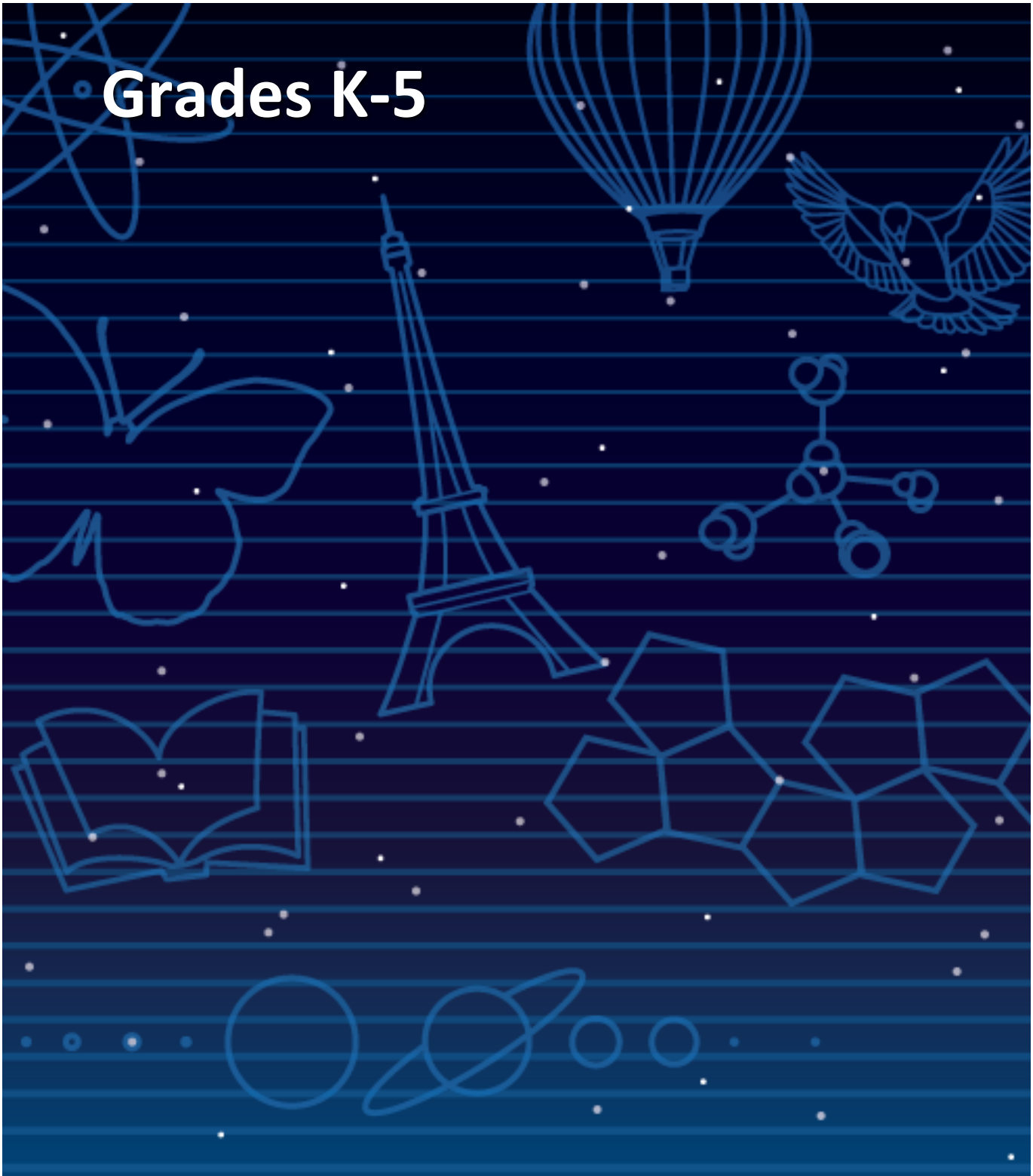
Meeting Virginia Standards of Learning with Wixie®



Meeting Virginia Standards of Learning with Wixie®

What is Wixie?

Wixie is a cloud-based tool Kindergarten students can use to write, record their voice, paint pictures, and tell stories. Wixie provides an engaging way for students to explore and respond to curriculum topics related to the Virginia Standards of Learning.

Students can add text to a Wixie page to practice their writing, draw ideas from their imagination using the paint tools, record narration for stories, and more. Student work is online and can be shared immediately through a URL as well as printed as booklets, comics, and more.

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Using Wixie with Kindergarten Students

Kindergarten students are building foundations for a life of learning. They need lots of direction and assistance, and learning is mainly accomplished through exploration and play. Wixie provides a fun way to build early learning foundations.

As you explore some of the ideas in this guide, think of the students in your class. Which ones will respond if allowed to explore content in this way? Wixie allows you to assign different activities to different students, so you can more easily adjust the content and work to meet individual student learning needs.

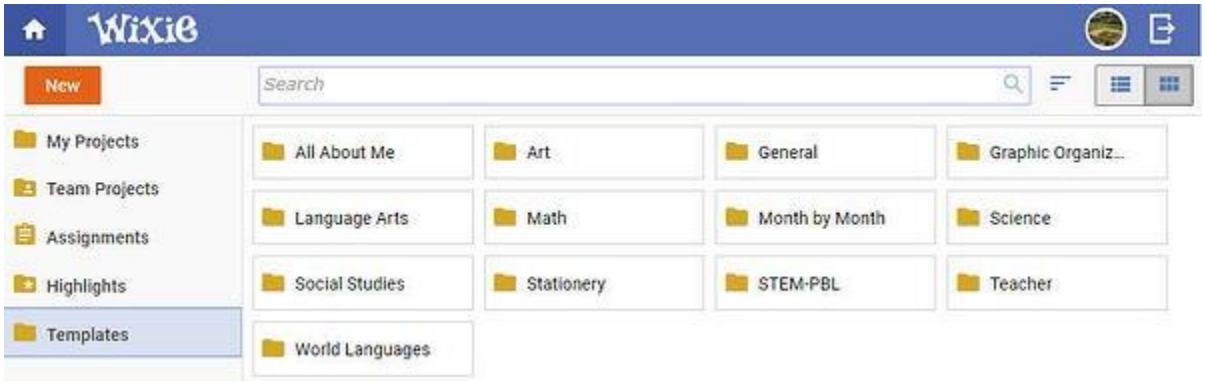
Don't forget time to explore and play in Wixie so students can explore wherever their interests lead. Passion for learning is one of the most important things to teach at this age!

Finding Wixie Templates

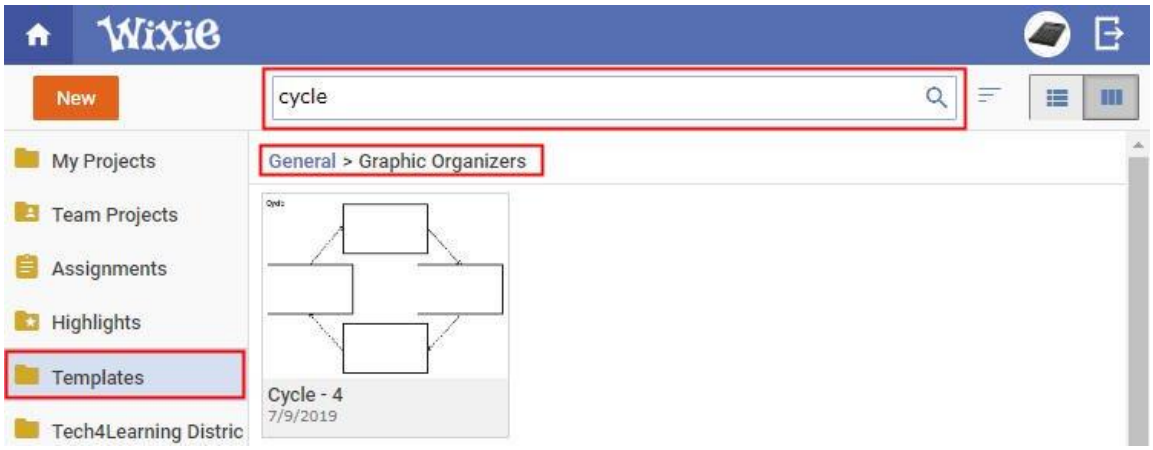
Many of the ideas in this guide use specific templates that come with Wixie. To find the template:

Log in to your teacher account.

Browse for template files by opening the Templates folder and sub-folders.



Enter a keyword in the field at the top and press the search button.



Language Arts

Communication and Multimodal Literacies

K.1 The student will build oral communication skills.
f) Discuss various texts and topics collaboratively and with partners.

Use Wixie's real-time collaboration feature, Team, to encourage students to work on the same project at the same time. You can use this learning benefit to support interactive discussions about various topics, including have your students use it to introduce themselves in the beginning of the year to one another. For example, you can use the template "Who am I?" which can be found by click the Templates folder and opening the All About Me folder. Students can complete the information and then share it with other students to see if they guess who they are. As an extension you may want to have the "guessing" students add something nice they have noticed about the student as well.

Wixie Template:
Who am I?

K.2 The student will demonstrate growth in oral, early literacy skills.

"I wanted to find a meaningful project to highlight my student's accomplishments in writing, and since we were studying families, I suggested that the students write about a very familiar topic, relatives. The response and excitement was immediate and overwhelming and continued to grow when we add ed a "create and share with technology" component.

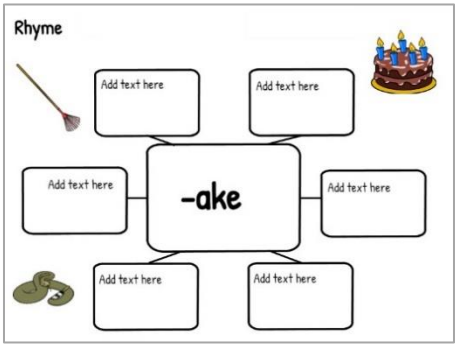
My students were excited to get started and immediately chose a favorite relative. It was a familiar topic, and their interest was evident. As the project progressed, students' excitement grew! The students began to converse and share ideas with one another instead of coming to me. They were complimenting and encouraging one another. I noted that the students were passionate about what they were writing and drawing. Their passion for the project led to even more suggestions and requests, which in turn led to deeper learning.

We shared their stories online and at a classroom event. The expressions and pride on the students' faces were priceless. A father began to cry when he learned he was his son's hero. My students were connected, excited, motivated, inquisitive, and left with memories that will last a lifetime."
-Barbara Fairchild, Tuscarora School District, Mercersburg, PA

Reading

K.3 The student will orally identify, segment, and blend various phonemes to develop phonological and phonemic awareness.
b) Identify and produce words that rhyme.

Rhyming Words



Wixie contains a wealth of templates that support phonemic awareness. Assign different templates to students depending on the skills and learning goals you want them to learn. For example, the Rhyme template helps students practice create new rhyming worlds.

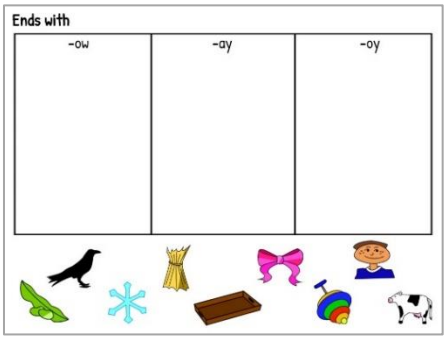
Log in to your teacher account. Click the Search field and type in “rhyme”. You will see templates that focus on rhyming words. Click the Assign button to assign the template you want to specific students in your class.

As an extension idea, read the book There is a Wocket in my Pocket by Dr Seuss. Click the Search field and type in “wocket”. And assign the Wocket in My Pocket template that task kids to complete and illustrate their Seuss-like rhyming sentence.

Wixie Template:
Rhyme

K.3 The student will orally identify, segment, and blend various phonemes to develop phonological and phonemic awareness.
e) Identify words according to shared beginning and/or ending sounds.

Ends With



Wixie has a variety of templates that students can use to practice initial and ending sounds. For example, the Ends With template has students click and drag pictures of objects that end with – ow, -ay, and –oy.

Log in to your teacher account. Click the Templates folder, select Language Arts, and open the Reading and Alphabetic Principle folders. You will see a variety of templates. Click the Assign button to assign the “Ends with” template or another template that matches the sounds you are teaching.

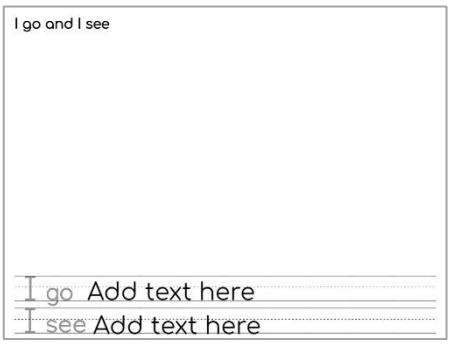
As an extension template, have students create their own word family booklets. You can use the “Word Family” Alphabet stickers to create and assign them a combination of letters (at, an, ot) to represent. Then, use the Print options in Wixie to print them as 4-page booklets they can share with their peers and family members.

Wixie Template:
Ends with

.

K.4 The student will understand how print is organized and read.
e) Match voice with print.

Record Sentences



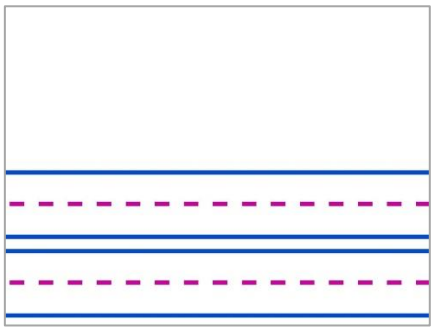
Students love to share fun things they may have done over the weekend, a holiday break, or after a field trip. Take advantage of student's excitement by having them use the "I go and I see" template to complete sentences and draw a picture about where they went and what they saw. Then, have they work with an older buddy, parent helper, or a classroom aide to record their two sentences in Wixie.

Log in to your teacher account. Click the Templates folder>Language Arts> Writing. You will see a variety of writing templates. Click the "I go and see" template. Click the Assign button to assign the template to students.

Wixie Template:
I go and see

K.5 The student will demonstrate an understanding that print conveys meaning.
c) Read and explain own writing and drawings.

Paint and Tell



Show and tell is an opportunity for students to speak with their peers with the prompting of something they have chosen as important. The object they choose to share helps them focus their descriptions and stories and will often prompt additional questions from the audience. To encourage more detail and questions, have students in your class use Wixie to paint pictures of their favorite topic or sports template. They can paint their text on the lines or click the Image button and use the Alphabet upper- and lower-case stickers to form complete sentences.

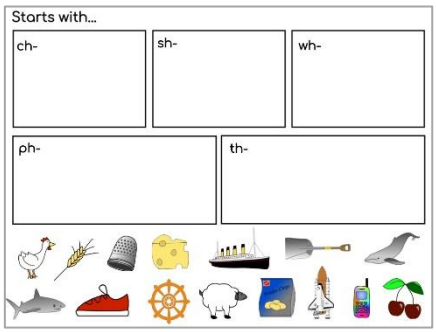
Log in to your teacher account. Click the Templates folder> Language Arts> Writing folders. You will see a variety of templates. Click the Lined Paper- Half template. Click the Assign button to assign the template to students.

Print out the student pictures and have students talk about them during show and tell. Use the content of the picture as prompts for more descriptions and sharing.

Wixie Template:
Lined Paper- Half

K.6 The student will develop an understanding of basic phonetic principals.
b) Match consonant, short vowel, and initial consonant digraph sounds to appropriate letters.

Alphabetic Principle



Wixie contains a wealth of templates on alphabetic principle. You can assign different templates to different students depending on what you want to evaluate and want students to practice. For example, the Blends template uses clip art to support students as they drag beginning and ending sounds to complete words.

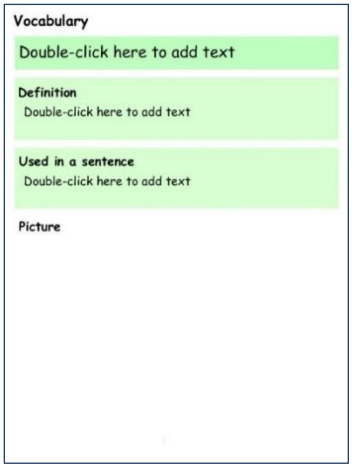
As student gain proficiency, create a class ABC book on a topic. For example, students creating an ABC book for school might choose A for author, B for backpack, etc.

Log in to your teacher account. Click the Templates folder> Language Arts> Reading> Alphabetic Principle. You will see a variety of templates. Click the "Starts With" or any of the other alphabetic principle templates. Click the Assign button to assign the template to students.

Wixie Template:
Starts With

K.7 The student will expand vocabulary and use of word meanings.
c. Discuss the meanings of words.

Vocabulary Supports



As you read to the class or when students are reading independently, have students raise their hand to let you know they are not familiar with a word they encounter. Write the word down on a card for each student. When it is appropriate, encourage students to ask the rest of the class if anyone can help share the meaning of the word.

Have students build a trading card for a new vocabulary word they have encountered. Students can type the word at the top of the page and add text to define the new word. Ask students to draw a picture of the word to help others remember the meaning. You may also want to ask a parent, or buddy, to copy the sentence they are reading that includes the word or help them use it in a new sentence.

Have each student print the template in Postcard style (4 to a page) and distribute cards to the class as vocabulary postcards or trading cards.

Wixie Template:
Vocabulary (green)

K.7 The student will demonstrate comprehension of fictional texts.
g) Use adjectives to describe location, size, color, and shape.

Descriptive Writing

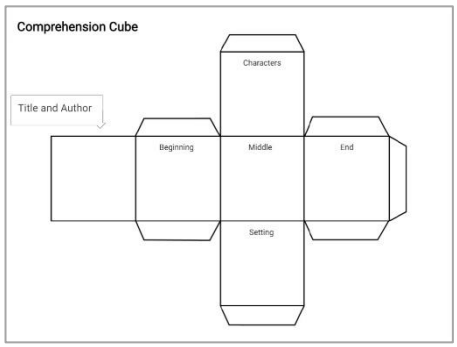
Read your students the popular children's book Brown Bear, Brown Bear by Bill Martin Jr. Have the students tell you all of the colors of the animals the brown bear saw. Discuss how these are all descriptive words and are called adjectives. Write a list of the color words using the appropriate colored marker for each word on a sheet of paper.

Log in to your teacher account. Click the Templates folder>Language Arts>Reading> Literature folders. You will see a variety of templates that support different books. Click the Color Words (Brown Bear) template. Click the Assign button to assign the template to your students to complete in a center rotation or during independent work time.

Wixie Template:
Color Words

K.8 The student will demonstrate comprehension of fictional texts.
e) Ask and answer questions about what is read.

Comprehension Cubes



Students enjoy reading when they have success. Even before they can decode the words in a story, they can comprehend the meaning using pictures. Wixie includes a plethora of templates that he lp students focus on the main parts of a story.

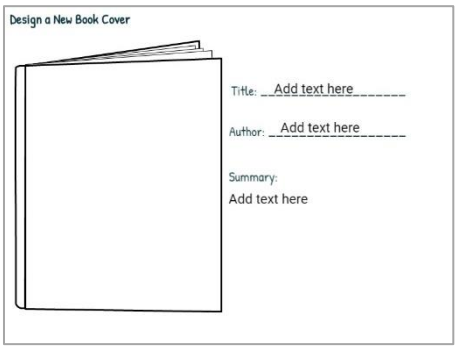
Log in to your teacher account. Click the Search field and type "cube". You will see a variety of graphic organizers in the shape of 3D cubes you can use with your students. Click the Comprehension Cube and project the template so all of your students can see it. Ask students to help you place stickers and text in the Wixie template to indicate the parts of the story (beginning, middle, and end) and identify the characters and setting.

Assign the "Comprehension Cube" for students to complete with assistance after participating in a listening center.

Wixie Template:
Comprehension Cube

K.9 The student will demonstrate comprehension of fictional texts.
b) Identify text features specific to the topic, such as titles, headings, and pictures.

Elements of Non-Fiction



Many young students are not interested in or excited by nonfiction writing. Once they understand how to read nonfiction, however, they are less afraid and can quickly become independent researchers. Find and share a nonfiction book about an animal you are studying in class. Show students how they can use pictures, captions, picture labels, and bold text to find information.

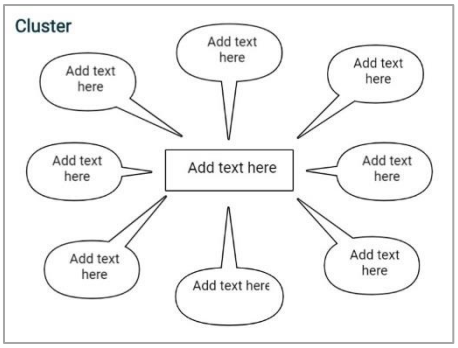
Log in to your teacher account. Click the Search field and type “design”. You will see a variety of graphic organizers you and your students can use to design projects that support topics. Click the Design a New Book Cover and project the template so all of your students can see it. Have students help you identify and then type in the title and author and then work together to create a concise summary. Make a duplicate copy of the template and task students with using the paint tools in Wixie to design the cover for it.

Wixie Template:
Design a Book Cover

Writing

K.11 The student will write in a variety of forms to include narrative and descriptive.
b) Use prewriting activities to generate ideas including drawing pictures.

Graphic Organizers



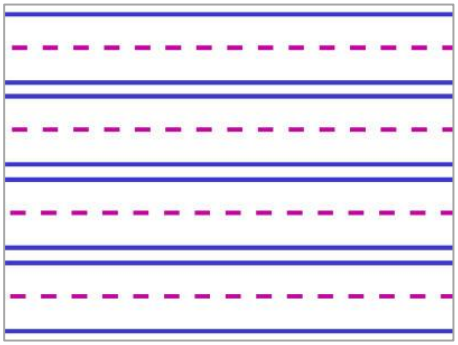
You can use a range of graphic organizers to help students organize and recall information. Wixie includes a Graphic Organizer folder that includes a wealth of prewriting templates, including a Circle, 5W’s and Cluster organizer. All of these can be used to help generate ideas about topics your students are writing about. The Cluster template is a great way to get students to contribute their ideas rapidly in one place.

Log in to your teacher account. Click the Search field and type “cluster”. Click the Cluster organizer and project the template so all of your students can see it. Type the topic you are focusing on in the middle rectangle. Have students help you brainstorm things about it using the text and stickers in Wixie.

Wixie Template:
Cluster

K.11 The student will write in a variety of forms to include narrative and descriptive.
e) Compose simple sentences.

Writing with Capitals and Periods



Have students use one of the lined sentence strips, or simply add text to a blank page and write a sentence using sight words. You may want to have students underline, or highlight using the yellow paintbrush, the capital letter at the beginning of the sentence and circle the punctuation at the end in red.

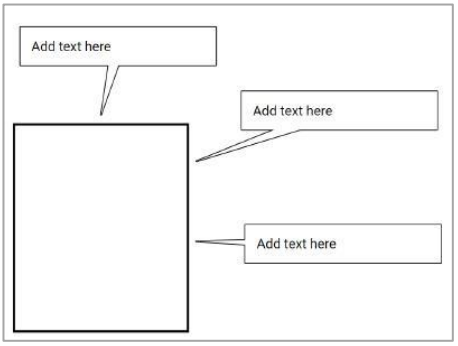
Log in to your teacher account. Click the Templates folder>Language Arts>Writing folders. Choose one of the "Lined Paper" templates. Assign the template to your students.

Wixie Template:
Lined Paper- Medium

Research

K.12 The student will conduct research to answer questions or solve problems using available resources.
a) Generate topics of interest.
b) Generate questions to gather information.
c) Identify pictures, texts, or people as sources of information.
d) Find information from provided sources.

Topic Research



Who says research can't be fun and engaging? Get your students excited about a topic by having them use Wixie to brainstorm information they know about their topic.

Log in to your teacher account. Click the Search field and type "research". You will see a variety of templates students can use to help them organize their facts. Click the Primary Fact Organizer template and display it so all of your students can see it. Type the topic you are focusing on in the rectangle. Have students help you brainstorm things about it using the text and stickers in Wixie.

Wixie Template:
Primary Fact Organizer

Lesson Plan

While individual activities can be used to address specific language standards, you can also create engaging lessons that address multiple standards in one project.

It's ABC, As Easy As 1-2-3!

Students will explore initial sounds through the creation of a classroom ABC book.

View a sample student project

Task

Now that you have been studying the alphabet and have become alphabet experts, it is time for you to help teach the alphabet to someone else. In this project, your class will create an electronic ABC book with letters, pictures, and sounds!

