

The Peace of Wild Things Week 3

Compelling questions:

1. How do people draw strength and peace from the natural world? Does this look the same for all people?
2. Some may argue that retreating to or taking refuge in nature is a means of escaping the “real world”. How do those who find strength and peace in nature respond to claims like this?

Big Idea:

Some claim that they draw their greatest strength and peace from their relationship with the natural world.

Reading focus: *Using text evidence to support analysis and reflection*

LA 10.1.6.f/LA 12.1.6.f Interpret and evaluate information from print and digital text features to support comprehension.

LA 10.1.6.i/LA 12.1.6.i Construct and/or answer literal, inferential, critical, and interpretive questions, analyzing and synthesizing evidence from the text and additional sources to support answers.

LA 10.1.6.k/LA 12.1.6.k Select text for a particular purpose (e.g., answer a question, solve problems, enjoy, form an opinion, understand a specific viewpoint, predict outcomes, discover models for own writing, accomplish a task), citing evidence to support analysis, reflection, or research.

LA 10.1.6.n/LA 12.1.6.n Formulate and justify inferences with text evidence while previewing, reading, and analyzing literary and informational text in various formats.

LA 10.1.6.o/LA 12.1.6.o Demonstrate an understanding of complex text by using textual evidence to support analysis, reflection, and research via multiple mediums (e.g., writing, artistic representation, video, other media).

Writing focus: *Writing with text evidence to support analysis and reflection*

LA 10.2.1.a/LA 12.2.1.a Use multiple writing strategies recursively to investigate and generate ideas, organize information, guide writing, answer questions, and synthesize information.

LA 10.2.1.c/LA 12.2.1.c Gather and use relevant information and evidence from multiple authoritative print and/or digital sources including primary and secondary sources to support claims or theses.

LA 10.2.2.b/LA 12.2.2.b Provide evidence from literary or informational text to support analysis, reflection, and research.

Students will understand that:

- 1) some individuals claim that they draw their greatest strength and peace from the natural world
- 2) although some may argue that looking to the natural world for strength and peace is an escape from the “real world,” others argue that their experience with nature allows them to more fully participate the “real world”

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- 3) to support analysis and reflection, good writers often use strong, relevant text evidence
- 4) good reflective writers often use imagery to relay their personal experiences

Students will be able to:

- 1) cite and explain text evidence from this week's reading to support how individuals draw strength and peace from the natural world
- 2) use text evidence to explain how immersion in the natural world may enhance life in the "real world" of work, family, etc.
- 3) identify a strong thesis statement and distinguish it from weaker ones
- 4) use a writing prompt to draft a thesis statement for a reflective essay

Formative assessment:

- 1) Using what they have learned about writing strong thesis statements, students will identify the strongest thesis example and justify why it is stronger than others
- 2) In response to the prompt below, students will draft a thesis statement for their own reflective essay:

Students will choose to respond to **ONE** of the following writing prompts.

- There are writers who have learned much from the natural world. Write an essay in which you use at least two of these writers and their texts, as well as your own experience, to develop this idea.
- There are writers who have looked to nature as a great source of joy, strength, and peace. Write an essay in which you use at least two of these writers and their texts, as well as your own experience, to develop this idea.
- There are those who advocate for wilderness preservation and those who advocate for wilderness development. Write an essay in which you use at least two writers and their texts, as well as your own experience, to develop the claim that preserving our wilderness is necessary.

Possible texts for this week *(choose texts which work best for you and your students)*