

6 Trait Mini-Lessons - Conventions

Introducing Conventions:

- *Creating a Conventions-Ready Classroom* p. 260-261 6+1 Traits of Writing: the Complete Guide for the Primary Grades by Ruth Culham
- *The Conventions of Conventions* p. 239-240 6+1 Traits of Writing: the Complete Guide Grades 3 and Up by Ruth Culham
- *Take it Out* p. 240 6+1 Traits of Writing: the Complete Guide Grades 3 and Up by Ruth Culham
- *Error Hunt* p. 240 6+1 Traits of Writing: the Complete Guide Grades 3 and Up by Ruth Culham
- *Be Accountable* p. 240 6+1 Traits of Writing: the Complete Guide Grades 3 and Up by Ruth Culham
- *Conventions Center* p. 240-241 6+1 Traits of Writing: the Complete Guide Grades 3 and Up by Ruth Culham
- *Shift the Plane* - Think about how you've proofread a document only to discover as you're walking with it that you've missed an error. Teach your students to shift the plane to proofread. If you wrote on the table, lift the paper to reread/proofread it. Idea by Kristina Smekens

Spelling & Letter Formation:

- Writing left to right, top to bottom
- Consonants vs. vowels
- Every sound needs a letter
- Every word needs a vowel
- Sounded out first draft spelling
 - *Kid Spell* p. 265-266 6+1 Traits of Writing: the Complete Guide for the Primary Grades by Ruth Culham
- *Spelling Pictionaries* p. 266 6+1 Traits of Writing: the Complete Guide for the Primary Grades by Ruth Culham
- *Editing for Spelling*
 - *Those Nasty Homophones* p. 241 6+1 Traits of Writing: the Complete Guide Grades 3 and Up by Ruth Culham
 - *Practice Makes Perfect* p. 241 6+1 Traits of Writing: the Complete Guide Grades 3 and Up by Ruth Culham
 - *Use the Computer...With Care* p. 241 6+1 Traits of Writing: the Complete Guide Grades 3 and Up by Ruth Culham
 - *Reading Backward* p. 266 6+1 Traits of Writing: the Complete Guide for the Primary Grades by Ruth Culham
 - *Reading Backwards* p. 241 6+1 Traits of Writing: the Complete Guide Grades 3 and Up by Ruth Culham
- Word family spelling
- Singular vs. plural spelling strategies
- Spaces between words

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Formatting:

- Typesets
 - Underlining
 - Bolding
 - Italicizing
- Citations - documenting sources

Capitalization:

- Beginning sentence capitals
- Proper noun capitals
- Stylistic capitals (SHOUTED...for emphasis)
- Clap for Caps p. 267 6+1 Traits of Writing: the Complete Guide for the Primary Grades by Ruth Culham
- Stop-and-Go Capitalization p. 267 6+1 Traits of Writing: the Complete Guide for the Primary Grades by Ruth Culham
- This is Why p. 267 6+1 Traits of Writing: the Complete Guide for the Primary Grades by Ruth Culham
- Capitalization Bee p. 268 6+1 Traits of Writing: the Complete Guide for the Primary Grades by Ruth Culham
- Editing for Capital Letters
 - Bouncing Ball p. 242 6+1 Traits of Writing: the Complete Guide Grades 3 and Up by Ruth Culham
 - Context Capitals p. 242 6+1 Traits of Writing: the Complete Guide Grades 3 and Up by Ruth Culham
 - Being e. e. cummings p. 243 6+1 Traits of Writing: the Complete Guide Grades 3 and Up by Ruth Culham
 - Times, They Are a-Changin' p. 243 6+1 Traits of Writing: the Complete Guide Grades 3 and Up by Ruth Culham

Punctuation:

- Handmade Editing Charts p. 268 6+1 Traits of Writing: the Complete Guide for the Primary Grades by Ruth Culham
- Splat! p. 269 6+1 Traits of Writing: the Complete Guide for the Primary Grades by Ruth Culham
- Everywhere You Look p. 269 6+1 Traits of Writing: the Complete Guide for the Primary Grades by Ruth Culham
- The Royal Court p. 270 6+1 Traits of Writing: the Complete Guide for the Primary Grades by Ruth Culham
- End Marks
 - Period (.)

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- Question mark (?)
- Exclamation point/mark (!)
- Apostrophes
 - Contractions
 - Possessives (singular, plural)
- Commas
 - In a series
 - In a compound sentence (conjunction)
 - In dialogue
 - With a dependent clause
- Quotation Marks
 - Character dialogue
 - Working With Dialogue p. 270 6+1 Traits of Writing: the Complete Guide for the Primary Grades by Ruth Culham
 - Citing a direct quote
- Parentheses
 - To clarify information for the reader
 - To indicate missing information
 - To cite source
- Ellipses
 - To build suspense
 - To indicate omitted information
- Colons
- Hyphens
- Dashes
- Brackets
- Semicolons
- Editing for Punctuation
 - Punctuation Walkabout p. 243 6+1 Traits of Writing: the Complete Guide Grades 3 and Up by Ruth Culham
 - Dialogue Posters p. 244 6+1 Traits of Writing: the Complete Guide Grades 3 and Up by Ruth Culham

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- Look Who's Talking p. 244 6+1 Traits of Writing: the Complete Guide Grades 3 and Up by Ruth Culham

Parts of Speech

- Nouns
 - Concrete
 - Abstract
 - Compound
 - pronouns
- Verbs
- Adjectives
- Adverbs
- Prepositions
- Phrases
- Clauses
- Articles
- Modifiers
- Conjunctions
- Transitions
- Infinitives
- Participles
- Antecedent

Grammar:

- Subject-verb agreement
- Noun-verb agreement (singular vs. plural)
- Verb tense consistency
- Editing for Grammar
 - "Schoolhouse Rock" p. 244 6+1 Traits of Writing: the Complete Guide Grades 3 and Up by Ruth Culham
 - Pass It Back p. 244-245 6+1 Traits of Writing: the Complete Guide Grades 3 and Up by Ruth Culham
 - Use Literature p. 245 6+1 Traits of Writing: the Complete Guide Grades 3 and Up by Ruth Culham