Engage

You have probably been sharing books on the alphabet like **Chicka, Chicka, Boom, Boom** and Dr. Seuss's **ABC**. These books help make learning the alphabet fun and help students begin thinking about how letters associate with sounds and words.

Once students have developed some expertise with the alphabet, let them know that they will be creating a book to teach other students.

Share the A to Z book in the online resources and then read Chris Van Allsburg's book, **The Z was Zapped**.

Explain to the class that to finish your Classroom ABC book, each student will be responsible for one letter of the alphabet (or more if your class size is small). Allow the students to choose their letter or assign them based on student ability.

Create

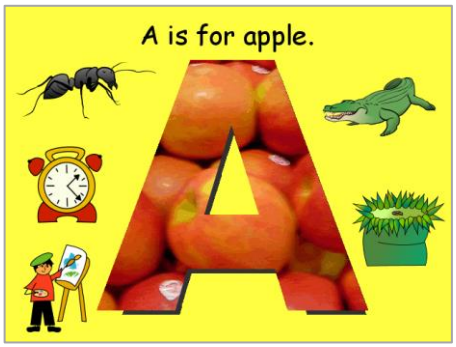
Have students create a page in Wixie and add images from the Stickers library of additional objects that begin with this letter. Show students how to open different folders and how to add a sticker to their page. Save their letter file.

Have each student record a sentence about their letter and things that begin with the letter. Save their letter file and have students make the project public so you can import it into a class project.

Share

Once all of the files have been shared via the Projects button, you need to combine them together. Create a new project with a title page.

Use the Import Pages function to add in each student's file. When all pages have been inserted you can click the Story button on the top of the toolbar. Here you can rearrange the pages to place in alphabetical order.



Share the Wixie project URL with students and their families.

Share the ABC book in its interactive form on a classroom web site or present it from a local computer. Have students discuss the page they created and share how they chose each sticker to match the letter.

Assessment

By the time you start this project, you will have already introduced each letter of the alphabet. Creating an alphabet book will require students to apply what they know about a letter.

Your first opportunity to assess comprehension is with their choice of a picture for their cool letter. As students look for art and stickers with the same initial sound, ask them about their choices to help determine comprehension and identify misconceptions. Each student's voice narration about their choices will provide insight into oral proficiency and reading fluency.

Virginia Standards of Learning

K.3 The students identify words according to shared beginning and/or ending sounds.

K.4 The students will understand how print is organized and read and will match voice with print.

K.5 The student will demonstrate an understanding that print conveys meaning as they read and explain their own writing and drawings.

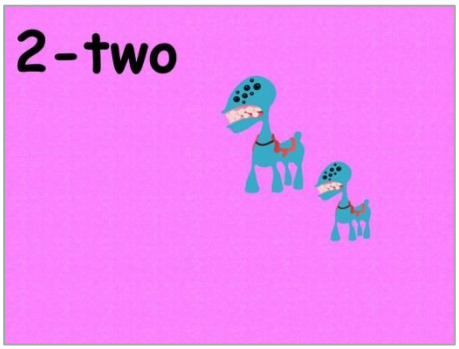
K.6 The student will develop an understanding of basic phonetic principals and match consonant, short vowel, and initial consonant digraph sounds to appropriate letters.

Mathematics

Number and Number Sense

K.1 The student will
b) read, write, and represent numbers

Counting Book



"I like to use the counting template as a first project with Kindergarten students since some students are very good with a mouse, and others have no computer experience at all.

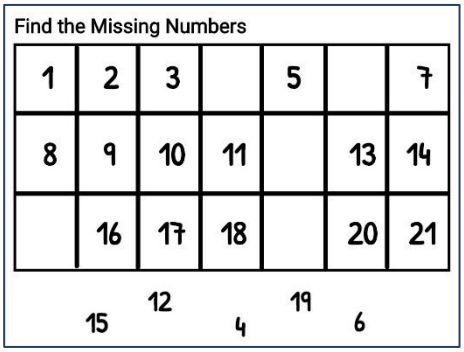
After opening a counting book template, each student chooses a sticker from the library and then drags the correct number of that sticker to their page. Each student completes this process for the numbers one through ten. Once the students finish their ten pages, I help them record each page by saying "One dog", "Two horses"… and choose background music and transitions for their project. When the process is complete, I upload each student's work to my web page for the parents to view. Parents love seeing and hearing their students work online."

Wixie also includes a variety of templates in Templates> Math> Numbers and Operations>Numbers folder that students can use to demonstrate their number sense in a fun and engaging ways."

--David Floyd, Washington, DC

K.3 The student will
c) identify the number after, without counting, when given and number between 0 and 100 and identify the number before, without counting, when given any number between 1 and 10; and

Missing Numbers



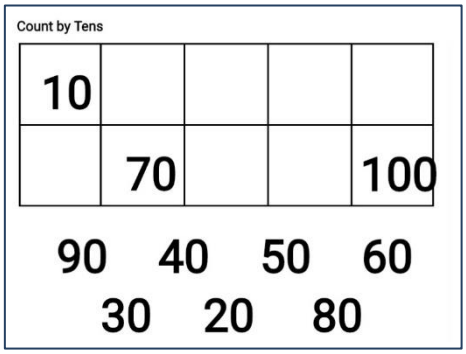
Wixie includes a wealth of templates that students can use to practice counting forward and backwards.

After students complete the Match Numbers template on their own, have them create pages in a new project for the numbers 6-10. Add groups of objects for the numbers 6-10 by typing the numbers and dragging stickers from the Library to represent the number.

Wixie Template:
Match Numbers

K.3 The student will
d) count forward by tens to determine the total number of objects to 100.

Count by Tens



Read **Math= Fun: Count by Tens** by Jerry Pallota. Place some of the objects from the book (or Cheerios) in the center of kid's tables and have them work in groups to create piles with bundles of ten objects in each of them. Have them take turns counting the piles of objects by tens that are on their tables.

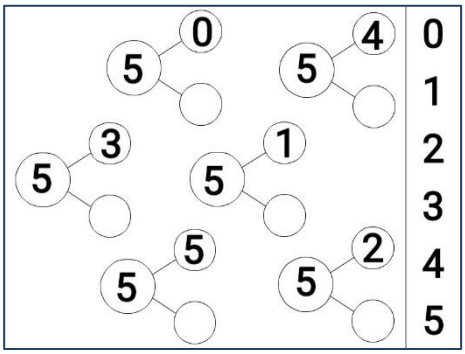
Log in to your teacher account. Click the Templates folder>Math> Numbers and Operations>Numbers. Open the "Count by Tens" template and project it so your students can see it. Have students help you click and drag the numbers into the missing squares to complete the ten's template up to 100.

As a lesson extension, customize the Count by Tens template and reassign it to your students to complete. Or, have students create their own Wixie page with stickers they have stamped in groups of ten. And, then have them work with an older peer, or classroom helper to record themselves counting their objects by ten.

Wixie Template:
Count by Tens

K.4 The student will
a) recognize and describe with fluency part-whole relationships for numbers up to 5; and
b) investigate and describe part-whole relationships for numbers up to 10.

Number Bonds



Begin by explaining that number bonds can be used to solve equations using the part+ part= whole. If possible, pull up YouTube and show your students the "Secret Agent Bond" video to get them exciting about being number detectives.

Log in to your teacher account. Click the Search field. Type in "bond". You will see a variety of number bound templates. Open the number bond you want to focus on for your lesson. Have students volunteer to help you click and drag the numbers on the right to complete the number bonds.

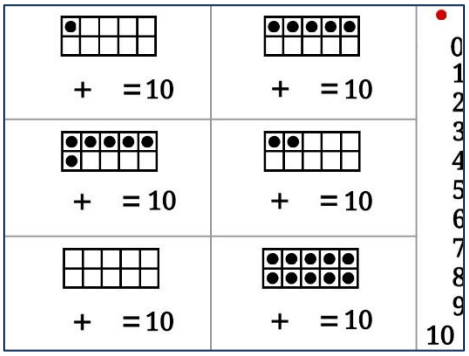
As a lesson extension, have students work independently in a center to create their own number bonds in Wixie using one of the blank or incomplete number bond templates.

Wixie Template:
Number Bond

Computation and Estimation

K.6 The student will model and solve single-step story and picture problems with sums up to 10 and differences within 10, using concrete objects.

Ten Frames



Turn empty egg cartons into 10 frames by chopping off the two end sections. If you have enough, have each child work with various objects (LEGO's, Cheerios) to show different visual equations up to 10.

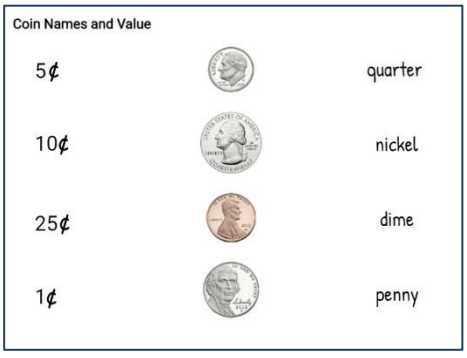
Log in to your teacher account. Click the Search field. Type in "frame". You will see a variety of addition and subtraction frame templates. Open number frame you want to focus on for your lesson. Have students volunteer to help you click and drag the red sticker dots on the right to complete the ten frame equations.

As a lesson extension, have students work independently to create their own ten frame equations using stickers and text in Wixie.

Wixie Template:
Ten Frame

Measurement and Geometry

K.7 The student will recognize the attributes of a penny, nickel, dime, and quarter and identify the pennies equivalent to a nickel, a dime, and a quarter.



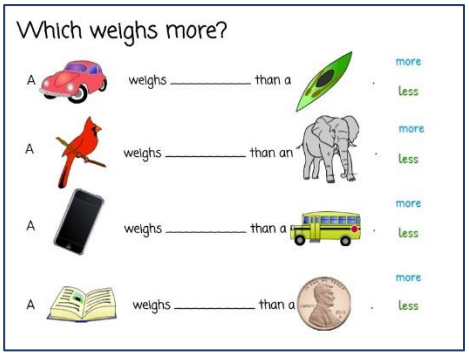
Give each student a set of plastic dimes, nickels, and pennies. While you read **Alexander, Who Used to Be Rich Last Sunday** by Judith Viorst, have them interact and display the different coins Alexander uses in the story while you read the book.

Log in to your teacher account. Click the Search field. Type in "coin". You will see money templates. Open Coin Names and Value template and project it so your students can see it. Use the story to ask questions about the coins and then have students volunteer to help click and drag the correct count amounts and associated words.

Wixie Template:
Coin Names and Value

K.9 The students will compare two objects or events, using direct comparisons, according to one of more of the following attributes; length (longer, shorter), height (taller, shorter) weight (heavier, lighter), temperature (hotter, colder), volume (more, less) and time (longer, shorter).

More or Less



Bring in a bunch of items in baggies (marbles, dice, etc.). Use a small scale to have the students come up and weight various bags of items and predict which one will weigh more or less than the other. If you don't have a scale, you can always hang two cups with string on two sides of a plastic grooved) hanger on a door and use that for your scale.

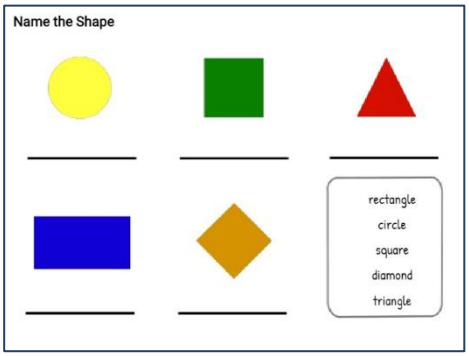
Log in to your teacher account. Click the Search field. Type in "weight". You will see various templates about weight and measurement. Click the "weight" template and assign it student to complete in a learning center to showcase their understanding of the concept of more or less.

As an extension, have students create their own printed booklets.

Wixie Activities:
Weight

K.10 The student will identify and describe plane figures (circle, triangle, square, and rectangle)

Sort by Shapes



Shapes are all around your classroom. Group students together to form small teams and assign each team to find a different type of shape (circle, square, rectangle, triangle). Then, have a classroom discussion about why each object they found can be defined by that shape (has 3 sides, round).

Wixie includes a range of templates and stickers students can use to show their knowledge of shapes. You can use the templates to assess for student understanding.

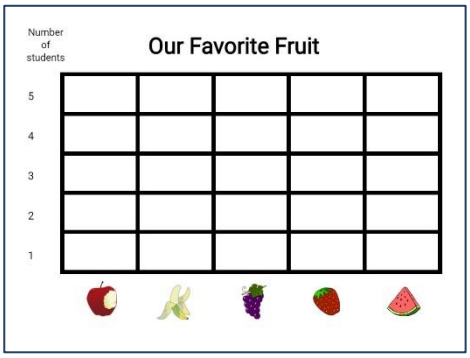
As a lesson extension, have students use the paint tools in Wixie to create a figure (robot, snowman etc.) that uses a specific number of shapes (i.e. 3 triangles, two circles). Then, have them record how many of each shape they used to complete their object.

Wixie Template:
Shape Names

Probability and Statistics

K.11 The student will
a) collect, organize, and represent data; and
b) read and interpret data in object graphs, picture graphs, and tables.

Graphing



Wixie is an ideal tool for students to use when they are first learning how to make and interpret bar graphs. Conduct a survey with your whole classroom on a topic such as their favorite template or how they get to school. Then, display and analyze the results together on your white board.

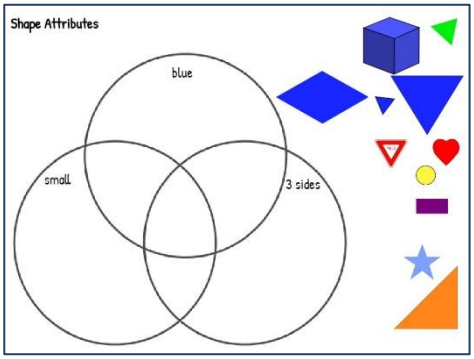
Click the Search field in Wixie and type in the word “graph”. You will see the Favorite Fruit graph. Survey 5 students about their favorite fruit. Have the students come up to the computer and fill the squares in with the fill bucket or stickers to complete the graph. And, then analyze the results with the class. Customize the template and assign it as a template that students can do in a learning center for additional graphing practice.

Wixie Template:
Favorite Fruit

Patterns, Functions, and Algebra

K.12 The student will sort and classify objects according to one attribute.

Sort Shapes



Get students excited about working with different types of shapes by working with wooden blocks or creating and classifying shapes using manipulatives. Students can classify and sort the manipulatives into piles according to their shapes and attributes.

Log in to your teacher account. Click the search field and type in the word “attribute.” Click the Assign button to assign the Shape template to your students to evaluate their understanding.

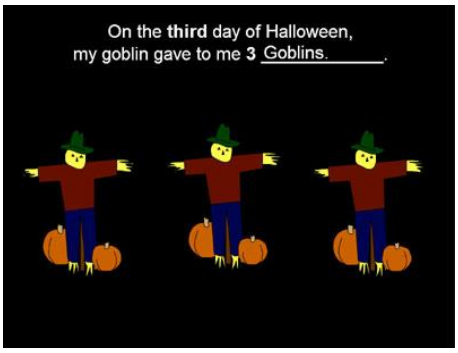
Wixie Template:
Shape Attributes

Lesson Plan

While individual templates can be used to address specific math standards, you can also create engaging lessons that address multiple standards in one project.

The 13 Days of Halloween

Students will practice counting through the creation of a Halloween (or any holiday!) counting book.



Click the picture to view a student sample

Task

Goblins are coming, witches are getting out their brooms, and black cats are ready to cross your path. It must be close to Halloween!

As part of a Halloween celebration, practice your counting skills and create a 13 days of Halloween project. You will create one page showing a Halloween object "my goblin gave to me". Your teacher will put all of the class pages together for a complete presentation.

Engage

Read the story **Two Little Witches** by Harriet Ziefert and Simms Taback to help students practice their counting skills, experience a repetitive story form, and get them thinking about characters associated with Halloween.

After reading this story, tell the students that their class is going to create a "13 Days of Halloween" project. Ask them if anyone knows the "12 Days of Christmas" carol. Play it so they can all remember or experience it for the first time. If you don't have a copy, you can find many free versions of this old English carol online.

Explain to students that they will each create a page that includes a specific number of Halloween characters based on the song. For example, "On the fifth day of Halloween, my goblin gave to me 5 witches." Assign each student a specific number or a template with all thirteen!

Create

Demonstrate how to add objects to a page, type text, and record their voice. You might also ask them to create their own pictures using paint tools. You can also create a template each student can use so they only have to type in the name of the object.

Have each student choose the Halloween object they wish to count on their page. Have a parent, aide, or school buddy work with each student at a center in your classroom to develop their page or have the entire

class work on their pages at the same time in the computer lab. Make sure everyone is aware of the Halloween folder of images in the Holidays folder in the Stickers library.

Share

Combine student work into a class book. Share the book in its interactive form on a classroom web site or present it from a local computer. You can also print copies of each student's page as trading cards or comics. Have students cut them out, trade them, and then work to put them in the correct sequence to make their own set of Halloween cards to take home.

Assessment

This fun project is designed to apply basic counting and number sense. At a glance you can assess student ability. Printing out pages at small size so students can order and organize provides additional opportunity to evaluate number sense.

Virginia Standards of Learning

K. 1. Read, write, and represent numbers 0 through 20.

K. 3 Count forward orally by ones from 0 to 100.

K.4. Model and solve single step story and picture problems with sums up to 10.

K.13 Identify, describe, extend, create, and transfer repeating patterns.

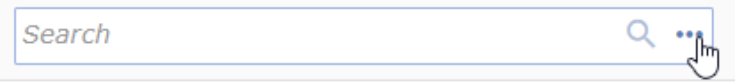
Appendix A

Find Templates by SOL

You can assign templates in Wixie that you find by searching the Virginia Standards of Learning.

Log in to Wixie with your username and password.

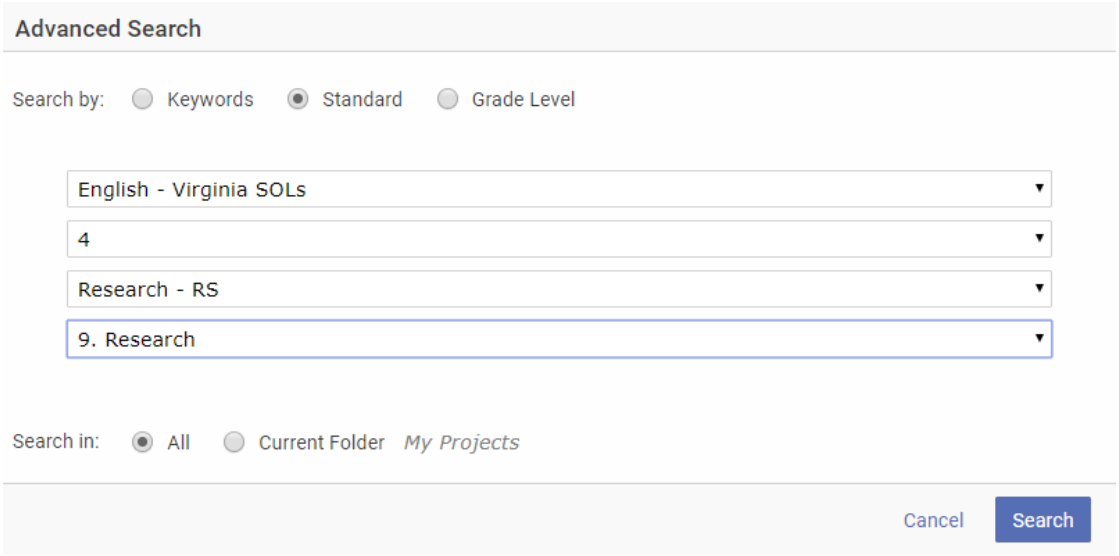
At your teacher home page, click the more search options (three dots) on the right of the Search field.



You will see the Advanced Search dialog.

Select the Standard radio button at the top. The dialog will update to show standard search options.

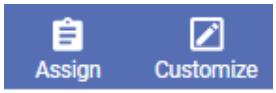
Use the pull-down menus to narrow down your search by subject, grade, topic, and subtopic.



Click the **Search** button. You will see templates that can help students master this standard.

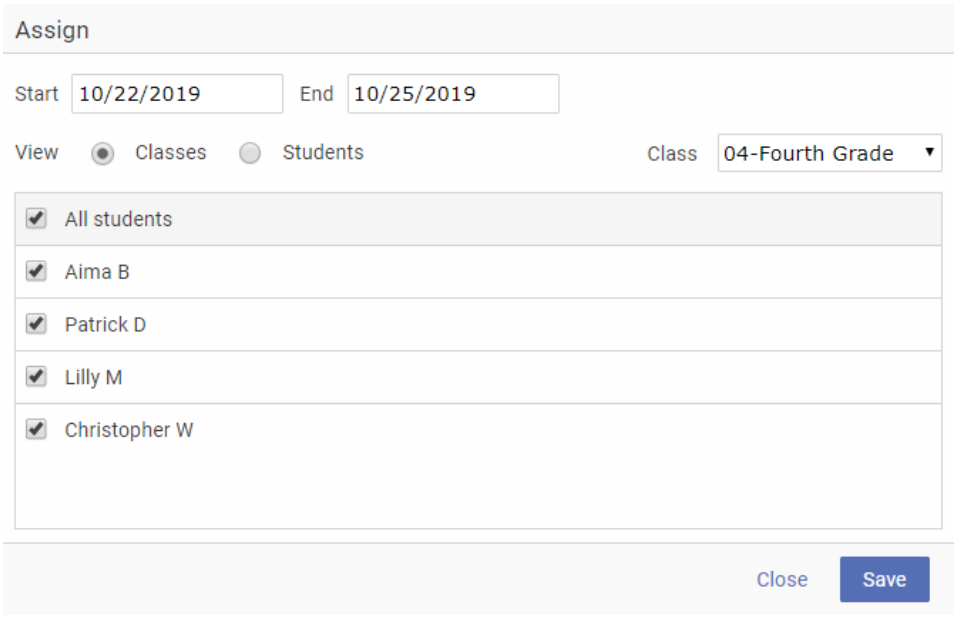
Select the image of the template and it will open in the Wixie authoring tool.

Select Customize to make changes to the template.



Select Assign to assign it to your students as it currently exists.

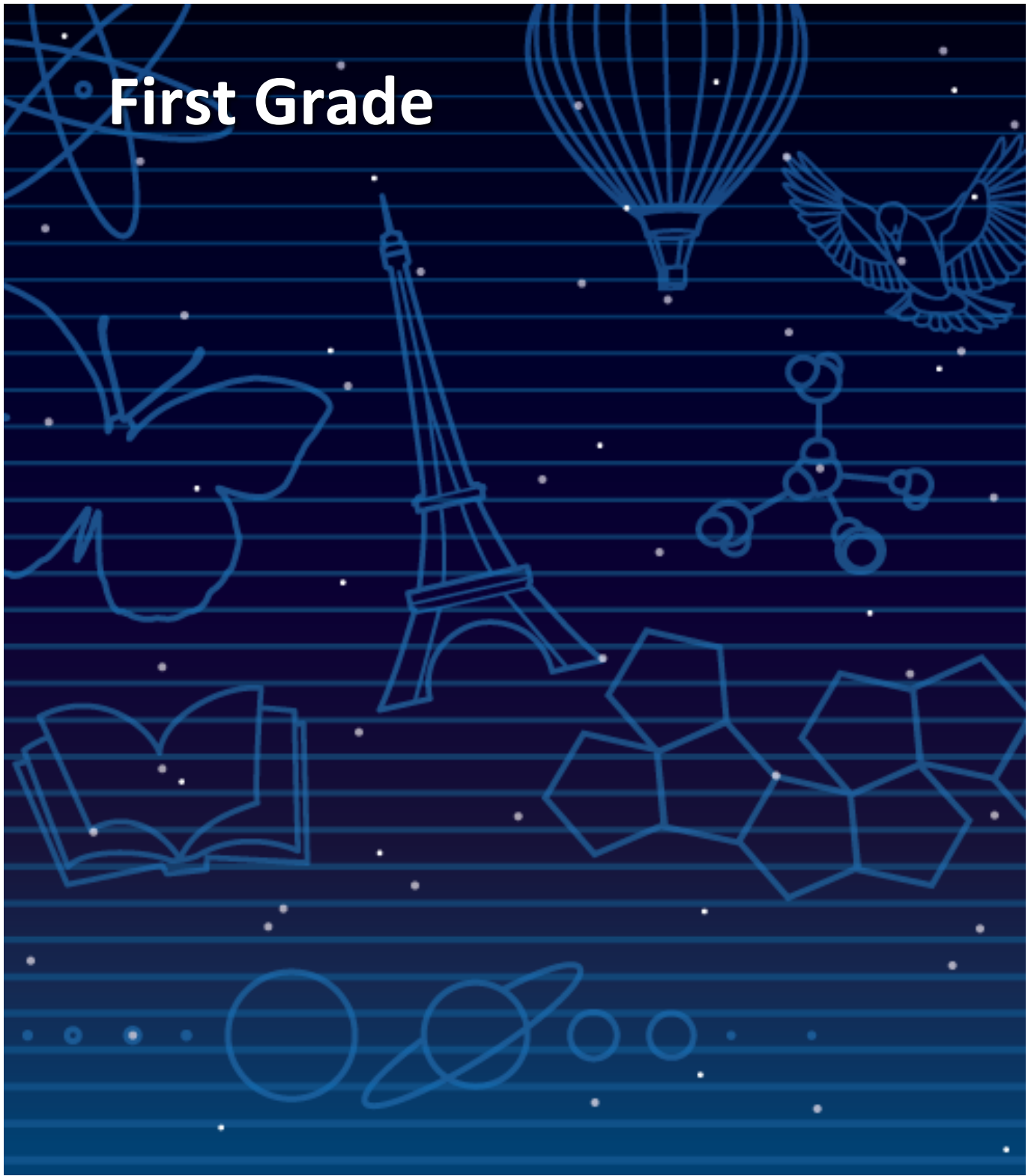
At the Assign dialog, choose the begin and end dates you want students to be able to start working on the template. Use the pull-down menus and radio buttons to choose the class and students you want to assign the template to and select Save.



