   Follow up: Consider this example: "The ice cream in the freezer was calling my name." What is the nonhuman thing? What human action does it have? Can you personify a vacuum? A car? Your pet? Give me an example.

5. In this unit, you read a personal narrative by Rosa Parks. What did you know about her before you read it?
   Follow up: What new things did you learn about her? How was her school different from yours? How was it similar? Can you talk about her experience based on her point of view? And from her teachers' point of view?
6. What is tone?
   Follow up: Can you tell me about our weather today using a scientific tone? Now try doing it in a sarcastic, a passionate, and an optimistic tone.