

Welcome!

Grade 5, Unit 4

Don Quixote: A Hopeful Knight's Tale

In this unit, students will explore the fiction genre through a classic novel, *Don Quixote*.

What's the story?

This unit exposes students to the **culturally relevant aspects** of this classic work, such as the relationship between **Don Quixote** and his sidekick, **Sancho Panza**.

What will my student learn?

Students will trace the **development** of **plot, characters**, and **literary elements** over the course of the novel. They will also read excerpts from an adapted version of *Adventures of Don Quixote*, which will enable them to **compare and contrast** the two texts used in the unit.

The **writing lessons** provide multiple opportunities for **peer collaboration**. Students will regularly engage in **written responses** to the texts they are reading and will work on **writing a persuasive essay**.

Conversation starters

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

1. What are the differences between knights and soldiers?
Follow up: Why might someone want to become a knight? Why might someone want to become a soldier? Which would you rather be?
2. What are some of Don Quixote's character traits?
Follow up: Can you give me some examples of when he displayed those traits?
3. Tell me some facts you have gathered through your reading about Don Quixote.
Follow up: What are some opinions that you have about Don Quixote?
4. How are Don Quixote and Sancho Panza similar to one another?
Follow up: How are they different from one another? What are some of Sancho Panza's character traits?
5. You learned about the word *ironic* (or *irony*). What does it mean?
Follow up: What did you learn about verbal irony? What did you learn about situational irony? Can you give me some examples?
6. What were some of the adventures that Don Quixote and Sancho Panza experienced together?