You will see the template in your Assignments folder.

The students you selected will see the template at the top of their Wixie home page on the dates you specified.

Meeting Virginia Standards of Learning with Wixie®



What is Wixie?

Wixie is an online tool first-grade students can use to write, record their voice, paint pictures, and tell stories. Wixie provides an engaging way for students to explore and respond to curriculum topics related to the Virginia Standards of Learning.

Students can add text to a Wixie page to practice their writing, draw ideas from their imagination using the paint tools, record narration for stories, and more. Student work is online and can be shared immediately through a URL as well as printed as booklets, comics, and more.

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Find Templates by SOL 23

This guide is provided by:

Tech4Learning
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tech4learning.com

Using Wixie with First-Grade Students

First-grade students are learning to read, strengthening existing literacy skills, and learning to do basic mathematical calculations. They are learning to use words, pictures, and math concepts as they explore their world. At this foundational stage of learning, Wixie provides an opportunity for students to create products that reflect what they are learning in the classroom and are unique to their abilities and passions.

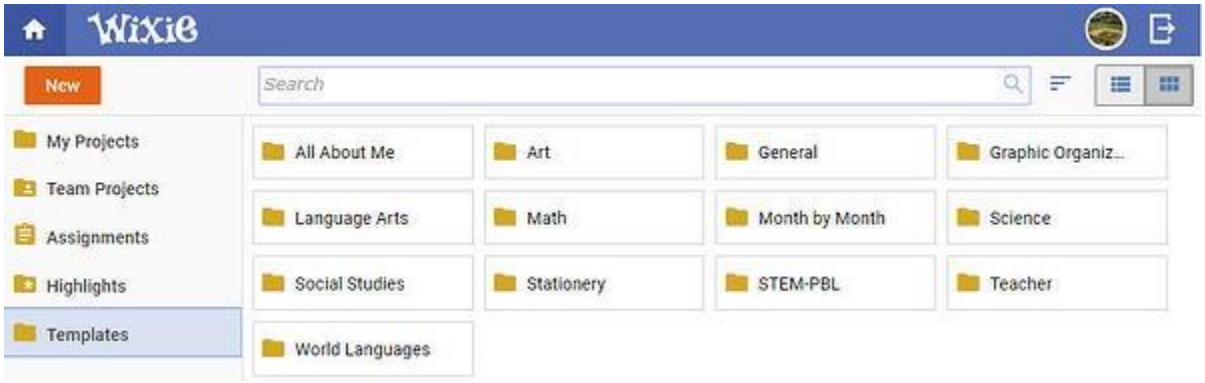
Wixie is also the perfect canvas for free play on the computer. Play is a powerful way for students to learn about the world. Rather than passively consuming computer games, Wixie encourages students to actively create artwork, stories, diagrams, designs, and more.

Finding Wixie Templates

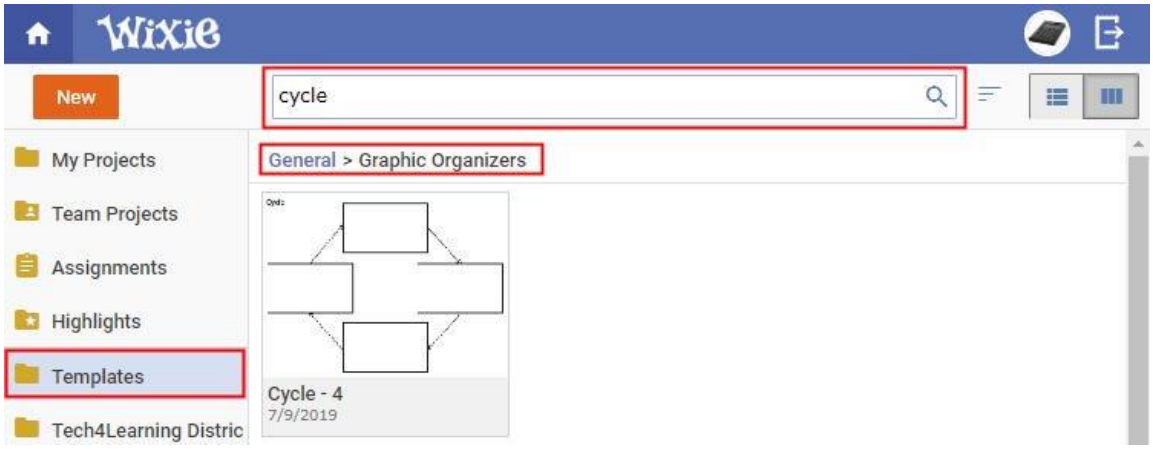
Many of the ideas in this guide use specific templates that come with Wixie. To find the template:

Log in to your teacher account.

Browse for template files by opening the Templates folder and sub-folders.



Enter a keyword in the field at the top and press the search button.

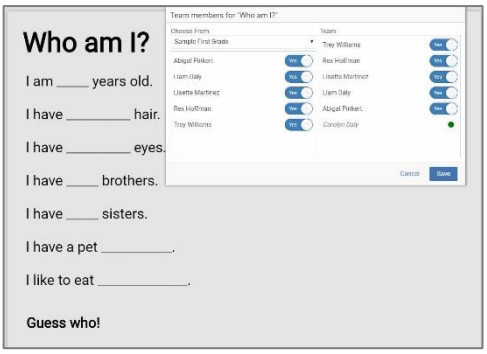


Language Arts

Communication and Multimodal Literacies

The student will continue to demonstrate growth in the use of oral language.
e) Participate in collaborative and partner discussions about various texts and topics.

Who am I?



Use Wixie's Team feature to facilitate real-time collaboration between students.

Use the Team to have students introduce themselves in the beginning of the year to one another. For example, you can use the template "Who am I?" which can be found by click the Templates folder and opening the All About Me folder. Students can complete the information and then share it with other students to see if they guess who they are.

As an extension you may want to have the "guessing" students add something nice they have noticed about the student as well.

Wixie Template:
Who am I?

1.1 The student will continue to demonstrate growth in the use of oral language.
j) Express ideas orally in complete sentences.

"I wanted to find a meaningful project to highlight my first graders' accomplishments in writing, and since we were studying families, I suggested that the students write about a very familiar topic, relatives. The response and excitement was immediate and overwhelming and continued to grow when we added a "create and share with technology" component.

My students were excited to get started and immediately chose a favorite relative. It was a familiar topic, and their interest was evident. As the project progressed, students' excitement grew! The students began to converse and share ideas with one another instead of coming to me. They were complimenting and encouraging one another. I noted that the students were passionate about what they were writing and drawing. Their passion for the project led to even more suggestions and requests, which in turn led to deeper learning.

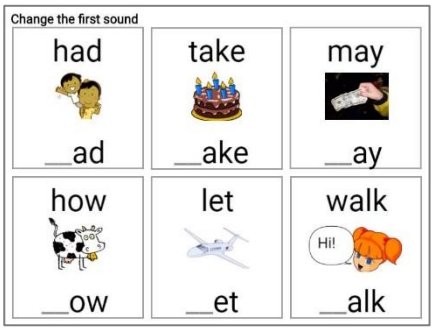
We shared their stories online and at a classroom event. The expressions and pride on the students' faces were priceless. A father began to cry when he learned he was his son's hero. My students were connected, excited, motivated, inquisitive, and left with memories that will last a lifetime."

Barbara Fairchild- Tuscarora School District, Mercerburg, PA

Reading

1.3 The student will orally identify, produce, and manipulate various phonemes within words to develop phonological and phonemic awareness.
e) Add or delete phonemes to make new words.

Manipulate Phonemes



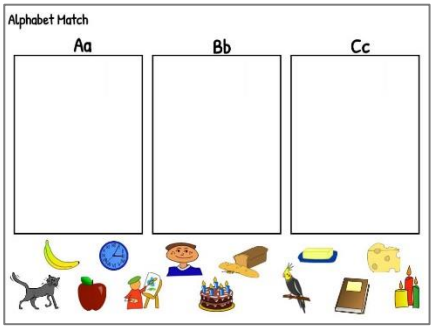
Wixie contains a wealth of templates that support phonemic awareness. You can assign different templates to students depending on what you want to evaluate and have students practice. For example, the Substitution templates use clip art and partial words to support students as they complete new words.

Log in to your teacher account. Click the Search field and type in "phonemic". You will see a variety of phonemic awareness templates. Click the Assign button to assign the template you want to specific students in your class.

Wixie Template:
Substitution

The student will apply phonetic principals to read and spell.
e) Blend initial, medial, and final sounds to recognize and read words.

Phonetic Principals



Wixie contains a wide selection of templates that support phonemic principals to help students read and spell. You can assign different templates to students depending on the skills and learning goals you want to evaluate and have students practice.

Log in to your teacher account. Click the Search field and type in "sound". You will see a variety of templates that support initial sounds, blends, and short vowels. Click the Assign button to assign the template to specific students in your class.

As students gain proficiency, have them create a class ABC book on a topic. For example, if you are creating an ABC book for "School", students might choose A for author, B for backpack etc.

Wixie Template:
Alphabet Match

1.7 The student will expand vocabulary and use of word meanings.
a) Discuss meanings of the words in context.

Vocabulary Supports

As you read to the class or as students are reading independently, have them jot down when they encounter unfamiliar words. Collect the new words on a wall or bulletin board in your classroom.

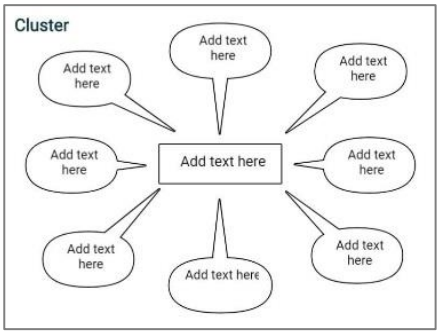
Log in to your teacher account. Click the Search field and type in "vocabulary". You will see a variety of templates, including a Frayer model template that supports vocabulary development. Click the Assign button to assign the template you want to specific students in your class.

At the end of the week or unit, give each student one of the words on the wall. Print the pages in Postcard style (4 to a page) and distribute them to the class as vocabulary postcards or trading cards.

Wixie Template:
Vocabulary

1.7 The student will expand vocabulary and use of word meanings.
c) Ask for the meaning of unknown words and make connections to familiar words.

Word Connections



First grade students have a fairly large mental library of words they understand, but a much smaller library of words they use in everyday speech. At this age, students are starting to understand that run and jog might not mean exactly the same kind of movement, but they might only use the word run as they are writing. Open the Cluster template and project it for the class to see. Type "Getting to School" in the large box in the center. It should be fairly easy for students to come up with different nouns and verbs like bus, car, ride, and walk.

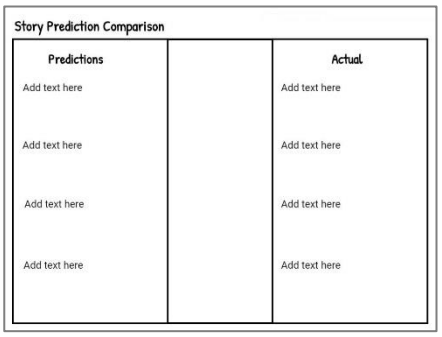
Log in to your teacher account. Click the Search field and type in "cluster". Click the Assign button to assign the template to students.

Assign each student a noun or verb that is appropriate to their reading level such as "car" or "move." Challenge students to fill the outside eight boxes with words they could use that mean the same thing or are more specific like Corvette, SUV, hike, skip, jog, march, and run.

Wixie Template:
Cluster

1.9 The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of a variety of fictional texts.
d) Make and confirm predictions.

Making Predictions



Read a story that is unfamiliar to your class. Then, open the Story Prediction Comparison template in Wixie and project it for the class to see. Ask students to come up with what they think will happen in the story. After you are finished reading, complete the template to show what actually took place in the story.

Log in to your teacher account. Click the Search field and type in "prediction." Click the Assign button to assign the template to students.

Have student begin working on the left side of the template to predict what will happen in a new story they are reading and/or listening to in class. Then, have them type in the events that actually took place in the story during a center rotation or during their independent work time.

Wixie Template:
Story Prediction Comparison

1.9 The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of a variety of fictional texts.
e) Ask and answer who, what, when, where, why, and how questions about what is read.

Fictional Texts

Read a favorite, or familiar story to your class. Then, open the 5 W's template and project it to where students can see it. Ask the students to help you identify who, when, where, what, and how.

Log in to your teacher account. Click the Search field and type in "5W". Click the Assign button to assign the template to students.

Ask students to choose their favorite scene from the story. Have students click the Page button on the toolbar to add a blank page to the file and recreate the scene. What could they draw in the background to indicate where and when? What can they add as clip art or draw with the paint tools to show who and what?

Wixie Template:
5W's

1.9 The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of a variety of fictional texts.
f) Identify the characters, setting, and important events.

Parts of a Story

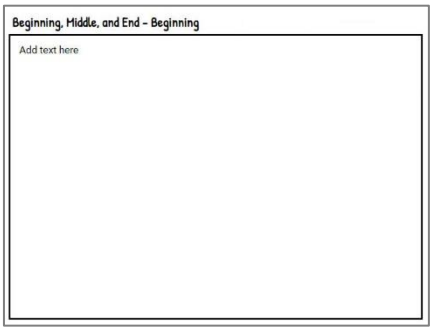
As you read aloud to students or share a favorite class book, you naturally ask students “What will happen next?” or “What will this character do?” After reading as a class, have students individually relate what they learned from listening to or reading a story on their own using the Parts of a Story template.

Log in to your teacher account. Click the Templates folder, open the Language Arts folder, open the Reading folder, open the Comprehension folder, and select the Parts of a Story template. Click the Assign button to assign the template to students.

At the beginning of the year, you may want to customize the Parts of a Story template to include specific images of the exact characters, setting, and events in a book you are reading. This way, after you customize and assign the template, students will be able to simply click and drag the graphics you placed in the template to the correct boxes.

Wixie Template:
Parts of a Story

1.9 The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of a variety of fictional texts.
g) Retell stories and events using beginning, middle, and end in sequential order.



After visiting the library, computer lab, or a special class like art, talk with your students about what happened. How did it begin? What did they do? How did it end? Brainstorm a list of things that occurred and then work as a class to put them in order. Have students use the text and paint tool on the activity to describe what happened at the beginning middle and end.

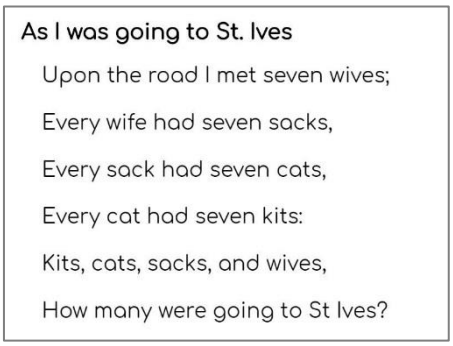
Log in to your teacher account. Click the Templates folder, open the Language Arts folder, open the Reading folder, open the Comprehension folder and select the Begin and End template. Click the Assign button to assign the activity to students.

As students get more sophisticated, have them retell an important or recent event that happened at home using the Begin and End template. In this template, they will write, illustrate, and narrate an event by dividing it into actions that occurred in the beginning, middle, and end.

Wixie Template:
Begin and End

1.9 The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of a variety of fictional texts.
i) Read and reread familiar stories and poems with fluency, accuracy, and meaningful expressions.

Reading with Fluency



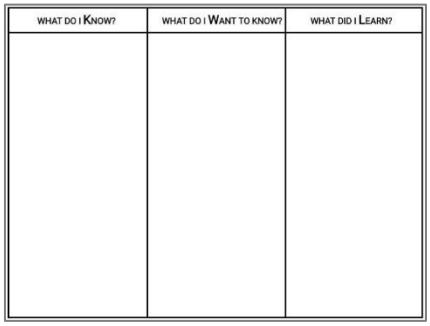
Capture and archive your student's fluency levels throughout the year by using one of the prose and poetry templates which can be found by going to the Templates folder>Language Arts> Reading> Comprehension> Fluency folder.

Since Wixie stores all student files automatically, it makes it very easy to locate all the fluency assessment templates a child has recorded and play them back for parents and/or students at their school conferences. That way, everyone present can actually "hear" how their fluency levels have improved throughout the year rather than just see it marked on the student's report card.

Wixie Template:
Grade 1- As I was going to St Ives

1.10 The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of a variety of nonfiction texts.
b) Use prior and background knowledge as context for new learning.

KWL



Introduce a new topic to your class. Then, open the "KWL" template and project it to where students can see it. Have students identify what they already know and what they want to learn about the given topic. At the end of the lesson/unit, circle back to the template to complete what your class has learned.

Log in to your teacher account. Click the Search field and type in "KWL." Click the Assign button to assign the template to students. Have students complete the K (what I know) and the W (want to know) for another topic. For example, you may have them use this type of organizer when you are studying about the life cycle of a butterfly or another topic you are introducing in class.

Wixie Template:
KWL

1.10 The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of a variety of nonfiction texts.
f) Ask and answer who, what, where, when, why, and how questions about what is read.

Informational Text

Read an informational text to you class on a topic you are studying. Then, open the 5 W's template and project it to where students can see it. Write the title of the story in the middle and ask the students to help identify who, when, where, what, and how.

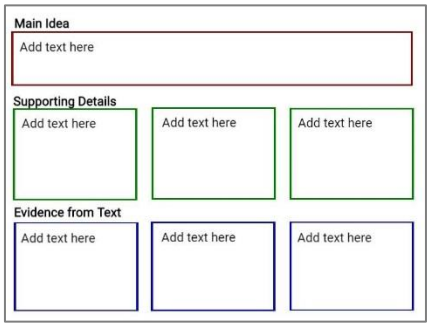
Log in to your teacher account. Click the Search field and type in "5W". Click the Assign button to assign the template to students.

Ask students to choose their favorite scene from the story. Have students click the Page button on the toolbar to add a blank page to the file and recreate the scene. What could they draw in the background to indicate where and when? What can they add as clip art or draw with the paint tools to show who and what?

Wixie Template:
5W's

1.10 The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of a variety of nonfiction texts.
g) Identify the main topic and retell key details of a text.

Non-Fiction Texts



Share a couple of different nonfiction books for early readers with your students. Look at the cover picture and title. What is the main idea? Now explore the titles, pictures, and text inside the book. How are they organized? Assign the Main Idea template and ask students to work individually to add text to describe the main idea, supporting details, and specific evidence they have found from the text.

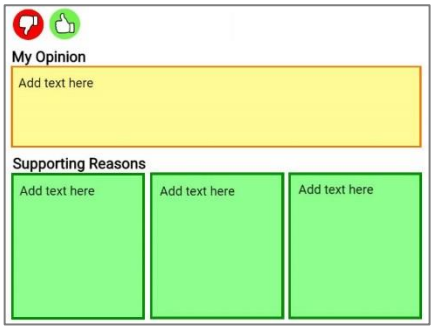
You might also assign students the Main Idea template for a nonfiction topic they will be exploring in their writing. This will help them collect information for their writing. You can also have students create a page that illustrates the main idea using clip art, text, and paint tools.

Wixie Template:
Main Idea

Writing

1.12 The student will write for a variety of forms to include narrative, descriptive, and opinion.
b) Use prewriting activities to generate ideas.

Graphic Organizers



Wixie contains a wealth of graphic organizer templates to help students organize their thoughts and make large amounts of information easier to understand.

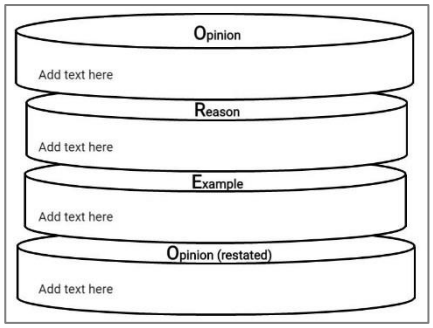
If students are new to graphic organizers, you will want to begin by modeling how to use them to organize ideas. For example, you could open a graphic organizer in Wixie at your teacher presentation station and work together to recall facts and details from an informational text you have read.

Log in to your teacher account. Click the Templates folder and then open the Graphic Organizer folder. Select the appropriate organizer for the writing activity. Click the Assign button to assign the template to students.

Wixie Template:
Opinion Organizer

1.12 The student will write for a variety of forms to include narrative, descriptive, and opinion.
f) Write to express an opinion and give a reason.

Opinion Writing



Most young students love animals and many even have one, or want one in their home, making pets a great topic for opinion writing. Click the search field in Wixie and type “Oreo.” Open up the OREO opinion graphic organizer template and project it to where students can see it.

Talk to students about the idea of having a class pet. Take a quick poll to decide on which animal the majority of the class wants and then ask them to brainstorm the reasons and examples to make their case.

Log in to your teacher account. Open the blank Oreo template. Click the Assign button to assign the template to students. Have students independently fill out the graphic organizer for a pet they would want at home.

Wixie Template:
OREO Opinion Organizer

1.12 The student will write for a variety of forms to include narrative, descriptive, and opinion.
h) Share writing with others.

Welcome to Our Classroom

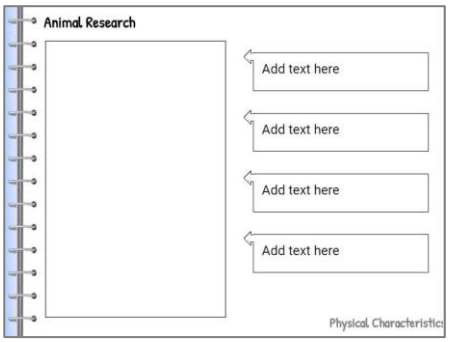
After students have been in class a couple of weeks, have students help you create a tour of your classroom that shows important features and how they are used. As a class, brainstorm the different parts of your room, such as the reading corner, desk groups, pencil sharpener, etc. Walk around the room and take pictures of each place students have identified, or if students are using tablets, have them take pictures and add it from the camera roll.

Have students type or record a simple sentence about each area. You may want to start with a repetition (At the reading corner, we …). Aides or older students can help students' complete sentences and record their voices.

You can follow the same process to create handbooks for classroom procedures. Have students create Wixie projects to show the procedures for checking out library books, paying for lunch, signing in to a computer, and arriving at school in the morning.

Research

1.14 The student will conduct research to answer questions or solve problems using available resources.
a) Generate topics of interest.
b) Generate questions to gather information.
c) Identify questions to gather information.
d) Find information from provided sources.
e) Record information.



Have students pick an animal they would like to research. Log in to your teacher account. Click the Search field and type in "Animal Research". Click the Assign button to assign the template to students. Have each student print their pages as a booklet. This will print all four pages in the project on one sheet of paper students can fold into a small booklet they can share with peers and family.

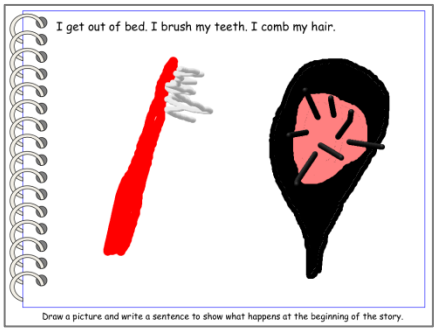
You can share them in your class or school library and/or have students take them home and read them to their family and friends.

