

# Writing Workshop Curricular Calendar

Essential Question – “What is a memoir and how do I write one?”

<b>Unit 2 (3-4 weeks)</b> <b>Memoir</b> <b>Genre Study</b>		<b>Mini lessons</b> (Based on assessments)
<b>Touchstone Texts for Memoir</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Examples of published memoir (<i>Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge</i>-Mem Fox, <i>My Rotten Redheaded Older Brother</i>-Polacco, <i>What You Know First</i>-MacLachlan)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is a touchstone text?</li> <li>• Learning from touchstone texts</li> <li>• Developing a definition of memoir from touchstone texts</li> </ul>
<b>Study of Memoir Writing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Touchstone texts for memoir</li> <li>• Examples of published memoir by Cynthia Rylant, Patricia MacLachlan, Sandra Cisneros, Eloise Greenfield. Libba Moore Grey)</li> <li>• Mentor authors (Tomi de Paolo in <i>Nana Upstairs and Nana Downstairs</i> )</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is a genre study?</li> <li>• By reading, students develop an understanding of what a writer does in order to write memoir well.</li> <li>• Emphasis on writing well</li> <li>• Help students value tiny, ordinary moments in their lives.</li> <li>• Writers hold these moments in their minds.</li> <li>• Writers make a movie of these moments in their minds (envisioning).</li> <li>• Writers put what is in their minds and hearts on to the page.</li> </ul>
<b>Study of Structures for Writing Memoir</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Picture book touchstone texts for naming other ways to show time within memoir-<i>Short Cut</i> and <i>Bigmama’s</i> by Donald Crews</li> <li>• Touchstone text for memoir as a list-<i>When I was Young in the Mountains</i> by Cynthia Rylant</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students come to an understanding that memoir can be written as a narrative (with all the elements of story).</li> <li>• If a narrative, it’s focused with sensory detail that creates plot that recreates a world and people in world.</li> <li>• Students come to an understanding that memoir can also be written as a list.</li> </ul>