



CLASSROOM MAGAZINES

Storyworks® Reinforces Reading and Writing Skills



Storyworks is a literary classroom magazine that helps teach reading, writing, and grammar skills using high-quality, high-interest, age-appropriate literature and nonfiction. Each issue helps teachers meet curriculum requirements, provide practice for standardized tests, and engage students with many genres of literature, including fiction, nonfiction, poetry, read-along plays, mysteries, folktales, and more.

The following essential skills are addressed in *Storyworks*:

LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT

- Read aloud independently.
- Practice conversation skills through discussions of text.
- Learn and use new vocabulary.
- Practice the following strategies to determine word meanings:
 - Use information about word parts
 - Use context clues
- Practice dictionary and pronunciation skills.

WRITING

- Practice the following fundamental writing skills:
 - Use story elements
 - Write with detail and elaboration
- Use customized templates and graphic organizers to write well-organized paragraphs.
- Understand elements of a paragraph, such as:
 - Main idea
 - Supporting sentences
 - Conclusion
- Practice writing a variety of genres, such as:

• Fiction	• Letters
• Basic essays	• Poems
• Book reviews	• Dramatic plays
- Practice grammar and punctuation skills, such as:

• Parts of speech	• Homophones
• Capitalization	• Plurals
	• Contractions
- Answer grammar questions.

READING COMPREHENSION

- Experience reading as an enjoyable and useful activity.
- Read with a purpose.
- Build reading stamina by independently reading a variety of texts within one issue:

• Fiction	• Dramatic plays
• Nonfiction	• Poetry
- Master understanding of elements, such as:

• Setting	• Change in the story
• Plot structure	• Different narrative styles
• Identifying conflict and resolution	• Literary devices
- Analyze character through:

• Description	• Motivations
• Development	• Change in character
- Make comparisons:

• Within the text	• Characters
• To other texts	• Personal experience
- Self-monitor for comprehension and use strategies to improve comprehension.
- Use proof from the text to develop an opinion.
- Master comprehension strategies, such as:

• Predicting	• Synthesizing ideas
• Main idea/detail	• Cause and effect
• Posing questions	• Fact vs. opinion
• Retelling	• Making inferences
- Develop fluency through repeated readings in school and at home.



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Skills Development: Storyworks

TEST PREPARATION

- Practice answering questions similar to those on standardized tests.
- Practice reading comprehension strategies used on standardized tests.
- Read texts similar in length and genre to those used on standardized tests.
- Build test-taking stamina through practice tests.
- Answer different types of questions in preparation for standardized tests, such as:
 - Multiple choice
 - Fill-in-the-blank
 - True or false
 - Open-ended questions based on the text

SOCIAL STUDIES

- Understand important social studies concepts and topics, including:
 - Culture and traditions
 - Individuals and events in history
 - Civic ideals
 - People and current events in our world
- Answer question based on the new topic learned.

TECHNOLOGY

- Practice Internet skills through a variety of related online activities, such as:
 - Author discussions
 - Book recommendations
 - Internet research
- Practice using basic computer hardware (mouse, keyboard, monitor, and printer).

SCIENCE

- Learn about important science concepts and topics, including:
 - Plants and animals
 - Environment
 - Health and fitness
 - Science and technology
 - Important people in science
- Answer questions based on the new topics learned.

THE ARTS

- Use weekly dramatic plays to enhance understanding of the arts.
- Use the arts to enhance understanding of literature through a variety of activities.

High-interest nonfiction text motivates students.

Teachable poetry selections spark student creativity.



Read-aloud plays build fluency and engage reluctant readers.



Students read original fiction written by acclaimed authors.

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