Wixie Template:
Animal Research

Lesson Plan

While individual templates can be used to address specific language standards, you can also create engaging lessons that address multiple standards in one project.

How to Get Ready for School



Students will write how-to stories about getting ready for school and publish them to share with their families and to use at home. They will organize their ideas using a beginning, middle, and end organizer. They will then write and illustrate their stories using this template in the Pixie Template Library. *This project provides a window into student home life so you can better get to know and understand your students.*

Engage

Read, or reread, **Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day** by Judith Viorst. Focus on Alexander's problems as he gets ready for school. You may even choose to simply focus on this section or revisit it when students are preparing to write their own "Getting Ready for School" stories.

As a class, create a list of some of the things your students do when they get ready for school. You students may come up with ideas like brush teeth, eat breakfast, get dressed, and feed the dog. It may take a while to get students to come up with specific steps, but once a few ideas are on the list, it will be easier for students to come up with them on their own.

Using the class ideas as a foundation, have each student create the list the things they think should be included in a how-to get ready for school book. Have students use a beginning, middle, and end organizer to group together similar actions and establish a basic timeline.

If students are struggling with events and order, have them write ideas on sticky notes. This will make it easy to change order and group things together, before working on a more official organizer.

Create

Once the students have completed their organizer, have them write complete sentences for each part of the how-to book. What should happen first? Next? Last?

Talk to students about their writing to make sure they have included capital letters at the beginning and periods at the end. Ask them what they will draw on each page. Will their illustration support their writing?

What can they add or change? How can they add to or change the picture?

Have each student use the Begin and End Book template to write and illustrate their story. Each page in the template has a text box and room for a picture. You may want to have an older student buddy or aide help students type their stories. You may want to save this template to your classroom computer(s) and add a shortcut they can use so they can begin working right away.

Share

Have each student print their pages as a booklet. This will print all four pages in the project on one sheet of paper students can fold into a small booklet they can share with peers and family.

You can also link to the URL for each student's how-to book from your classroom web site to create your own how-to library. This gives student work has a real-world audience in your family and community.

Virginia Standards of Learning

Reading

1.9 The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of a variety of fictional texts.

g) Retell stories and events, using beginning, middle, and end in a sequential order.

Writing

1.12 The student will write in a variety of forms to include narrative, descriptive, and opinion.

b) Use prewriting activities to generate ideas.

d) Organize writing to suit purpose

e) Revise by adding descriptive words when writing about people, place, things, and events.

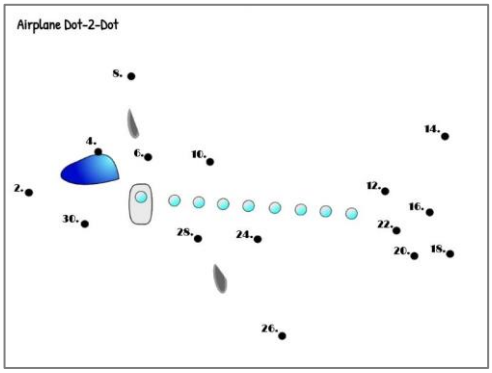
g) Use letters to phonetically spell words.

Mathematics

Number & Number Sense

1.1 The student will;
d) count forward orally by ones, twos, fives, and tens to determine the total number of objects to 110.

Skip Counting



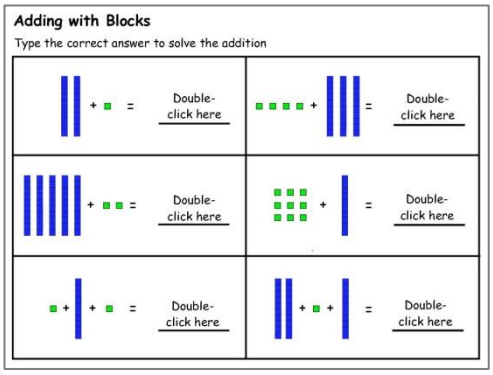
Two, four, six, eight! Who do we appreciate? Skip counting! Students usually know this cheer long before they are skip counting or adding by twos. Start off with this cheer and then practice skip counting to 20. Click the Templates>Math>Numbers and Operations>Computation folders to use the Count by Twos template as an individual assessment to see how well your students can skip count to 20.

In addition to helping with multiplication, skip counting also helps us add faster. Demonstrate how to skip count on a clock to tell time by the hour AND minute. What other examples can the class come up with for using skip counting?

Wixie Template:
Count by Twos

1.2 The student given up to 110 objects, will
a) group a collection into tens and ones and write the corresponding numeral.

Add with Blocks



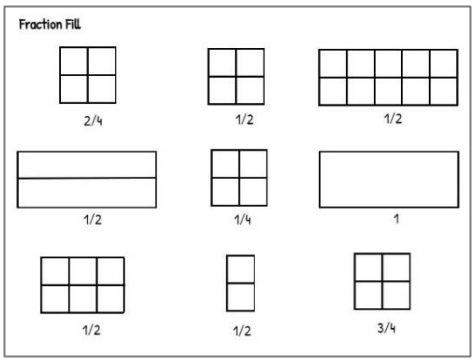
Grouping numbers together using ten as a base helps make adding and subtracting much quicker. After exploring base ten groupings using manipulatives, assign the Adding with Blocks template. This template includes integers already grouped by tens and ones. Then, assign the Base Ten Grouping template, which requires student to regroup ones into tens, to assess for understanding.

To build understanding of grouping, share a real-life problem from your school. For example, if your grade was going to go on a field trip, how many bus seats would you need? If classes have 24 students in each and there are three classes going, can you group tens together to more quickly estimate how many buses with 50 seats you will need?

Wixie Template:
Adding with Blocks

1.4 The student will;
b) represent and name fractions for halves and fourths, using models.

Represent Fractions



Wixie includes a range of templates and stickers students can use to show their knowledge of fractional parts. You can use the templates to assess for student understanding.

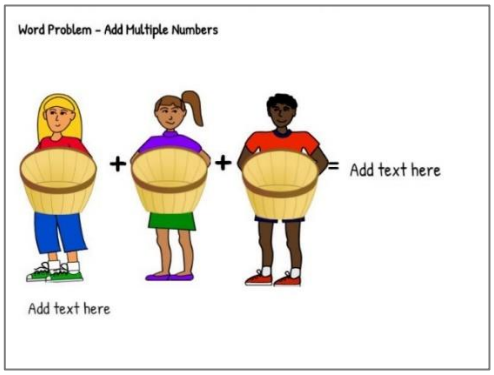
Log in to your teacher account. Click the Search field and type in "fraction". You will see a variety of fraction templates. Click the Assign button to assign the template to specific students in your class.

As an extension activity, have students create and label their own fractional models by using the shape and fill bucket tools in Wixie.

Wixie Template:
Fraction Fill

Computation and Estimation

1.6 The student will create and solve single-step story and picture problems using addition and subtraction within 20.



Word problems can be a struggle to master, but they are helpful for getting students to visualize equations and to see how much math is applied in the world beyond the classroom. Open the Addition Word Problem activity and project it so the entire class can see it.

Log in to your teacher account. Click the Templates folder, open the Math folder, open the Numbers and Operations folder, open the Computation folder, and select the "Addition Word Problems" template. Click the Customize button to add a copy to your projects, so you can open it with students.

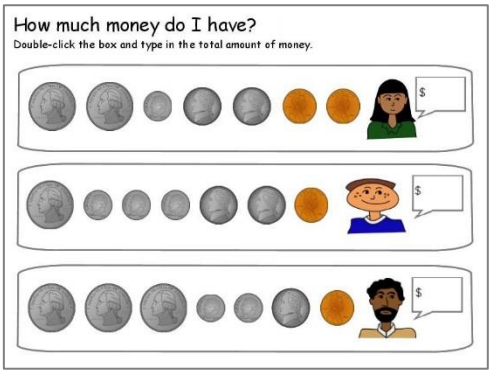
Have students choose objects from the Stickers library to add to the baskets in the activity. Have the class call out the equation you create. Then, work together to translate the equation into a word problem. You may want to start by giving each person a name and writing out the number and name of the objects before adding verbs and the rest of the story.

Wixie Template:
Addition Word Problems

Measurement and Geometry

1.8 The student will determine the value of a collection of like coins (pennies, nickels, or dimes) whose total value is 100 cents or less.

Counting Money



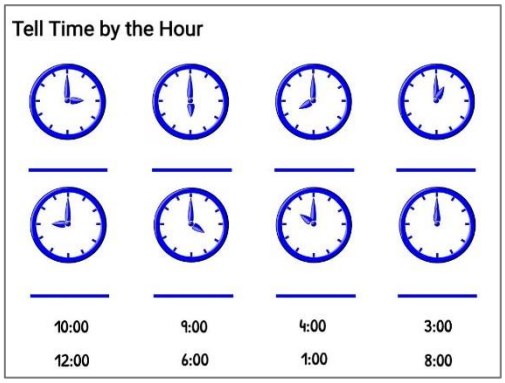
Students in first grade are starting to grasp the value of coins and have probably used coins or a dollar to buy candy or other small items. Share loose change with your students and simply let them play and count on their own.

Log in to your teacher account. Click the Templates folder, open the Math folder, open the Measurement folder, open the Money folder, and select the Counting Money template. Click the Assign button to assign the activity to students.

Have each student complete the Counting money activity so you can assess each student's individual comprehension and mastery. Assign additional activities for those excelling with money or have students use the coins in the Stickers Library (Money folder) to add a collection of coins to tell a story.

Wixie Template:
Counting Money

1.9 The student will
a) investigate the passage of time and tell time to the hour and half-hour, using analog and digital clocks.



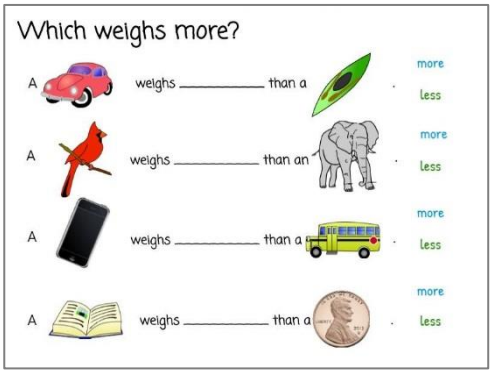
Direct students' attention to the clock. How many big numbers are on the clock? Have students point to the hour hand. Tell them when the house hand moves from one number to the next, one hour has passed. What can you do in an hour? Open the Tell Time template in front of the class and ask students to help you determine the time shown on each clock.

Have students use Wixie's paint and text tools to show and describe an event that happens at a certain time each day, such as going to sleep at 8 p.m. You might want to have students first add a clock with a specific time and then have students draw a picture about what happens at that time of day or draw a daily event and drag a clock to show the time it normally occurs.

Wixie Template:
Tell Time- Hour

1.10 The student will use nonstandard units to measure and compare the length, weight, and volume.

Measure Objects



Wixie includes a range of templates and stickers students can use to show their knowledge of nonstandard units of measurement. You can use the templates to assess for student understanding.

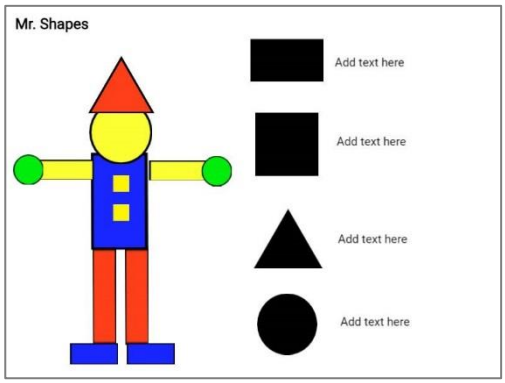
Log in to your teacher account. Click the Search field and type in the word “weight”. You will see a variety of measurement templates for weight and length. Click the Assign button to assign the template Weight to students in your class.

As a lesson extension, have students create their own Wixie page that includes objects that weigh more or less than each other.

Wixie Template:
Weight

1.11 The students will
a) identify, trace, describe, and sort plane figures (triangles, squares, rectangles, and circles) according to the number of sides, vertices, and angles; and
b) identify and describe representations of circles, squares, rectangles, and triangles, in different environments, regardless of orientation, and explain reasoning.

Shapes Around Us



Shapes are all around your classroom. Group students together to form small teams and assign each team to find a different type of shape (circle, square, triangle). Then, have a classroom discussion about why each object they found can be defined by that shape (has 3 sides, round).

Wixie includes a range of templates and stickers students can use to show their knowledge of shapes. You can use the templates to assess for student understanding.

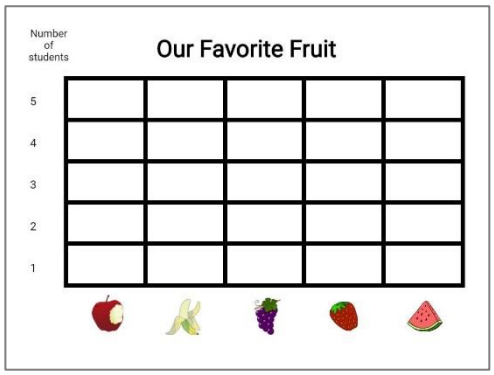
Log in to your teacher account. Click the Search field and type in “shape”. You will see the Mr Shapes templates. Click the Assign button to assign the template to specific students in your class. Once they get familiar with different shapes, you can have them use Wixie to create their own robot out of shapes and then write a story about the shapes they used to create it.

Wixie Template:
Mr. Shapes

Probability and Statistics

1.12 The student will
a) collect, organize, and represent various forms of data using tables, picture graphs, and object graphs and;
b) read and interpret date displayed in tables, picture graphs, and object graphs, using the vocabulary more, less, fewer, greater than, less than, and equal to.

Bar Graphs



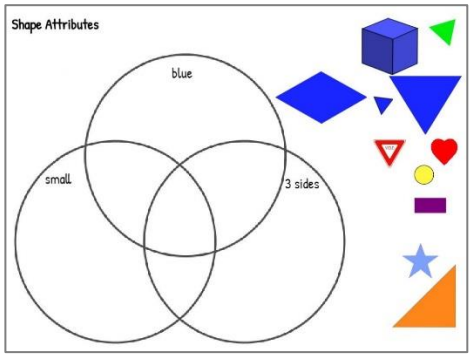
One of the biggest challenges for many first-grade students is learning to represent data in graphs. But, since most students love pictures and paint, Wixie is an ideal tool for students to use when they are first learning how to make and interpret bar graphs. Conduct a survey with your whole classroom on a topic such as their favorite activity or how they get to school. Then, display and analyze the results together on your white board.

Click the Search field in Wixie and type in the word “graph”. You will see the Favorite Fruit graph. Survey 5 students about their favorite fruit. Have the students come up to the computer and fill the squares in with the fill bucket or stickers to complete the graph. And, then analyze the results with the class. Customize the template and assign it as an activity for students to do in a learning center for additional graphing practice.

Wixie Template:
Favorite Fruit

Patterns, Functions, and Algebra

1.13 The student will sort and classify concrete objects according to one of two attributes.



Get students excited about working with different types of shapes by working with wooden blocks or creating and classifying shapes using popsicle sticks. Students can classify and sort the manipulatives into piles according to their shapes and attributes.

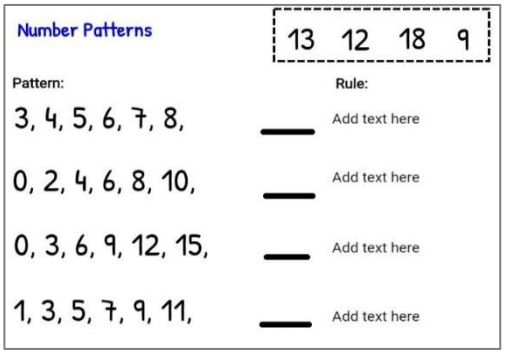
Log in to your teacher account. Click the search field and type in the word “attribute.” Click the Assign button to assign the Shape template to your students to evaluate their understanding.

As a lesson extension, have students use one of the circle graphic organizers in Wixie and then add and sort stickers based on attributes they choose.

Wixie Template:
Shape Attributes

1.14 The student will identify, describe, extend, create, and transfer growing and repeating patterns.

Wixie includes a range of activities and stickers students can use to generate patterns. You can use the templates to assess for student understanding.



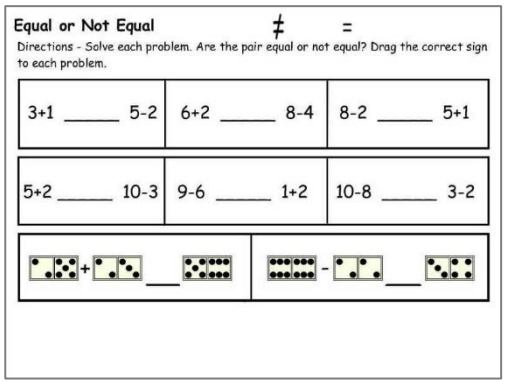
Log in to your teacher account. Click the Search field and type in "pattern". You will see a variety of templates. Click the Assign button to assign the template to specific students in your class.

As an extension, have students start with a blank page in Wixie and create their own number or object patterns. You can also have students create fun patterns for their peers to solve at a later time.

Wixie Template:
Number Patterns

1.15 The student will demonstrate an understanding of equality through the use of the equal sign.

Understanding the meaning of equal- that everything on one side of the equals sign is balanced by everything on the other side- is the foundation for algebraic thinking. Use a balance scale with varying groupings of objects (marbles, blocks, or dice) to help students understand that although the groupings may be different, the scale will still balance if the total is the same on each side.



Log in to your teacher account. Click the Search field and type in "equal". Click the Equal or Not Equal template. Click the Assign button to assign the template to specific students in your class for additional practice in a learning center.

Wixie Template:
Equal or Not Equal

Lesson Plan

While individual activities can be used to address specific language standards, you can also create engaging lessons that address multiple standards in one project.

The Shape of Things

After reading The Shape of Things, students will compose images from shapes, write a sentence to describes their composition, and create their own version of the book.

Task

The world around you is made of amazing shapes. The clock in your classroom is probably round, but the one by your bed may be a square or rectangle. In this project, you will think of the shapes in objects around you, draw a picture and complete a shape sentence to make your own version of the book.

Engage

Ask students to find shapes around your classroom. While the clock is probably round and the whiteboard is probably a rectangle, see if students find shapes that are part of a group of shapes. For example, your pencil sharpener will have a hole where you insert the pencil, but the entire shape of the sharpener may be a rectangle or oval. As students call out shapes, highlight ones that are part of a group of shapes, and challenge them to find groups of shapes in your classroom.

Read the story the **The Shape of Things** by Dayle Ann Dodds and Julie Lacome. This rhythmic story showcases the basic shapes in common objects. As you read each page, have students look at the illustrations and name all of the shapes that they find. After reading this story, tell the students that they will work in small groups to create their very own Shape of Things book.

Group the students together to form small teams. Assign each student a basic shape like circle, square, triangle, rectangle, oval, and so on. Explain to students that each team member will create a page for the assign that includes an illustration made from a combination of shapes with their assigned shape as the base. Each student will then complete the following sentences:

A _____ (shape) is just a _____ (same shape) until you add _____. Then it becomes a _____!

For example: A circle is just a circle until you add a hole. Then it becomes a donut.

Create

Demonstrate how to launch Pixie, use the Paint tools, and type text. Be sure to demonstrate how to use the shape tool to draw both shape outlines and filled shapes. You may want to create a template that already includes the sentences above, so that students simply have to illustrate and complete the sentences. Post the words for common shapes so that students can easily see how to spell them.

You can let students draw whatever shape they want, but some may find it easier to see a picture in a shape that you have assigned. In any case, have students start by drawing the main, or largest shape first. Then add details to transform it into a special character, object, or location.

Be sure to have each student record their voice reading their sentences. Encourage them to practice before recording for the final time, or to preview the sound and try again. Have students save their files to a team folder. If one student finishes first, have them create the title page.

Share

Click the Pixie Project button and choose Import Pages to combine all individual student pages into one team project. Click the storyboard view from the View options to arrange the pages to share different shapes in the order you want them to appear.

Click the Projects button and Export the book to share with family, school, and community. Print a copy of the book so that students can read and share with their families. Export a copy as HTML so you can share an electronic version that includes each student reading their page. Publish this version to your classroom web site or present it from a local computer.

Virginia Standards of Learning

1.11 The student will

a. identify, trace, describe, and sort plane figures, and circles) according to number of sides, vertices, and angles; and

b. identify and describe representations of circles, squares, rectangles, and triangles in different environments, regardless of orientation, and explain reasoning.

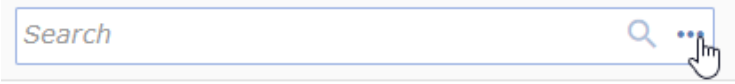
Appendix A

Find Templates by SOL

You can assign templates in Wixie that you find by searching the Virginia Standards of Learning.

Log in to Wixie with your username and password.

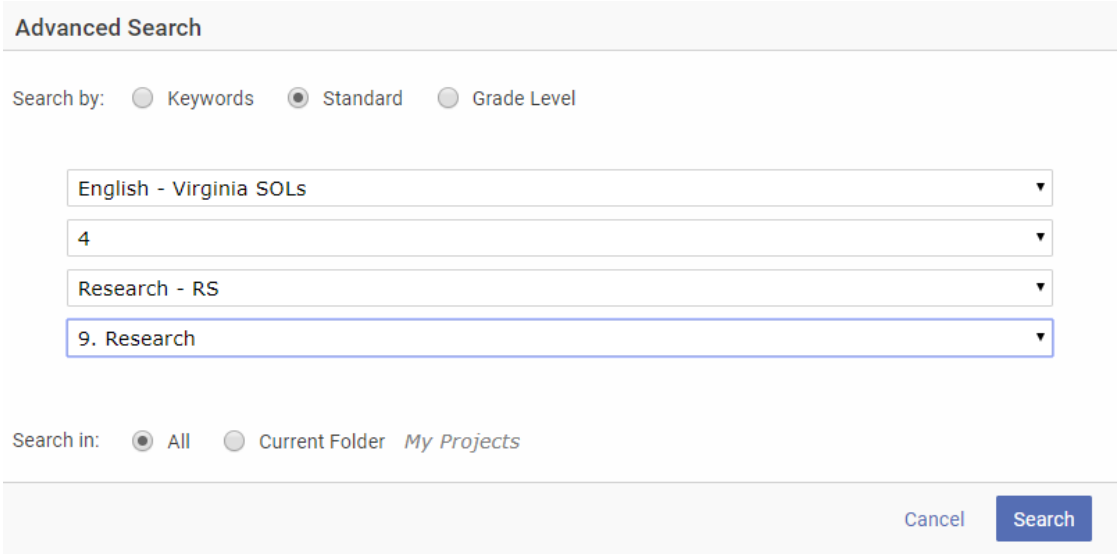
At your teacher home page, click the more search options (three dots) on the right of the Search field.



You will see the Advanced Search dialog.

Select the Standard radio button at the top. The dialog will update to show standard search options.

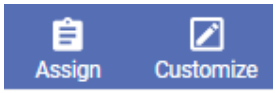
Use the pull-down menus to narrow down your search by subject, grade, topic, and subtopic.



Click the **Search** button. You will see templates that can help students master this standard.

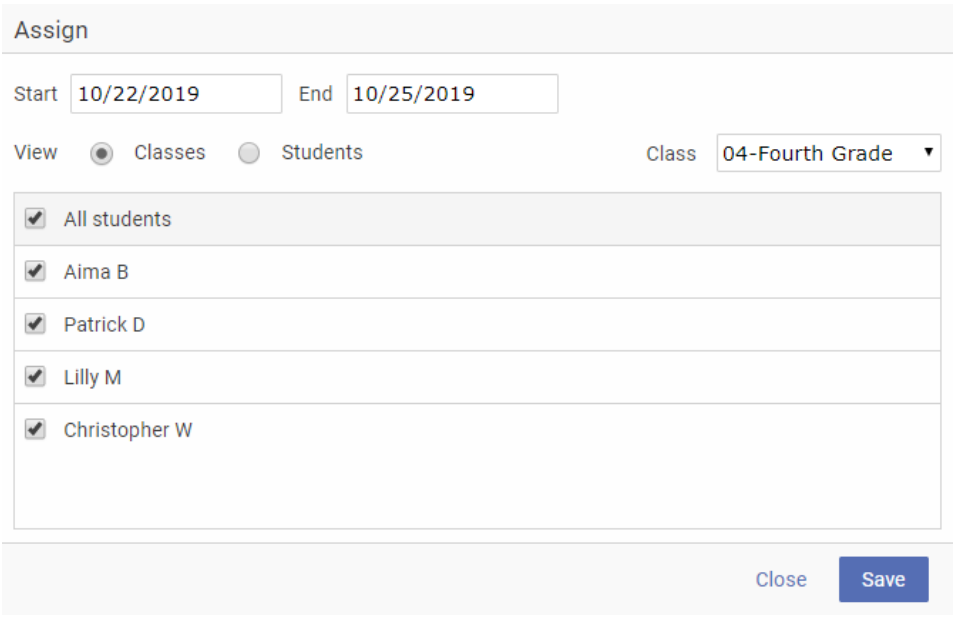
Select the image of the template and it will open in the Wixie authoring tool.

Select Customize to make changes to the template.



Select Assign to assign it to your students as it currently exists.

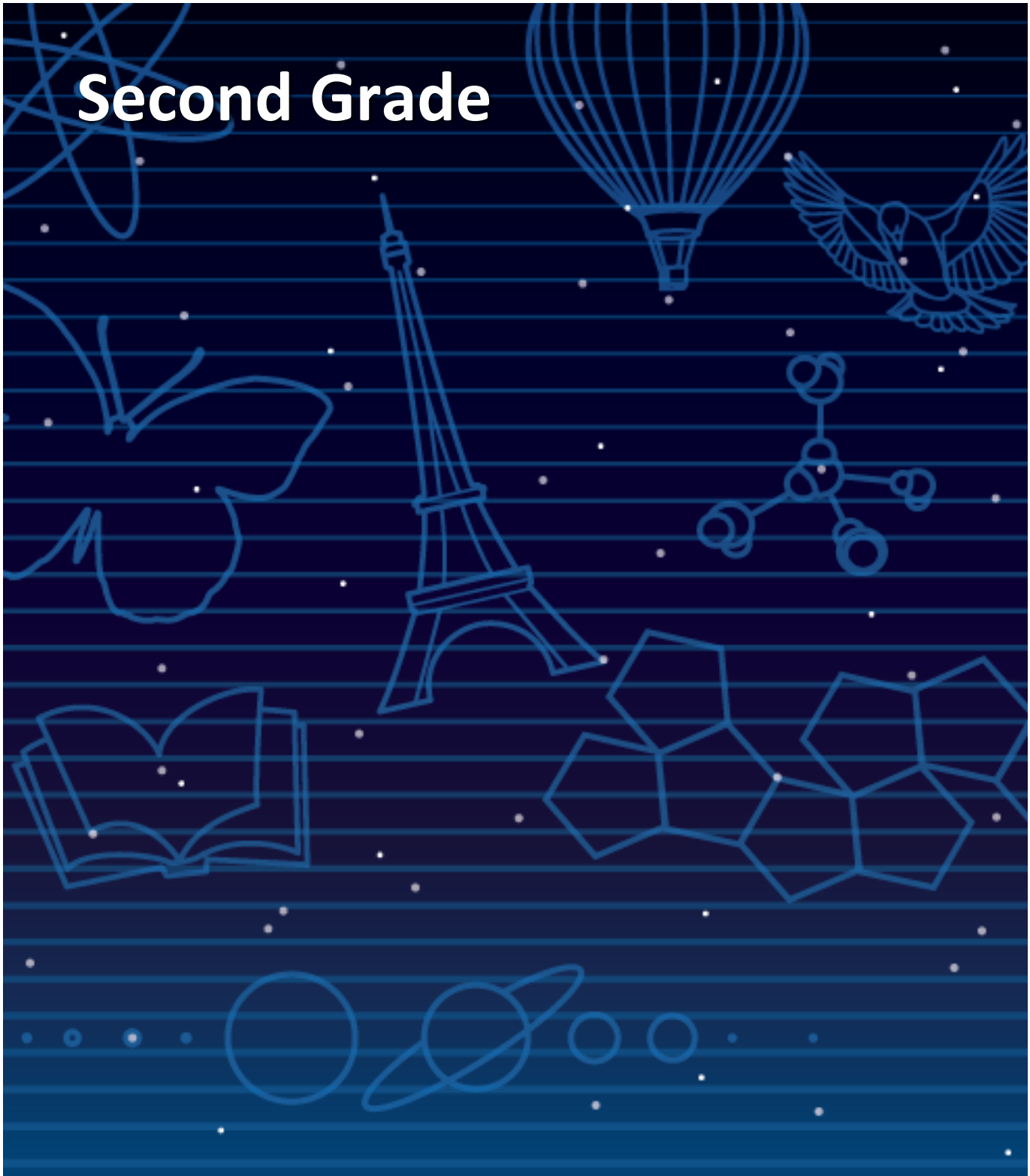
At the Assign dialog, choose the begin and end dates you want students to be able to start working on the template. Use the pull-down menus and radio buttons to choose the class and students you want to assign the template to and select Save.



You will see the template in your Assignments folder.

The students you selected will see the template at the top of their Wixie home page on the dates you specified.

Meeting Virginia Standards of Learning with Wixie®



What is Wixie?

Wixie is a cloud-based tool second-grade students can use to write, record their voice, paint pictures, and tell stories. Wixie provides an engaging way for students to explore and respond to curriculum topics related to the Virginia Standards of Learning.

Students can add text to a Wixie page to practice their writing, draw ideas from their imagination using the paint tools, record narration for stories, and more. Student work is online and can be shared immediately through a URL as well as printed as booklets, comics, and more.

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Appendix A 25

Find Templates by Virginia SOL 25

This guide is provided by:

Tech4Learning
6160 Mission Gorge Road, #206
San Diego, CA 92120

tech4learning.com

Using Wixie with Second-Grade Students

In second grade, students' abilities with language, writing, reading, and math are emerging and blossoming. They can increasingly explore and think about the world independently. Wixie provides an opportunity to support their exploration of the world around them and respond to what they find.

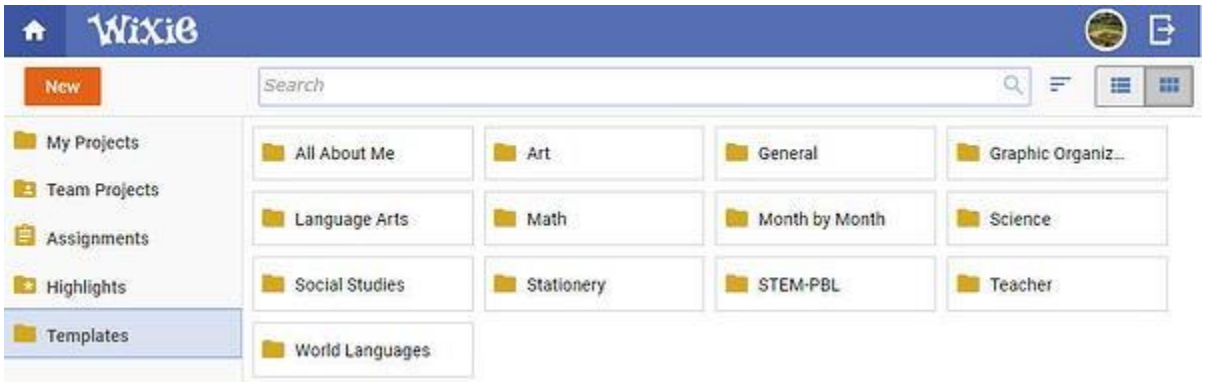
Wixie is also the perfect canvas for free play on the computer. Play is a powerful way for children to learn about the world. Wixie encourages children to create… artwork, stories, diagrams, designs, and more.

Finding Wixie Templates

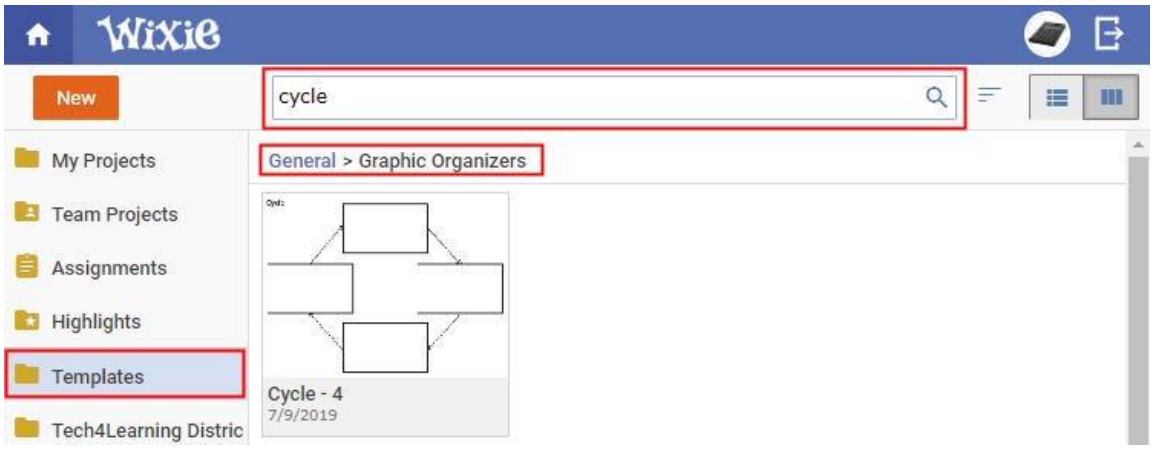
Many of the ideas in this guide use specific templates that come with Wixie. To find the template:

Log in to your teacher account.

Browse for template files by opening the Templates folder and sub-folders.



Enter a keyword in the field at the top and press the search button.



Language Arts

Communication and Multimodal Literacies

2.1 The students will use oral communication skills.
d. Share information orally with appropriate facts and relevant details.
2.2. The student will demonstrate an understanding of oral early literacy skills.
a. Create oral stories to share with others.

Creating Documentaries

"After attending a National Endowment of the Humanities workshop at Ellis Island, I decided a documentary that included my students' illustrations and narration would be an effective way to challenge and engage students while exploring immigration.

Students researched Ellis Island in their classroom through trade literature and on the Internet, and then focused on a particular topic to explore. After they learned the content, they decided the best way to illustrate it, including details like the chalk marks on clothing indicating a medical concern, steamships, and the steps the new arrivals had to ascend for their 'six-second medical exam.'

This project encouraged creativity and my students were engaged as they researched and illustrated their topic and practiced recording their narration. As we viewed the documentary, they also had the opportunity to learn from each other." -- **Pat Leslie, Flemington, NJ**

2.1 The students will use oral communication skills.
l. Work respectfully with others and show value for individual contributions.
m. Create a simple presentation using multimodal tools.

Students Adapting Books

"When our second-grade teacher Miss Alia read "Things That Are Most in the World" by Judi Barrett to her students, the class wanted to create their own version. The class brainstormed all of the superlatives they knew and, each student chose their favorite and wrote a sentence using the superlative that provided a clue to the meaning of the word.

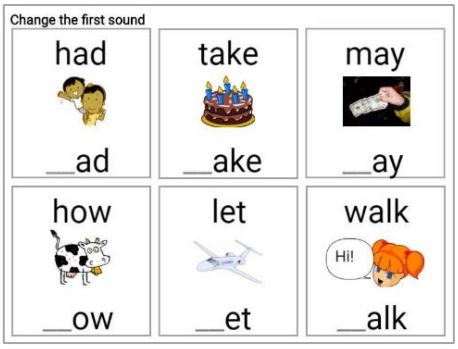
After students wrote the text and created a storyboard sketch for their pages, the worked in a single class period to paint amazing illustrations as well as record themselves reading their sentence. We then combined all of their pages into a class book.

Knowing that their final product was going to be published to the Web for a potentially global audience encouraged the students to do their best work." -- **Shelley Paul, College Park, GA**

Reading

2.3 The student will orally identify, produce, and manipulate various phonemes within words to develop phonological and phonemic awareness.
d. Add or delete phonemes to make new words.

Manipulate Phonemes



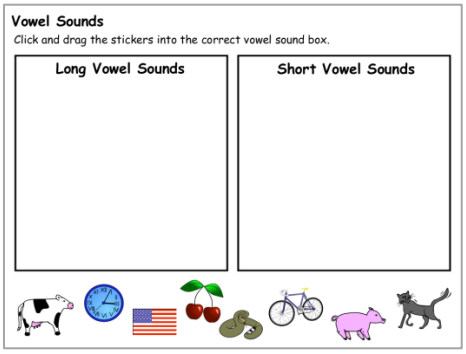
Wixie contains a wealth of templates that support phonemic awareness. You can assign different templates to students depending on what you want to evaluate and have students practice. For example, the Substitution templates use clip art and partial words to support students as they complete new words.

Log in to your teacher account. Click the Search field and type in "phonemic". You will see a variety of phonemic awareness templates. Click the Assign button to assign the template you want to specific students in your class.

Wixie Template:
Substitution

2.4. The student will use phonetic strategies when reading and spelling.
b. Use knowledge of short, long, and r-controlled vowel patterns to decode and spell words.

Vowel Sounds



Remind students about how words are pronounced when they end in a "silent e." Explore words that use the long *a* with a silent *e*, such as *date, mane, frame.*

Have students complete the Vowel Sounds template to practice long and short vowel sounds. If time permits, have students add more words and illustrations to fill each block with long and short vowel sounds. Students can record themselves saying the words and practicing the vowel sounds. They can play back the recordings to hear themselves.

Wixie Template:
Vowel Sounds

2.6 The student will expand vocabulary and use of word meanings.
a. Use knowledge of homophones.

"At Taylors Creek Elementary, students combine text, images, hand drawn artwork, and voice narration e to show evidence of their understanding of standards learned across the curriculum.

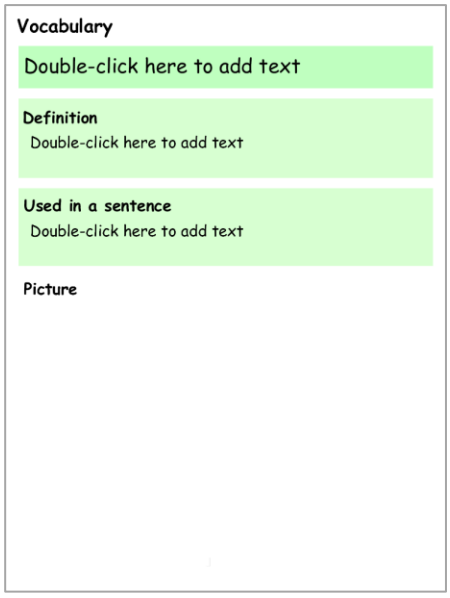
During language workshop, my second-grade students illustrate and narrate a page in a class book of homophones. Each student chose a pair of homophones and used them in a single sentence. Using Wixie, each student illustrated the sentence, adding color to the homophones to help them stand out. Then, students recorded their voices, chose a transition, and added music in the background, turning their work into a project entitled 'Are you ready to HEAR what we're learning in HERE?'

During math workshop, students used the stickers to make arrays that represent multiplication facts and fractions. Students used the paint and text tools to create a 'math facts house.' They chose three numbers to show the relationship between addition and subtraction, arranging the three numbers on the roof of the house. Then, they typed four related facts on the windows or door of the house."

-- ***Melissa Aspinwall, Hinesville, GA***

2.6. The student will expand vocabulary and use of word meanings.
d. Discuss meanings of words and develop vocabulary by listening to and reading a variety of texts.
e. Use word-reference materials including dictionaries, glossaries, and indices.

Vocabulary Supports



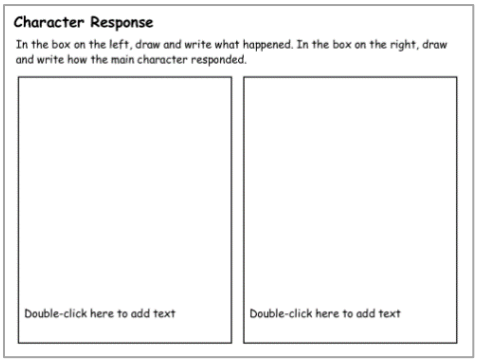
As you read to the class or as students are reading independently, have them raise their hands to let you know they encounter an unfamiliar word. Have them ask the rest of the class if anyone can help share the meaning of the word. Work together to define the word. You may want to copy the sentence they are reading that includes the word or ask advanced students if they can help you use it in a new sentence. Collect the new words on a wall or bulletin board in your classroom.

At the end of the week or unit, give each student one of the words on the wall. Have student complete the Vocabulary template, including a definition and original sentence that uses the word and provides a context clue to its meaning. Ask students to draw a picture of the word to help others remember the meaning. Print the pages in Postcard style (4 to a page) and distribute them to the class as vocabulary postcards or trading cards.

Wixie Template:
Vocabulary (green)

2.7. The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of fiction texts.
b. Connect previous experiences to new texts.

What Would You Do?



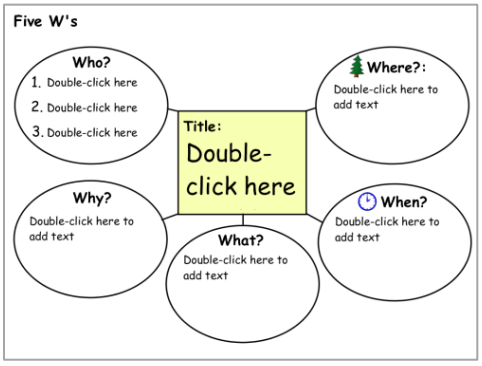
After reading a story like one of the Magic Tree House books, ask the students to tell you about important events. Ask questions like: *How did Jack respond? How did Annie respond? Were they the same?* You might even ask: *What would you have done?*

Have the students begin by adding text, drawings, and stickers to the template. Then, have them add a blank page to the file and write and draw what they would have done in the same situation.

Wixie Template:
Character Response

2.7. The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of fiction texts.
c. Ask and answer questions using the text for support.

Five W's



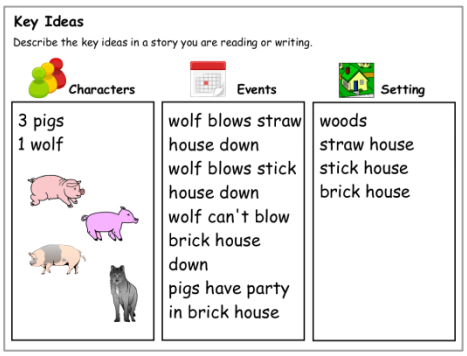
Read a favorite, or familiar, story to your class. Then, open the 5 W's template so students can see it. Write the title of the story in the middle and ask the students to help identify who, when, where, what, and how.

Ask students to choose their favorite scene from the story. Then, add a blank page and work with the entire class to recreate the scene. What can you draw in the background to show the story's "where" and "when?" What can you add as clip art or draw with the paint tools to show "who" and "what?" Have students use Wixie to create their own story scenes.

Wixie Template:
5Ws

2.7. The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of fiction texts.
d. Describe characters, setting, and plot events in fiction and poetry.

Pictures Tell a Story



Assign the Key Ideas template and have students write what they know about characters, setting, and events in a story you are reading.

Find a part that students didn't interpret correctly. Ask students what the illustrator could have done to better help them understand. As an extension, ask students to go back to Wixie to develop their own illustrations for this passage and record their voice describing how their picture supports and reflects the text.

Wixie Template:
Key Ideas

2.7. The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of fiction texts.
f. Identify the theme.

And the Moral of the Story is…

Stories with a moral are designed to teach a lesson, but generally do so in a fun way that makes it easy to understand and remember. After reading a variety of stories with morals to your students, ask them to create and print booklets that retell the tale.

Have students type the title and use the text tools, paint tools, and stickers to retell events in the story. Have students Send the file to print these stories as foldable booklets to share with the class.

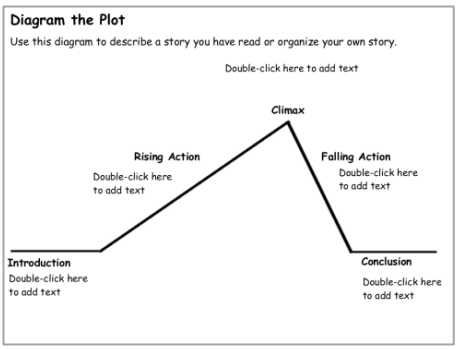
To add a level of excitement to this project, students can create electronic versions of their stories. Have students use the Record feature to narrate each page in their story, then link to the final project online as a resource to support struggling readers, engage students in the content you are learning, or as a review for a missed class.

As their comprehension abilities improve, ask students to organize by beginning, middle, and end. If you print each story as a comic, you can cut the page into pieces and have the students practice sequencing the story.

Wixie Template:
Booklet

2.7. The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of fiction texts.
g. Summarize stories and events with beginning, middle, and end in the correct sequence.

Plot: Beginning, Key Event, and End



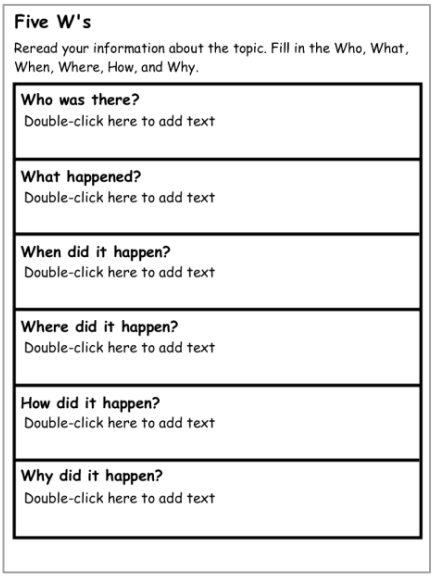
By now your students are probably comfortable thinking about a story in three blocks: the beginning, middle, and end. But the events in a story are actually structured a bit differently. Share a story that has an obvious key event.

Open the Diagram the Plot template and work as a class to identify the beginning, middle, and end. Explain how the beginning introduces the story and the end concludes it. Explain that there are often multiple events in the middle and ask them to help you identify the most important. When does it occur in the story? What page is it on? Is it in the exact middle? Encourage them to use their math skills to find out.

Wixie Template:
Diagram the Plot

2.8. The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of nonfiction texts.
e. Ask and answer questions using the text as support.

Five W's



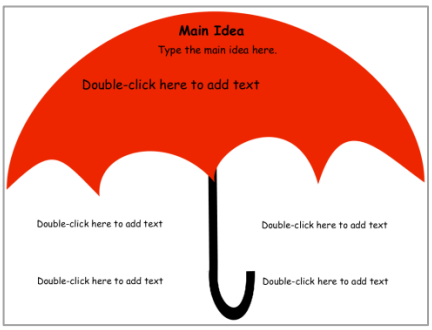
As you approach a holiday, such as the Fourth of July, Martin Luther King's birthday, or Presidents Day, ask your students to help you investigate the details of that holiday. Share several books and informational web sites that provide information about this person's life or events unique to that day in history. Utilize your media specialist or librarian to help you find books and web sites appropriate for your students' reading level.

Ask students to help you answer the key details of who, what, where, when, and how of different holidays. Students can use the 5 W's template to compile their findings and then present them to the class.

Wixie Template:
5Ws

2.8. The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of nonfiction texts.
f. Identify the main idea.

Explore Main Idea



Have your students think about the main idea as an umbrella that covers all of the content and holds it together. Share a couple of different nonfiction books for early readers with your students. Look at the cover picture and title. What is the main idea? Now explore the titles, pictures, and text inside the book. How are they organized? Assign the Main Idea Umbrella template and ask students to work individually to add text and use the paint tools and stickers to describe the main idea as well as key details for one of the books you have shared.

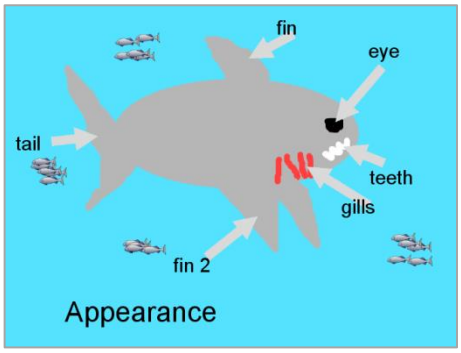
You might also assign students the Main Idea Umbrella template for a nonfiction topic they will be exploring in their writing. This will help them collect information for their writing. You can also have students create a page that illustrates the main idea using clip art, the text tool, and the paint tools.

Wixie Template:
Main Idea Umbrella

Writing

2.10. The student will write in a variety of forms to include narrative, descriptive, opinion, and expository.
b. Identify audience and purpose.
d. Use strategies for organization according to the type of writing.
f. Write facts about a subject to support a main idea.
h. Expand writing to including descriptive detail.

Creating Non-Fiction Books



Sheila Buscemi , Valley Elementary School, Frederick, MD

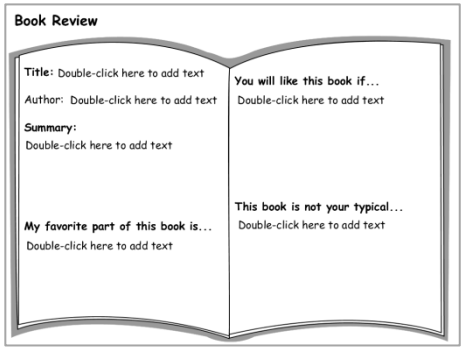
"When we were doing research projects, I noticed that my students were not making effective use of the features of non-fiction text to find the information they were seeking.

After discussing text features like table of contents, types of print, photographs, captions, close-ups, and labeling, I asked my student to create non-fiction animal reports that utilized the text features. They began by reading an assortment of non-fiction texts identifying the features. Students then selected an animal and used Pixie to develop their own non-fiction book to show their understanding of the animal's characteristics, habitat, offspring, and amazing facts.

It was exciting to observe as they explored each tool, increasing their skills as they added to the creativity of the pictures in their project. The result was a collection of unique, colorful, high-quality nonfiction books."

2.10. The student will write in a variety of forms to include narrative, descriptive, opinion, and expository.
b. Identify audience and purpose.
g. Write to express and opinion and provide a reason for support.

Book Review



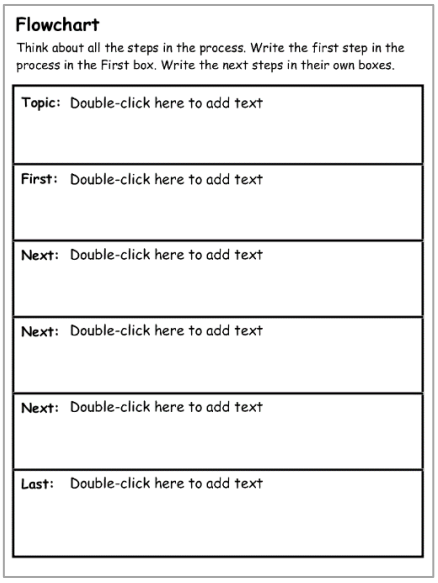
Have students choose one the books they have read and enjoyed and review it for other students. Have each student open the Book Review template. Have them type a sentence about the book as well as their opinion about it and use the paint tools to illustrate their favorite part.

Link to student reviews from your classroom or media center web page to help students find more books they want to read. You can also ask students to print or share their final pages to combine into a class book review resource. Print out the pages in postcard (four to a page) or comic (six to a page) style, laminate them, and share them with other students at your school to help them choose books when they visit the school library.

Wixie Template:
Book Review (K-2)

2.10. The student will write in a variety of forms to include narrative, descriptive, opinion, and expository.
c. Use prewriting strategies to generate ideas before writing.
d. Use strategies for organization according to the type of writing.

How to Make the Perfect Ice Cream Sundae



As students first learn how to write informative texts, you want to keep the focus on the structure of their writing, not the content. Choose something they already know, for example how to build an ice cream sundae.

Ask students to think about what types of things they like on an ice cream sundae. Have them use the Flow Chart template to break down the process into steps someone else could use to make it.

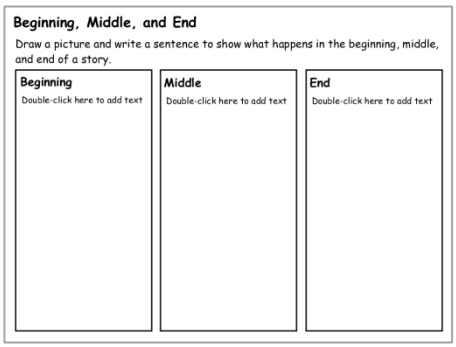
Once students have had experience with a straightforward subject like a sundae, challenge them to create short how-to books on more sophisticated topics like how to find a book in the library, how to wash your hands, how to dress for winter, how to get somewhere, and so on.

When the order is complete, assign the Booklet template and have students write in complete sentences using order words and design a 4- page instructional booklet. Have students print and share their booklets with peers and family or use them as resource guides in your classroom library.

Wixie Template:
Flow Chart
Booklet

2.10. The student will write in a variety of forms to include narrative, descriptive, opinion, and expository.
e. Organize writing to include a beginning, middle, and end.

Beginning, Middle, and End



After visiting the library, computer lab, or art class, talk with your students about what happened. How did it begin? What did they do? How did it end? Brainstorm a list of things that occurred and then work as a class to put them in order. Have students use the text and paint tool on the template to describe what happened at the beginning, middle, and end.

As students get more sophisticated, have them retell an important or recent event that happened at home using the Begin and End book template. In this template, they will write, illustrate, and narrate an event by dividing it into actions that occurred in the beginning, middle, and end.

As an extension, talk with students about the steps in a process, such as getting ready to go to school. Assign the Flowchart template and have students type out each step in the process.

Wixie Template:
Begin and End
Flow Chart

Research

2.12 The student will conduct research by using available resources to gather information and answer questions to complete a research project.
c. Identify pictures, texts, people, or media as sources of information.
e. Organization information in writing or visual display.

Continent Experts

"In our second grade geography unit, students learn to identify and locate the seven continents on a world map. To add a research and writing component to their work, we asked them to become experts on continent.

First students were asked to complete an interest inventory to determine which continent they would enjoy learning more about. Students were then divided into research groups and used web sites, books, and atlases to find facts on their continent. Their research was guided by a graphic organizer given to each group.

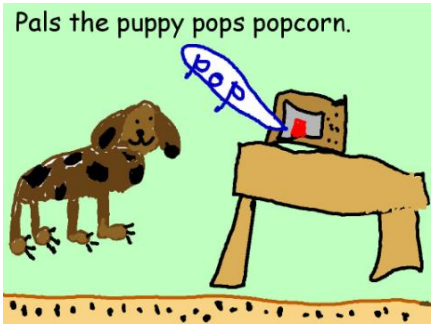
Students worked in small teams to develop a report on their continent that they shared in a class presentation and we shared from our classroom web page to educate family and community."

Kathleen Scarborough, Virginia Beach, VA

Lesson Plan

While individual templates can be used to address specific language standards, you can also create engaging lessons that address multiple standards in one project.

Amazing Animal Alliterations



Students will learn to write using alliteration. Students learn to create illustrations that support and reflect their writing.

Task

Alliteration is a powerful way to attract and entertain a reader. In this project, your class will use their writing skills to create their own Amazing Animal Alliteration book.

Engage

Read **Marti and the Mango** to set the stage for recognizing and utilizing alliteration as a tool to entertain readers. As you read, identify alliteration and how it is used in the story. This will prepare students for how to use alliteration when they create their own original sentence.

Tongue twisters often use alliteration. Share a few tongue twisters with your students. You might try nursery rhyme favorites like Betty Botter Bought Some Butter or Peter Piper:

> Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers.
> A peck of pickled peppers Peter Piper picked.
> If Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers,
> Where's the peck of pickled peppers Peter Piper picked?

Before students work on creating their own pages, write a sentence together to practice. Choose a letter from the alphabet. Select a hard or an easy letter depending on the ability level of your class. Begin by brainstorming with the class all the animals that begin with this letter. For example, if you choose B, students will brainstorm examples such as bear, beaver, bunny, bobcat, bird, buffalo.

As a class, write an original sentence using alliteration. To start, create a short sentence in the noun–verb–noun format, starting with the animal. As students suggest verbs and nouns, write them on the board and choose the ones you want to use. An example might be, "Birds build bubbles."

Now, have the class brainstorm all of the adjectives and adverbs they can think of for this letter. For example, blue, bounce, bravely, build, break, big, and bubble. Then, see where you can add them into the sentence. For example, Blue birds build big bubbles.

Open Wixie and ask a student volunteer to draw a picture depicting the sentence. If you have an interactive whiteboard, work together as a class to take turns using the paint tools to illustrate the sentence. Have a strong reader read the sentence as you record it on the Wixie page.

Create

Have students draw a letter out of a bag or assign letters based on student academic ability. Each student should begin by brainstorming animals that begin with this letter. If students get stuck, head to http://wiki.answers.com/ and search for "What animal begins with the letter _?"

Then, have students brainstorm all of the verbs, nouns, adjectives, and adverbs they can think of that begin with their letter. If students are struggling, have them ask their classmates for help. You might also want to assign this project for homework to involve the entire family.

Have students follow the noun–verb–noun model to begin writing their sentences. Then, add in additional adjectives and adverbs.

Once students have written their alliterative sentences, have them think about how they might create an illustration that supports their writing. Have them look at the adjectives to develop details they will include in their drawings.

Next, have students use Wixie to write their sentences, illustrate the page using the paint tools, and record themselves reading the sentences. Have each student save his or her page, naming it to indicate the letter and the author (e.g., "z_alicia").

Share

When they are finished, have them click the Wixie button and choose Share. Log in to your teacher account, open the Wixie application, click the Wixie button and choose Import Pages to collect student work into one file.

Print a copy of the book for your classroom and share the URL link to student work from your classroom web page.

Get your school together for a formal presentation of your class's Amazing Animal Alliterations book! You can also share electronic and print copies in your school's media center.

Standards

2.1. The student will use oral communication skills.
c. Speak audibly with appropriate voice level, phrasing, and intonation.

2.4. The students will use phonetic strategies when reading and spelling.
a. Use knowledge of consonants, consonant blends, and consonant digraphs to decode and spell words.

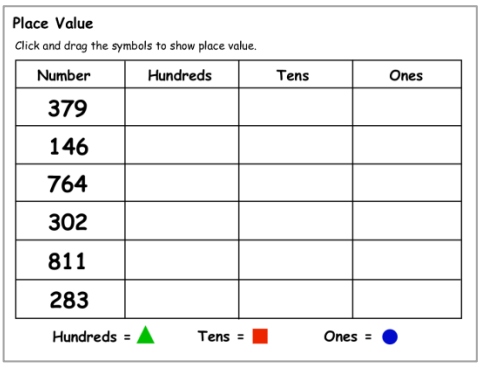
2.10. The student will write in a variety of forms to include narrative, descriptive, opinion, and expository.
c. Use prewriting strategies to generate ideas before writing.
d. Use strategies for organization according to the type of writing.

Mathematics

Number and Number Sense

2.1.a The student will read, write, and identify the place and value of each digit in a three-digit numeral, with and without models.

Game - What number is it?



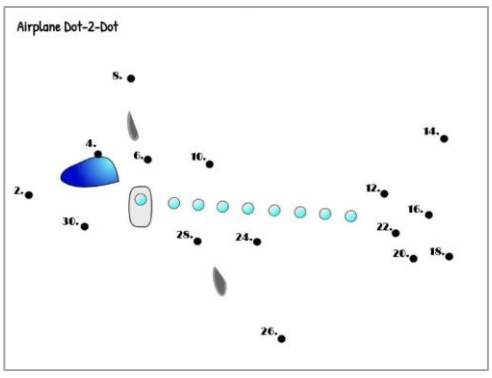
Place value is the value of a digit depending on its position, such as ones, tens, hundreds, and thousands places. Open the Place Value – Hundreds template so students can see or share it on your interactive whiteboard. Work as a class to add the correct number of shapes to each column to illustrate the number of hundreds, tens, and ones.

Have students create three-digit numbers using the Base Ten blocks in the Stickers Library (Math>Base Ten). When they are finished, have them click the Wixie button and choose Share. Log in to your teacher account, open the Wixie application, click the Wixie button and choose Import Pages to collect student work into one file. Display each page for a given number of seconds and ask the students to write down the numbers they see.

Wixie Template:
Place Value – Hundreds

2.2.a The student will count forward by twos, fives, and tens to 120, starting at various multiples of 2, 5, or 10.

Skip Counting



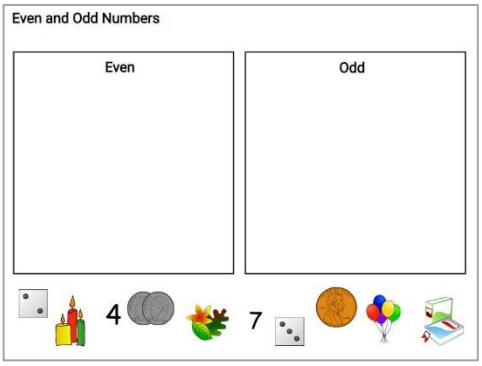
Two, four, six, eight! Who do we appreciate? Skip counting! Students usually know this cheer long before they are skip counting or adding by twos. Start off with this cheer and then practice skip counting to 20. Click the Templates>Math>Numbers and Operations>Computation folders to use the Count by Twos template as an individual assessment to see how well your students can skip count to 20.

In addition to helping with multiplication, skip counting also helps us add faster. Demonstrate how to skip count on a clock to tell time by the hour AND minute. What other examples can the class come up with for using skip counting?

Wixie Template:
Count by Twos

2.2.c The student will use objects to determine whether a number is even or odd.

Even or Odd?



Ask the students in your classroom to find a partner. Is anyone left as the “odd” one out? Distribute various collections of tangible objects to your students, such as Unifix cubes or coins. Have them match each one with another to form a team of two. Discuss the difference between even (divisible by two) and odd.

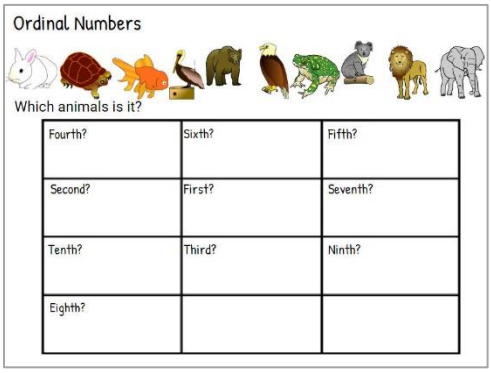
Ask each student to make a collection that is either even or odd. Then have them switch places with a student next to them to solve the problem and determine if the group is even or odd by matching up the objects. Have students share their answers and process.

Assign the Even and Odd template in Wixie to evaluate student understanding.

Wixie Template:
Even and Odd

2.3.a. The student will count and identify ordinal positions first through twentieth, using an ordered set of objects.

Ordinal Numbers



To assess prior knowledge, ask half of your students to line up in order of their birthday (by school or calendar year). Ask the other half of students to help them with this process. It may take a while, but helps students learn how to use criteria for sorting purposes which also builds essential foundations for probability and statistics.

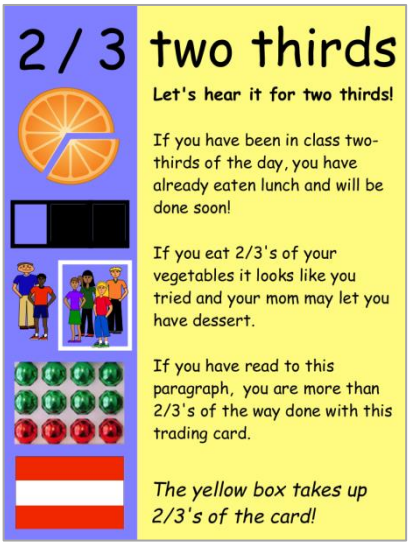
Ask students to identify who is first. This is easy, since every class has students who want to come in first in any game and others who always want to be first in line. Ask them who is second and then third. Again, they should know the meaning of these words.

Now, challenge them to come up with the words for the rest of the positions. Write down the correct answers in order on the board and then fill in the ordinal positions that students don’t know. Assign the Ordinal Numbers template to evaluate student understanding.

Wixie Template:
Ordinal Numbers

2.4.b. The student will represent fractional parts with models and symbols.

Real World Fractions



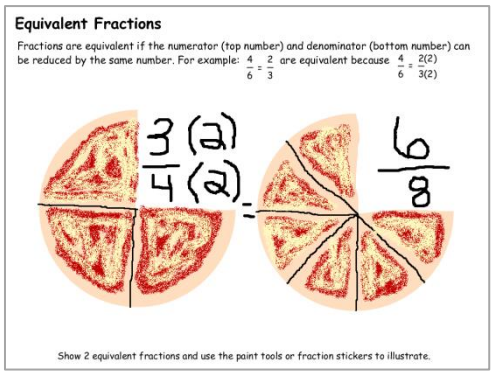
When represented only by numbers, fractions can be scary. This is why most people introduce fractions with mathematics manipulatives or familiar objects like chocolate bars. After exploring how to identify and create basic fractions using a chocolate bar or another manipulative, assess your students' understanding using various Wixie Fractions activities.

As your students start to identify fractions in the world around them, have them create a poster sharing examples of fractions in the real world.

Wixie Template:
Fractions

2.4.c. The student will compare the unit fractions for halves, fourths, eighths, thirds, and sixths, with models.

Equivalent Fractions



Fractions are equivalent if the numerator (top number) and denominator (bottom number) can be reduced, or multiplied, by the SAME number. This is why you can double each of the ingredients for a batch of cookies to feed twice as many people, but still create the same cookie, since each ingredient is still the same fraction of the whole as it was before. After demonstrating how to produce equivalent fractions to your students, have students use the Equivalent Fractions template to demonstrate their understanding.

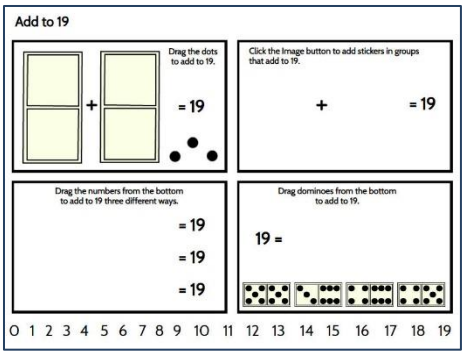
By pairing numeric representations of equivalent fractions with a visual model of the same thing, students will learn that they need to copy and paste the model (X) number of times to create the equivalent. This will help cement their understanding of the concept.

Wixie Template:
Equivalent Fractions

Computation and Estimation

2.5.b The student will demonstrate fluency with addition and subtraction within 20.

Add to 19



Our fingers make it easy to represent ten, but numbers to 20 aren't as easy. Place students in teams of two, call out a number between 11 and 19, and have one student hold up all 10 fingers to represent the tens while the other student holds up one to nine fingers to represent the ones.

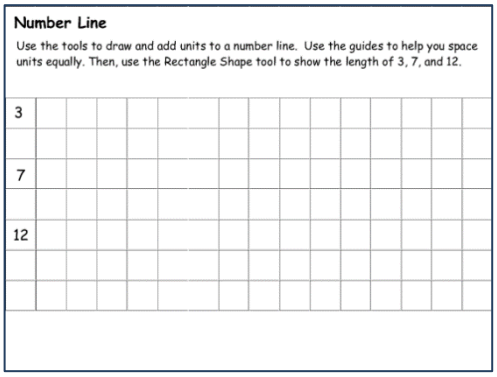
Work with base ten and place value template so students understand how the bar for tens is composed of ten ones. As a class, add blocks to show the value of one of the numbers.

Assign the Add to 19 template to assess for understanding of the range of ways numbers and equations can be represented. You can customize this template so that student have to add to any number.

Wixie Template:
Add to 19

2.6.b. The student will determine sums and differences, using various methods.

Length on a Number Line



Length is the distance from one end of an object to another counted against an equal set of units. Because a number line contains equally spaced units, you can use a number line to plot and measure distance.

Open the Length on a Number Line template on your classroom projector and work as a class to draw a number line and decide the value of each unit.

Once the number line is complete, plot the specific number on the page on the number line. Draw a vertical line from that number to the row where the number is shown. Have students use the Rectangle tool to draw a filled rectangle from the 0 point on the number line to the length specified for each row.

Move to the second page and show the students the number 20. Is that going to fit on a number line like the one on the first page? Work together to create a number line and draw the length of each number on the page.

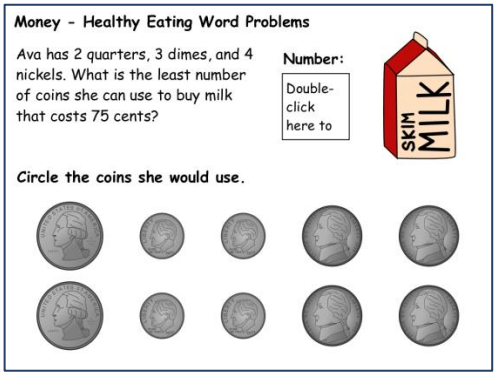
When students get comfortable, have them try drawing their own number lines showing that they understand the concept of equal units.

Wixie Template:
Length on a Number Line

Measurement and Geometry

2.7.a The student will count and compare a collection of pennies, nickels, dimes, and quarters whose total value is $2.00 or less.

Money Problems



Students in second grade are generally confident knowing the value of money but adding coins that have different value adds another layer of complexity. Completing operations involving money that are presented as word problems gets even more complex.

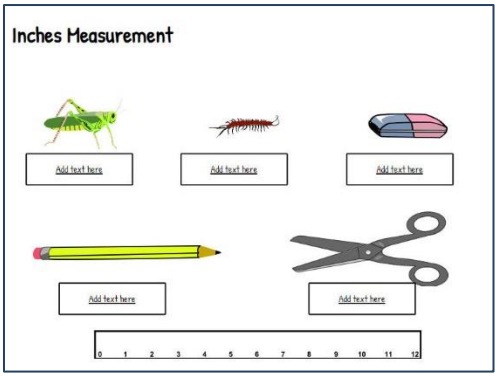
Share loose change with each student and present a few word problems they can try to first solve on their own and then with the help of the rest of the class. After practicing, have each student complete the Money – Least Coins multi-page template so you can assess each student's individual comprehension and mastery.

You can also use the Money Problems template in the same location for additional practice. To further their skills even more, have them start a new project and write and illustrate their own money problem (see the "Now That's a Problem" lesson).

Wixie Template:
Money – Least Coins

2.8.a The student will estimate and measure length to the nearest inch.

Measure to Compare



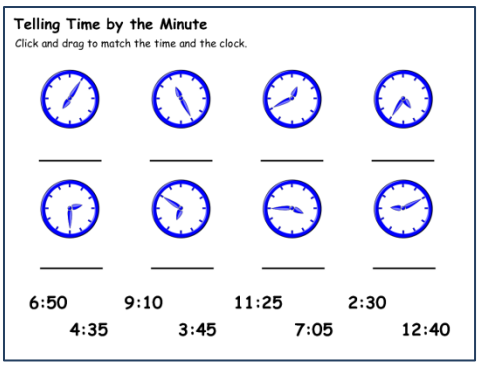
Distribute rulers to your students. Ask them how they can use this to measure objects in the room. Have students measure three objects they find on and in their desks. They might find pencils, books, stickers, flashcards, and so on. Have them put the objects on their desk in order from top to bottom from smallest to biggest.

Have students use the virtual ruler to measure the objects in the Measure – Inches template (or Measure-Centimeters if you are outside the US). Ask students to tell you which object is the smallest and which is the biggest. Find a pencil, eraser, and scissors in your classroom and compare them to the ones in the template. Which is larger, which is smaller? How can students be sure? Measure!

Wixie Template:
Measurement – Inches

2.9 The student will tell time and write time to the nearest five minutes, using analog and digital clocks.

Tell Time



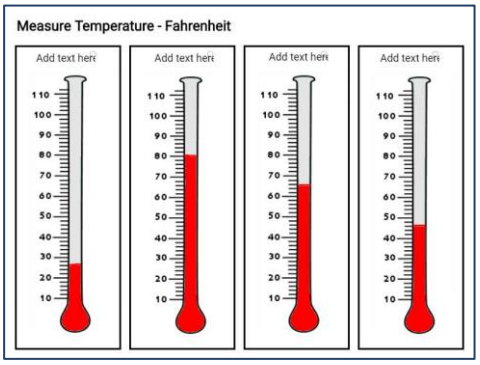
Skip count with your class by fives from 0 to 60. Open an image of a clock without any hands (Stickers>Math>Clocks). Point to various spots on the clock and count from 0 to that number by fives, indicating each mark on the outside of the clock face as you count.

To assess student ability to tell time by the minute, have them complete the Tell Time – Minute template. Have students create clocks at various times of the day and write and illustrate what happens at that time.

Wixie Template:
Tell Time – Minute

2.11 The student will read temperature to the nearest 10 degrees.

Measure Temperature



Students are likely used to parents using a phone app to check the weather or may even have digital device that displays the temperature both inside and outside their home. Their parents probably take their temperature at home (or at the doctor) using a digital thermometer.

Let students know that there are thermometers that aren't digital. These scientific tools use the properties of matter (mercury, or even water) that correctly read the temperature.

Put a bowl of cold, hot, and warm water on a table in your classroom. Work together to use the thermometer to measure the temperature.

Assign the Measure Temperature template to students, in Fahrenheit or Celsius, to evaluate their understanding of how to use an analog thermometer.

Wixie Template:
Measure Temperature

2.12 a The student will draw a line of symmetry in a figure.

Line Symmetry

Open the Symmetry – Line activity in Wixie on your interactive whiteboard. After looking at the images on the page, ask your students if they can tell you what symmetry means. Ask students to work in Wixie to draw the line of symmetry on each image in the activity.

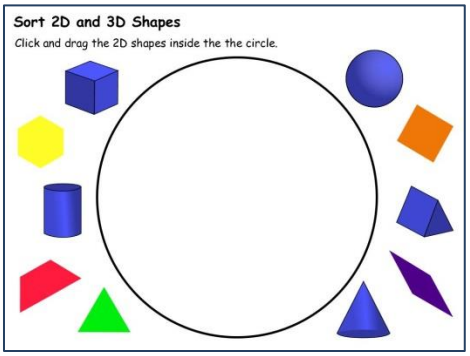
To practice and assess their skills, you can have students complete some of the other line symmetry activities. For example, students can select a picture and set it as the background. Then have students use the paint tools to draw the line of symmetry and then recreate one side of the picture with paint tools.

As students gain comfort and expertise identifying symmetry and lines of symmetry in existing objects, you can challenge them with some of the more open-ended activities in the Exploring Line Symmetry lesson.

Wixie Activity:
Symmetry – Line

2.13 The student will identify, describe, compare, and contrast plane and solid figures (circles/spheres, squares/cubes, and rectangles/rectangular prisms.

Ideas in 3D



As an assessment of student understanding, have each student color and print the 2D and 3D Shapes activity. In this activity, students drag two-dimensional shapes into a circle, while leaving three-dimensional shapes outside.

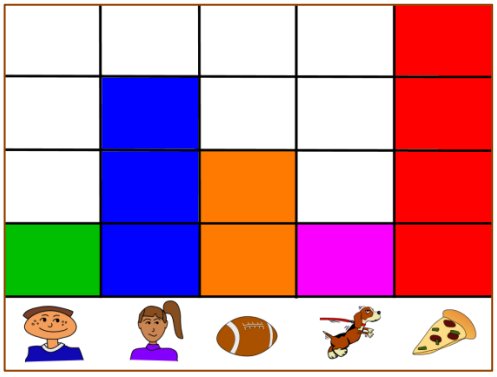
Wixie also contains templates for printing, cutting, and folding three-dimensional shapes. Assign students the Cube template and draw a different picture on each side (Activities>Math>Templates). Then, have students print out their work, cut along the edges, fold, and paste to make a cube. Students can make cubes that include six different pieces of information about a topic you are studying in the classroom, such as important elements of a holiday, types of transportation, or facts about an animal.

Wixie Activity:
2D and 3D Shapes

Probability and Statistics

2.15.a The student will collect, organize, and represent data in pictographs and bar graphs; and b) read and interpret data represented in pictographs and bar graphs.

Our First Graphs



"One of our biggest challenges with math is representing data in graphs. Since our students love working with pictures, we created a template our students could use to learn how to make bar graphs.

Working with other students at their table, students count how many of them are boys, how many are girls, which students like football, and which students have a dog. Then they add their own category in the 5th column and do the counting. Students tally their findings and fill each square in the graph to represent on student's answer.

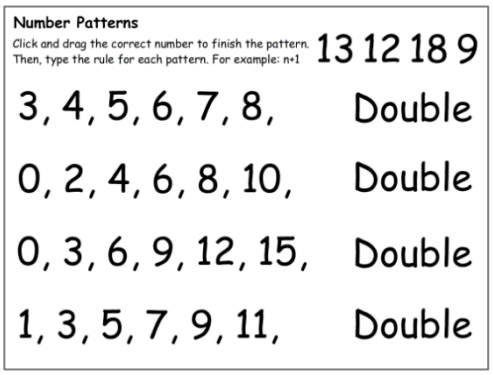
Because we can change the stickers and table groups, each time is a unique experience. Kids fill in the squares with the Paint tool to create their graphs or even use the stickers to create a pictograph. We also have students customize the graph to include their own objects, print it out, survey family and friends, and complete the graph as homework." - **Laura Spencer, Santee, CA**

Wixie Template:
Bar Graph
Favorite Fruit

Patterns, Functions and Algebra

2.16 The student will identify, describe, create, extend, and transfer patterns found in objects, pictures, and numbers.

Pattern Rules



Patterns are all around us, in designs for architecture, flooring, artwork and much more. Have students investigate where they see a pattern in the world around them.

Have students use objects in Wixie's Sticker library to create and extend patterns. Share student work and ask students to predict which shapes will come next in the patters. How do they know? Work as a class to determine the rule for each visual pattern.

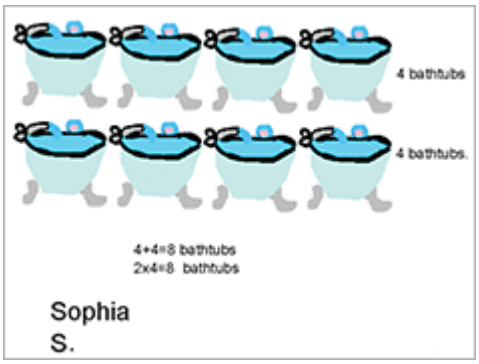
Explain to students how to write mathematical rules for determining number patterns. Teach them how to write the rule, with 'n' representing the position in the sequence (for example, n+1). Assign the Patterns-Numbers template to evaluate student understanding.

Wixie Activity:
Patterns-Numbers

Lesson Plan

While individual templates can be used to address specific language standards, you can also create engaging lessons that begin from a blank screen.

Now That's a Problem



Students will improve multiplication skills by skip counting and creating their own multiplication word problems.

Task

Recent studies have shown that many people don't know how to multiply. The Mathematix Book Company thinks it can help. It wants to begin creating interactive storybooks that teach multiplication to the general public. It has asked your class to come up with prototype books for multiplication by 2's, 3's, 4's, 5's, and 6's.

Engage

Introduce the concept of skip counting to your students. A fun way to get them excited about skip counting and to practice their skills is to play with a rubber ball. Have the students take turns bouncing the ball and counting off by 2's, 5's, 10's, etc. Be sure to explain to them that skip counting is another way to multiply.

Once the students understand skip counting, read **Bunches and Bunches of Bunnies** by Louise Mathews. This book explains the concept of multiplication using pictures. Ask your students to illustrate this word problem:

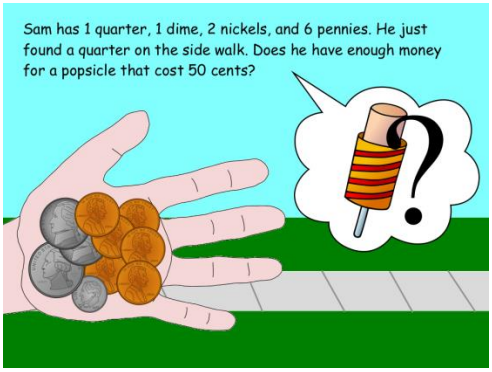
> There are four cats. Each cat has four legs. How many cat legs are there in all?

Have the students share their pictures in small groups. Encourage them to notice that while the pictures are different, they still have the same numbers in them. Post them on the wall as examples.

Next, work on the same process using a different approach. Have students practice identifying numbers in pictures and writing multiplication word problems. Log in to Wixie and add a sticker of a rain cloud from the Weather folder.

Each cloud has four raindrops. If there were X clouds, how many raindrops would there be?

Continue this process with a few other stickers. As an entire class, brainstorm everyday objects that work for multiplication word problems. Ask the students to find an object at home that could be part of a multiplication word problem. When you meet again, have each student share their object with the rest of the class. You may even want to ask them to bring the object to school.



Create

Let students know they will create their own multiplication word problems using stickers in Wixie. Assign students a number series (2's, 3's, 4's) appropriate for their multiplication skill level.

Give each student a four-pane storyboard to help them develop the pages of their book. Have students write an equation in each of the panes. Next, have each student find stickers they can use to represent the numbers in the equation. Have them write down the name of the sticker (or a description) and write the text of their multiplication word problem in each box on their storyboard.

You might want students to create two pages for each problem, the first one containing the problem, and the second one containing the problem and the answer.

Share

Once the students have completed their problems, have them print their work at postcard size to create a set of word problem flash cards the class can use at a center in your classroom. You can also link to each student's project from your class web site as a place students can go to review multiplication facts and practice solving word problems from home.

Virginia Standards of Learning

2.2.a The student will count forward by twos, fives, and tens to 120, starting at various multiples of 2, 5, or 10.

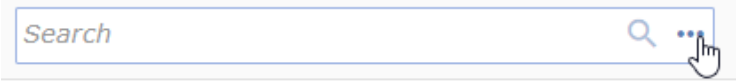
Appendix A

Find Templates by Virginia SOL

You can assign templates in Wixie that you find by searching the Virginia Standards of Learning.

Log in to Wixie with your username and password.

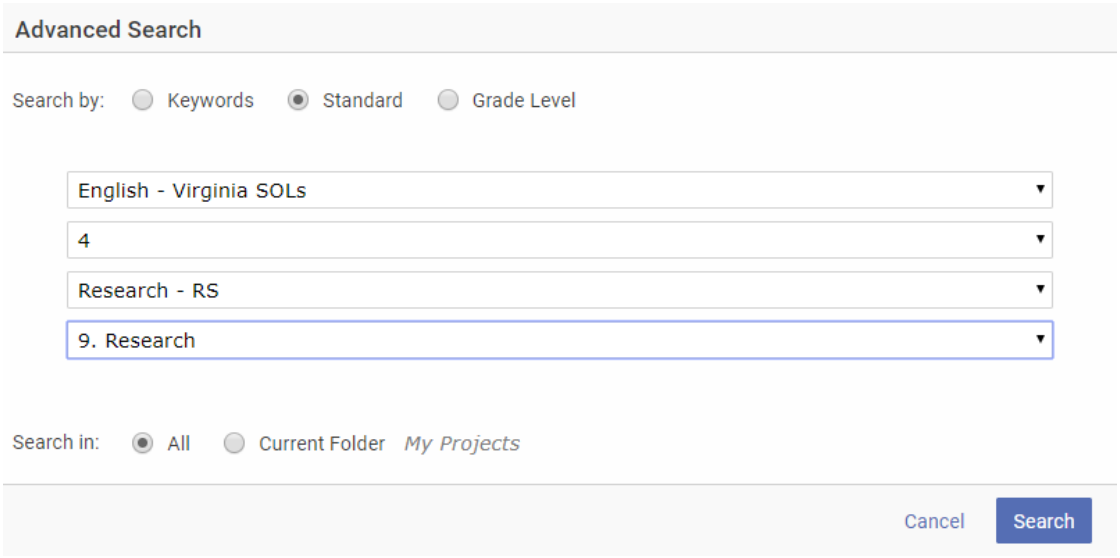
At your teacher home page, click the more search options (three dots) on the right of the Search field.



You will see the Advanced Search dialog.

Select the Standard radio button at the top. The dialog will update to show standard search options.

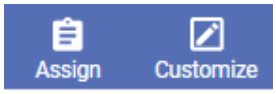
Use the pull-down menus to narrow down your search by subject, grade, topic, and subtopic.



Click the **Search** button. You will see templates that can help students master this standard.

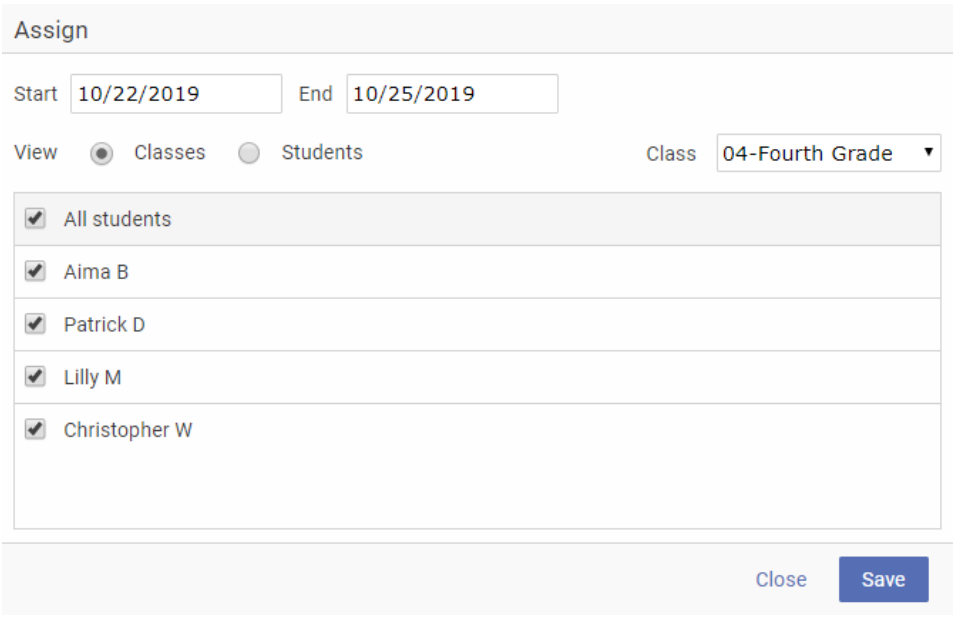
Select the image of the template and it will open in the Wixie authoring tool.

Select Customize to make changes to the template.



Select Assign to assign it to your students as it currently exists.

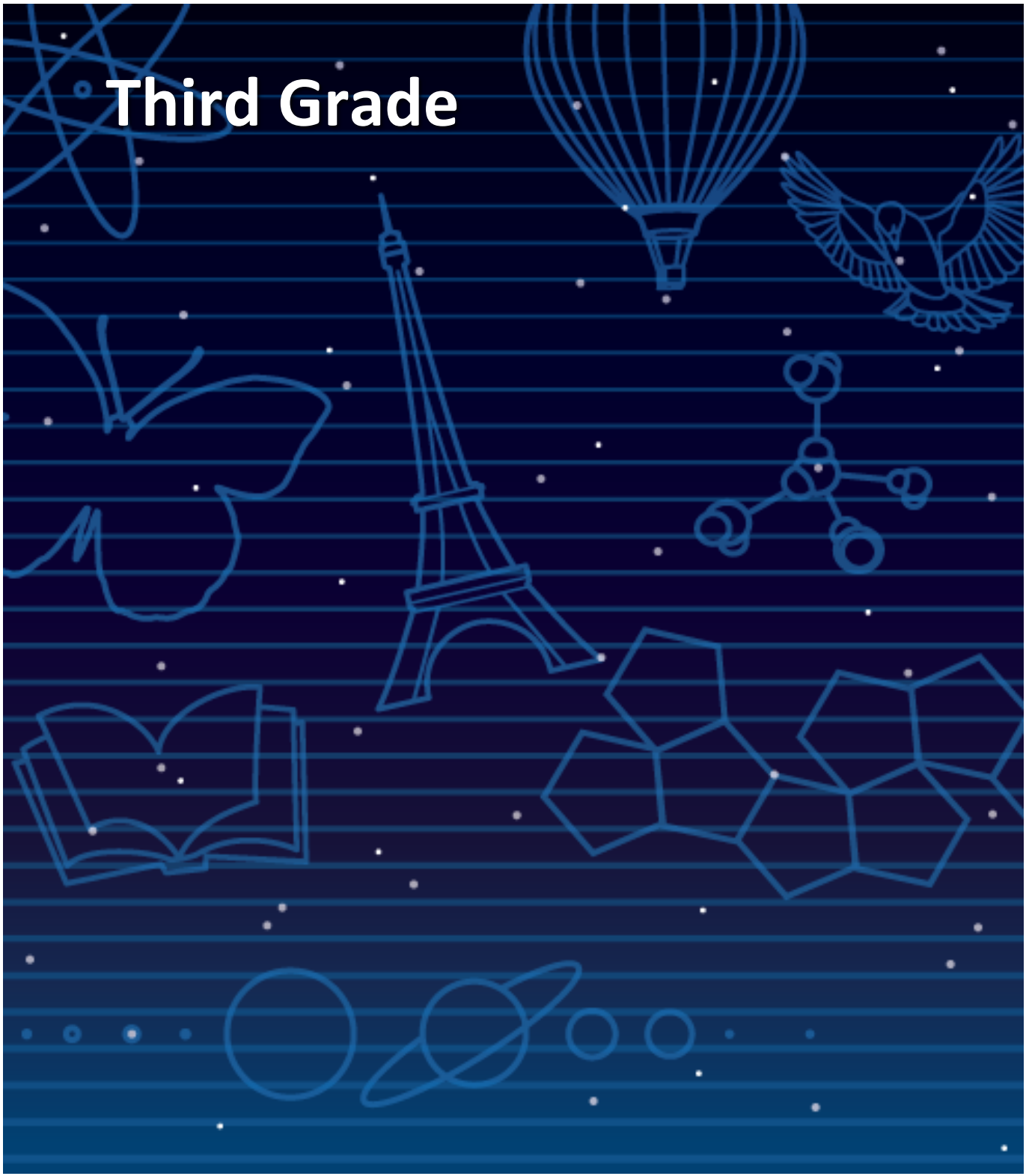
At the Assign dialog, choose the begin and end dates you want students to be able to start working on the template. Use the pull-down menus and radio buttons to choose the class and students you want to assign the template to and select Save.



You will see the template in your Assignments folder.

The students you selected will see the template at the top of their Wixie home page on the dates you specified.

Meeting Virginia Standards of Learning with Wixie®



What is Wixie?

Wixie is a cloud-based tool third grade students can use to write, record their voice, paint pictures, and tell stories. Wixie provides an engaging way for students to explore and respond to curriculum topics related to the Virginia Standards of Learning.

Students can add text to a Wixie page to practice their writing, draw ideas from their imagination using the paint tools, record narration for stories, and more. Student work is online and can be shared immediately through a URL as well as printed as booklets, comics, and more.

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Appendix A 24

Find Templates by Virginia SOL 24

This guide is provided by:

Tech4Learning
6160 Mission Gorge Road, #206
San Diego, CA 92120

tech4learning.com

Using Wixie with Third-Grade Students

In third grade, a student's ability to read, write, do math, and explore the worlds of science and history is expanding rapidly. Their work with Wixie growing more sophisticated as their writing and drawing includes more detail and complexity. Respond to student work in the same way – with more detail and complexity and ask them lots of questions about their work.

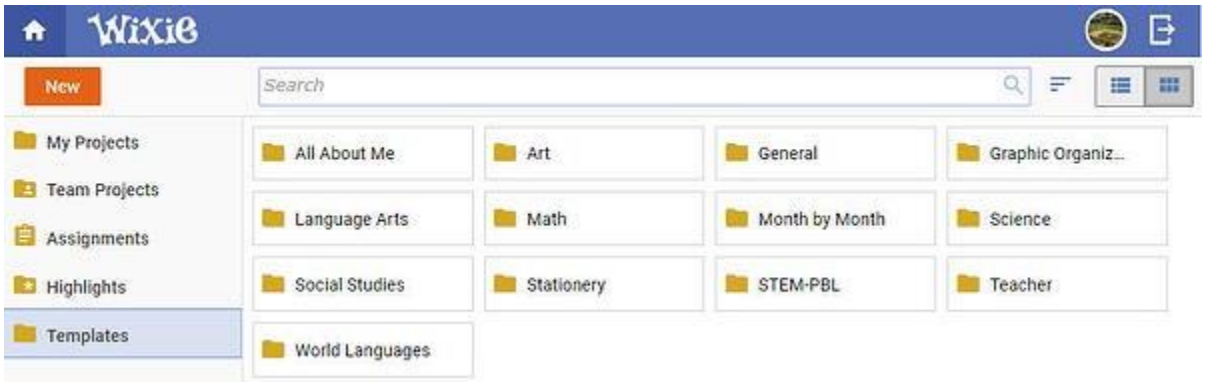
As students complete the activities in this guide or play in Wixie on their own, ask them to share their thoughts and feelings. Give them the freedom to take some of the activities wherever their interests lead. Passion for learning is perhaps the most important thing you can teach students at this age.

Finding Wixie Templates

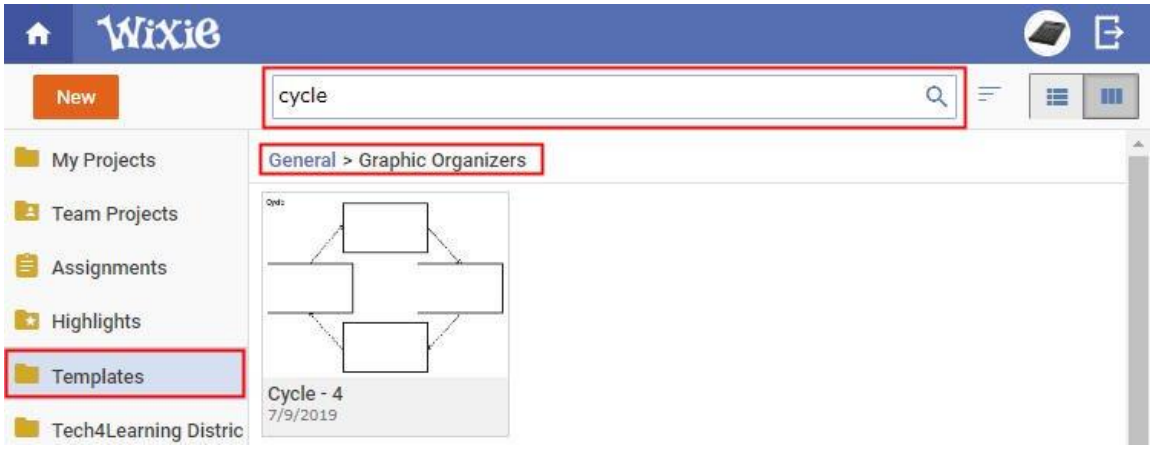
Many of the ideas in this guide use specific templates that come with Wixie. To find the template:

Log in to your teacher account.

Browse for template files by opening the Templates folder and sub-folders.



Enter a keyword in the field at the top and press the search button.

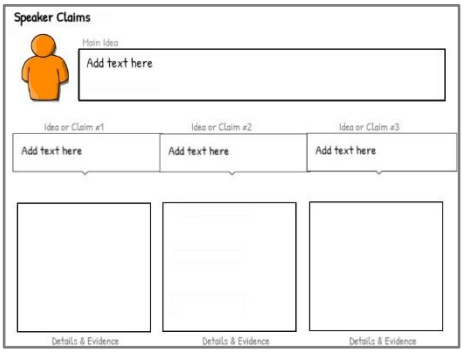


Language Arts

Communication and Multimodal Literacies

3.1 The student will use effective communication skills in a variety of settings.
d) Orally summarize information expressing ideas clearly.

Sum it Up!



It is important to connect the learning that goes on inside the classroom with the work and lives of people outside of it. One common way we make this connection is by inviting "experts" to our classes to share knowledge and information as it relates to their career. Encourage students to take notes about what they are hearing.

After a guest visits, have students complete the Speaker Claims template in Wixie to summarize the information they learned. Have students print out their pages and use their notes to help them discuss the visit with another peer or share with the entire class.

Wixie Template:
Speaker Claims

3.2 The student will give oral presentations
f) Use multimodal tools to create presentations and enhance communications.

Design a Zoo Exhibit

Have students work in groups to design an animal park that showcases their knowledge of different animals and their habitats. The design should include information on the animal enclosures, including safety and climate measures, proper diet, and activity needs.

Assign the template "Zoo Exhibit Design" to groups of 3-4 students to complete collaboratively. For example, you can have one group work on an exhibit for animals that live in the artic, one for grasslands etc.

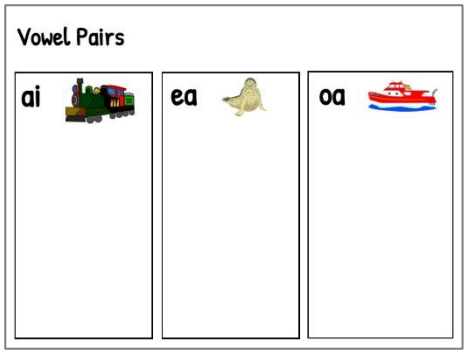
Have students present their Wixie projects to the rest of the class and if possible, an expert from a local zoo. Discuss which team presented the most appropriate and successful design for their animals and habitats. Click the File menu and Share to copy the URL project. You can embed this link in your classroom website and/or share the link with parents to share the

Wixie Template:
Zoo Exhibit Design

Reading

3.3 The student will apply word-analysis skills when reading.
a) Use knowledge of regular and irregular vowel patterns.

When Two Vowels Go Walking



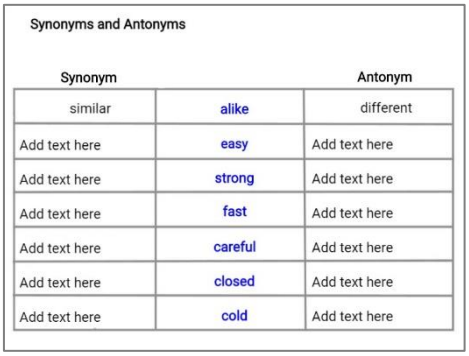
Wixie can make learning about grammar fun and interactive. Do a search in Wixie for "vowel". Open the Vowel Pairs template and display it so your students can see it. Explain the rule that when two vowels go walking, the first one does the talking. Then, have students help you brainstorm and type in words under each heading that begin with each of the vowel pairs.

As an extension, have students create their own grammar tutorials in Wixie using the blank page option, graphics, and the recording option. You can post the tutorials on your website so students can refer to the rules on a regular basis and share their creations with others.

Wixie Template:
Vowel Pairs

3.4 The student will apply word-analysis skills when reading.
b) Use knowledge of roots, affixes, synonyms, and antonyms to determine the meaning of new words.

Practice with Synonyms and Antonyms



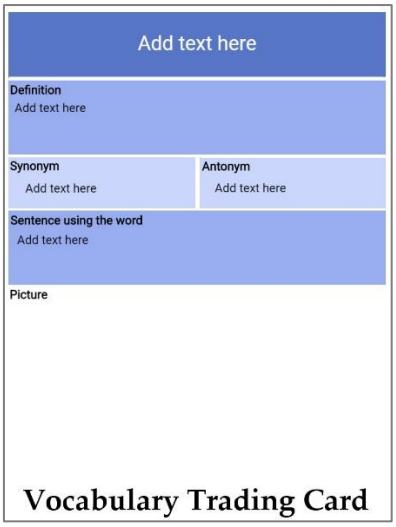
Get students excited about synonyms and antonyms by reading one of Brian Clearly and Brian Gable's books, like "Stay and Go, Yes and No" or "Pitch and Throw, Grasp and Know." Discuss how the words in these books make the writing more precise, interesting and exciting. Search for a "Synonym and Antonym" template and project it so your class can view it. Ask students to come up with words that are similar or different from the words listed in the middle.

Have students start a Wixie project from scratch to create their own four-page Synonym and/or Antonym booklets. Encourage students to be as creative as they can with their illustrations and use of these words. If you have access to a printer, use the File, Print, and Booklet Options to print each of the booklets out on one sheet of paper. And, then ask students to fold and read their books to each other and then include them in your classroom library as reference books.

Wixie Template:
Synonyms and Antonyms

3.4 The student will apply word-analysis skills when reading
e) Discuss meanings of words and develop vocabulary by listening to and reading a variety of texts.
f) Use vocabulary from other content areas.

Vocabulary Trading Cards



As you are exploring nonfiction on a topic in your classroom, ask your students to keep track of new words they encounter. Give them the definition or have them look up the meaning of each word on their list.

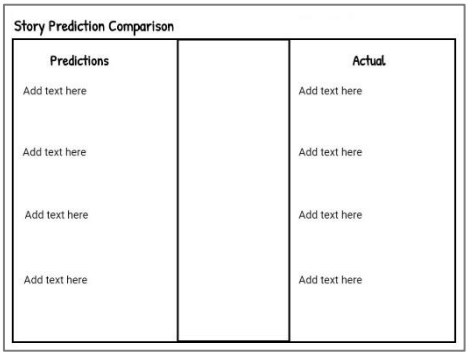
Ask students to choose their favorite new word and create a trading card to teach the meaning to other students. Students should define the word, use it in a sentence with the same context as the unit you are studying, and draw a picture that helps describe the meaning.

Students can go to the File menu, select Print, and choose the Trading Card option and Repeat Pages to print a copy of their card to trade with classmates.

Wixie Template:
Vocabulary Trading Card

3.5 The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of fictional texts, literary nonfiction, and poetry.
c) Make, confirm, and revise predictions.

I Predict…



Making predictions is an important reading strategy and is an important part of connecting with literature. It encourages students to pay attention to the text, images, and headings to make predictions on what they anticipate will happen next.

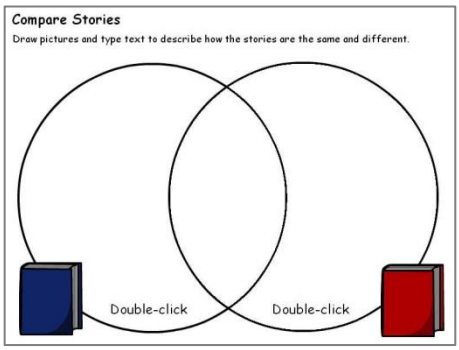
Open the “Story Prediction Comparison” template in Wixie and project for your students. Before reading a chapter in a story, have them guess what events will take place and what characters might be doing. Circle back to the template to fill in what actually happened.

Assign the Story Predication Comparison as part of your Writer’s workshop materials so that students can work on this skill independently as well.

Wixie Template:
Story Prediction Comparison

3.5 The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of fictional texts, literary nonfiction, and poetry.
d) Compare and contrast the themes, settings, and plots events.

Compare Stories



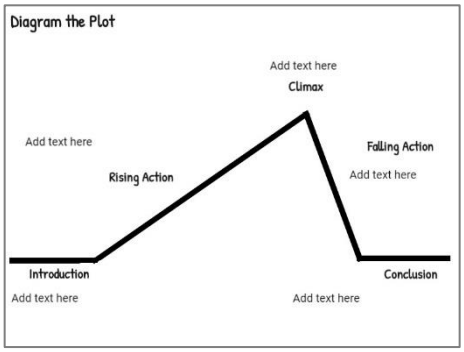
Have students read a series such as “Two Bad Ants” and “Just a Dream” by Chris Van Allsburg. After students have read two stories, use the Compare Stories template in Wixie to compare them.

Have students add text and pictures that show how each story is different in the parts of the circle that do not overlap. Then, ask them to brainstorm ways that the themes, settings, and plots are similar and write about or draw them in the place where the circles overlap.

Wixie Template:
Compare Stories

3.5 The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of fictional texts, literary nonfiction, and poetry.
e) Summarize plot events.

Plot it Out



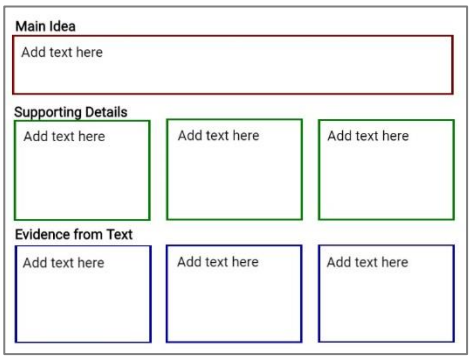
By now your students are probably comfortable thinking about a story in three blocks: the beginning, middle, and end. But the events in a story are actually structured a bit differently. Share a story that has an obvious key event.

Open the Diagram the Plot template and work as a class to identify the beginning, middle, and end. Explain how the beginning introduces the story and the end concludes it. Explain that there are often multiple events in the middle and ask them to help you identify the most important. When does it occur in the story? What page is it on? Is it in the exact middle? Encourage them to use their math skills to find out.

Wixie Templates:
Diagram the Plot
Diagram the Plot- Book

3.5 The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of fictional texts, literary nonfiction, and poetry.
h) Draw conclusions using the text for support.

Supporting Text



Providing multiple strategies and support opportunities, like graphic organizer scaffolds, is key in helping your third-grade students better organize and comprehend information that they are reading.

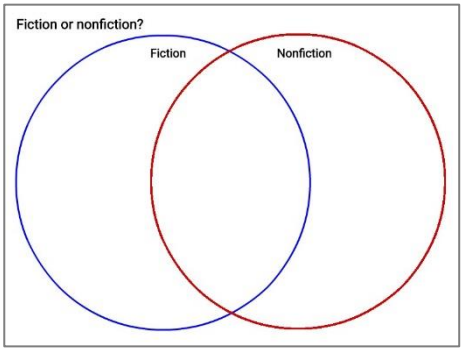
Wixie has a variety of templates students can use to structure their thinking and writing in a template folder labeled “Graphic Organizers”. You can also do a quick search in Wixie for specific graphic organizers. For example, if you type in “Main Idea” in the Wixie Search field you will see several organizers you can use as a whole class or individually that task students to cite evidence and details from the text. To encourage students to be active “text investigators”, model the process using one of the main idea templates in Wixie and make sure you teach them how to ask things like “what’s important here?”, “what do I need to remember?”

Assign one of the Main Idea templates as part of your Writer’s workshop materials so that students can work on this skill independently as well.

Wixie Templates:
Cite Evidence from Text
Claims and Evidence
Main Idea

3.5 The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of fictional texts, literary nonfiction, and poetry.
I) Differentiate between fiction and nonfiction.

Comparing Fiction and Nonfiction



Discuss with your students what constitutes fact from fiction, including being subjective or objective and from different points of view.

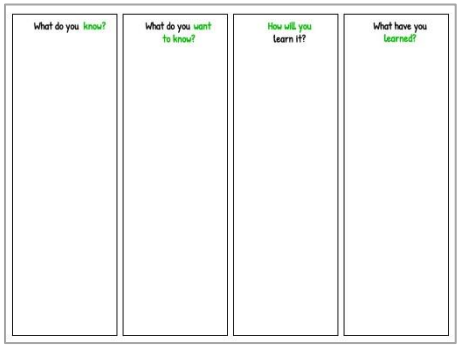
Pull up the template “Fiction vs. Nonfiction” and compare two different books you have read as a class that fit in both of these areas. Have them share examples of what makes each of these fiction or non-fiction.

Assign this as a template for independent practice to assess whether individuals in your classroom have mastered the concept.

Wixie Template:
Fiction or Nonfiction?

3.6 The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of nonfiction texts.
b) Use prior and background knowledge as context for new learning.

KWHL



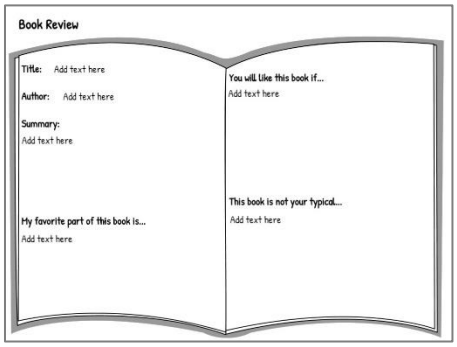
It is extremely important for students to tap into their prior knowledge and experiences as it engages them and helps them make connections to new information. This is especially true for second language learners who need even more opportunities to explore how topics relate to things they might already be familiar with. These charts help students recall information and keep track of things they have learned.

Use the KWHL template before a specific curricular unit to ascertain what your students already know, what they want to learn, how they have learned it and what they have learned.

Wixie Template:
KWHL

3.6 The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of nonfiction texts.
f) Summarize information found in non-fiction texts.

Book Review Summary



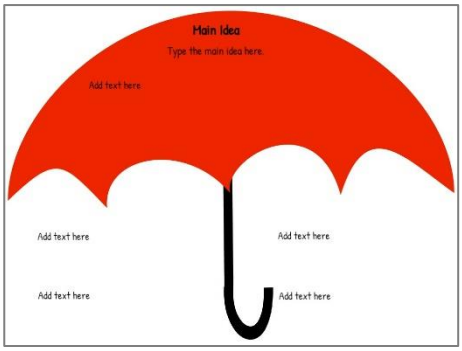
Have students choose one the books they have read and enjoyed to review for other students. Have each student open the Book Review template. Have them type a sentence about the book as well as their opinion about it and use the paint tools to illustrate their favorite part.

Link to student reviews from your classroom or media center web page to help students find more books they want to read. You can also ask students to print or share their final pages to combine into a class book review resource. Print out the pages in postcard (four to a page) or comic (six to a page) style, laminate them, and share them with other students at your school to help them choose books when they visit the school library.

Wixie Template:
Book Review

3.6 The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of nonfiction texts.
g) Identify the main idea.
h) Identify supporting details.

Explore Main Idea



Have your students think about the main ideas as an umbrella that covers all the content and holds it together. Share a couple of nonfiction books related to a science or social studies topic you are studying. Look at the cover picture and title. What is the main idea? Now, explore the titles, pictures, and text inside the book. How are they organized?

Project a copy of Wixie's Main Idea Umbrella template for students to see. Work together to add text that describes the main idea in the red area of the umbrella. Brainstorm and add key details from each paragraph in the space below the umbrella.

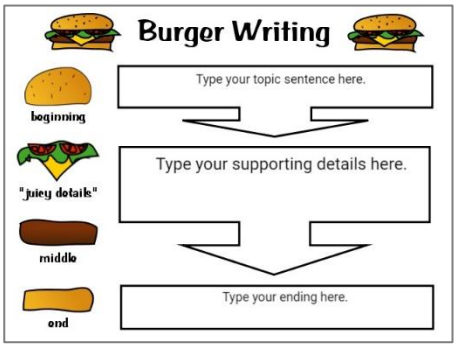
You can also have students use the Main Idea Umbrella template on a nonfiction topic they will be exploring in their writer's workshop. This will help them collect information for their writing. You can also have students create a page that illustrates the main idea using clip art, the text tool, and the paint tools.

Wixie Activities:
Main Idea Umbrella

Writing

3.8 The student will write in a variety of forms to include narrative, descriptive, opinion, and expository.
c) Use a variety of prewriting strategies.
d) Use organizational strategies to structure writing according to type.
e) Write a clear topic sentence.

Descriptive Writing- Burger Style



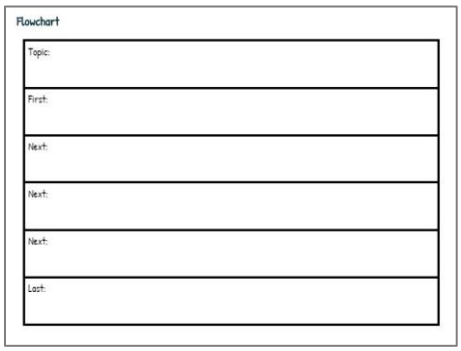
Have students develop a personal narrative about something that occurred recently, such as a field trip or science experiment. A familiar event should help them easily determine sequence as well as remember specific details to make their writing descriptive. Have each student plan their writing using the Burger Writing template in Wixie. In this simple diagram, students start with the topic and brainstorm juicy details that make their story tasty and interesting.

After the introduction and conclusion (the buns that hold the pieces together) and the juicy details have been outlined, have students write and illustrate each idea on a separate page in Wixie. Print out the pages as a comic or embed them in the class website to create online books.

Wixie Template:
Burger Writing

3.8 The student will write in a variety of forms to include narrative, descriptive, opinion, and expository.
g) Use transition words to vary sentence structure.

The Best Way to Spend a Saturday



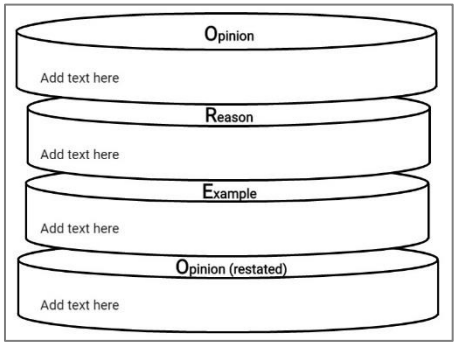
As students learn how to write informative texts, focus on the structure of their writing more than on the content. Ask your students to share their opinion on the best way to spend a Saturday. How will they get around? What would they like to do? Who will they spend their day with? Have each student use the Flowchart template to plan out the necessary steps.

Once their steps and ideas have been added to the flowchart, have students turn their process into a 4-page project. Encourage them to use order words (first, after, next, and finally) in their writing. Have students print booklet style, fold, and share their books with peers and family.

Wixie Template:
Plan-Flow Chart

3.8 The student will write in a variety of forms to include narrative, descriptive, opinion, and expository.
h) Express an opinion about a topic and provide fact-based reasons for support.

I WANT That!



Read “I Want an Iguana” by Karen Kaufman Orloff or another book that gets students in the mind frame of a child pleading for something they want. Then, pull up the Oreo Opinion Organizer so everyone in your class can see it. Brainstorm as a class some of the reasons and examples cited in the book.

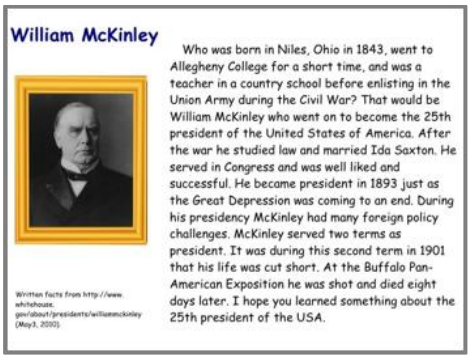
Have your students use the template to organize their thoughts around something they want to persuade their parents they would like to have like a pet, new sport’s jersey or video game. Then, have them create a letter in Wixie that includes their reasons why they should be able to have this item, along with hand drawn art or graphics to support their argument.

Wixie Template:
Oreo Opinion Organizer

Research

3.10 The student will demonstrate comprehension of information resources to research a topic and complete a research product.

Write a Biography



Challenge your class to name all of the presidents they can. As students share names, write the list on the board. Next, share the list of all of the Presidents and ask students if they recognize any of these names.

Tell your students they will be writing biographies about little known Presidents to educator their peers.

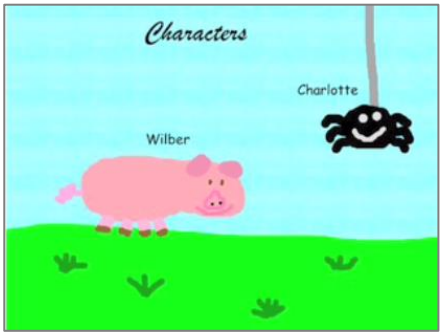
Have the students begin researching using biographies in the library and or websites you have shared. Once the students have finished with their research, have them log into Wixie and create a biography booklet or presentation about this present.

Student biographies should have a title page, information about the person's early life as well as key events in their presidency. Include images, text and audio. Link to or embed the web shows on your classroom or school website to share with family and community.

Lesson Plan

While individual activities can be used to address specific language standards, you can also create engaging lessons that address multiple standards in one project.

Book Trailers



Students explore character, plot, and theme and write persuasively as they develop a movie-style trailer for a book they have read.

Task

Between cell phones, portable game consoles, and TV, kids are spending less time reading than ever before. The local public library is looking for a way to promote reading to elementary students. They have asked you to create a short digital booktalk – like a movie trailer for a book – that they can use in the children's section of the library.

Engage

Getting students to read isn't always easy. Choose one of your favorite books and share it with your students in a way you think will get them excited about reading it. Then, tell why it was your favorite book. Ask students what gets them excited about reading. Is it the characters? Is it the setting, an exciting plot, interesting themes, or a personal connection with the story?

Let your students know they will be using Wixie to create a booktalk in the form of a movie trailer to promote one of their favorite books.

First, have students determine which book they want to promote. Then, have them answer the following questions:

- Have I read another book by the same author?
- Did I like it as much as this book?
- What genre is this book?
- Is this a book part of a series?
- Do I have a personal connection to this book?

To better advertise their book, students need to be able to identify the theme. Themes are the fundamental and often universal ideas explored in a literary work. They are BIG ideas, like friendship, love and courage. For example, when a character stands up for a friend in a story, we can infer from their actions that friendship and courage are themes in the story. Common themes your students can look for in their books include:

- Friendship
- courage
- fairness
- love
- anger
- cooperation
- determination
- being different

As a class, explore how authors use themes to guide their writing. Ask students to reread important parts of the book and take notes as they analyze the book's characters, setting, and plot to determine the theme. The actions of the main character are a great place to look for the theme.

To gather information students can use to develop their book talk, use graphic organizers like thought webs and the 5 W's to show the central theme of the book as well as events in the story that relate to the theme.

Create

Next, have students prepare a script for their book talk. An exciting script should include:

- An interesting hook.
- A vivid description of an event that supports the theme.
- The title and name of the author at the conclusion.
- A call to action.

Remind students that showing the story is more effective than trying to retell the story. As they write the script, have them think of the booktalk as a movie trailer. Their goal is to leave the viewer with a compelling reason for checking out that book!

To transform the script into a video, it is helpful to have a storyboard or map of each student's vision. The storyboard should include information about which portion of the script each scene will include and what images and sound files will be used to support it. When the storyboard is complete, have students begin gathering images, music, and sound effects to support their vision.

Have students use Wixie to build their booktalk. They can use images from Pics4Learning or illustrate using the paint tools to create their own images. They should record their script, add sound effects, or background music to match the tone and purpose of the booktalk.

Share

Share the book trailers with the rest of the class or play them on the morning announcements to encourage others to read the books. The librarian may choose to show the trailers in the library as other classes come in for their scheduled library time. If your district or community has public access television, try to get your students' book talks aired.

Standards

Communications and Multimodal Literacies
3.1 The student will use effective communication skills in a variety of settings.

3.2 The student will give oral presentations.

Reading
3.5 Compare and contrast settings, characters and plot events. And, read with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support comprehension.

Writing
3.8 Engage in writing as a process. Elaborate wiring by including supporting details. Express an opinion about a topic and provide fact-based reasons for support.

3.9 The student will edit writing for capitalization, punctuation, spelling, and Standard English.

Mathematics

Number and Number Sense

3.2 The student will
a) name and write the fractions and mixed numbers represented by a model.

Real World Fractions

Introduce your students to the real-world application of fractions by using manipulatives or familiar partitioned objects they can relate to like chocolate bars and oranges.

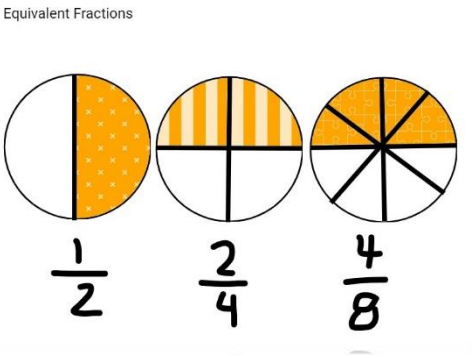
Type “fraction” in the search field at your Wixie home page to find the “Make a Fraction” template. Display the template so everyone can see it. Have students volunteer to represent the different fractions listed (2/5, 3/6 etc.) with the paint tools in Wixie. Then, show students how they can use the fraction stickers in Wixie (Images>Stickers>Math>Fractions) to represent the same fractions.

Have your students create an infographic poster of a fraction in Wixie like the Two Thirds poster example shown. Encourage them to use a combination of paint, fraction stickers, and other authentic images to represent their fraction.

Wixie Templates:
Make a Fraction

3.2 The student will
b) compare fractions having like and unlike denominators, using words and symbols (>, <, =) with models.

Comparing Fractions



Draw a circle on your board or in Wixie and divide it in half. Have students tell you how to represent it with a fraction. Then, draw another line through it to make it 4 equal parts and color in half the triangles. Use this example to showcase that “equivalent” fractions can be equal to one another and have a different amount of parts.

You can assign students the template “Equivalent Fractions” to practice drawing and representing equivalent fractions. As an extension in a center rotation, have students use the paint and fill bucket tool to represent different equivalent fractions they have learned about.

Wixie Template:
Equivalent Fractions

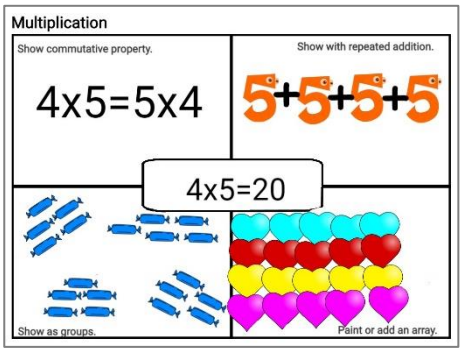
Computation and Estimation

3.4 The student will
a) represent multiplication and division through 10 x 10, using a variety of approaches and models.
b) create and solve single-step practical problems that involve multiplication and division through 10 x 10.

Now That's a Problem

Wixie has several templates that give students practice with a variety of models and approaches for representation multiplication and division. These can be found by going to Templates folder>Math>Numbers and Operations> Computation.

As an assessment and/or exit ticket for this Standard, customize the "Multiplication" template (shown on the right) with a multiplication problem and assign it for your students to complete.



Wixie Templates:
Multiplication, Window Arrays, Add the Arrays

3.4 The student will
c) demonstrate fluency with multiplication facts of 0, 1, 2, 5 and 10.

Multiplication Patterns

While many students can simply memorize the multiplication tables, others need to see and understand the underlying patterns to be able to apply this knowledge to fractions and other operations in the future.

Have each student open the Multiplication Chart template in Wixie. Look at the numbers in the 5's column. See if students identify that the product always ends with a 0 or a 5. Then, work with students to see if you can determine a simple rule (like even and odd) for this pattern.

Let students explore the multiplication chart on their own. Encourage them to look diagonally as well as horizontally and vertically. What other patterns can they find? How do 0 and 1 work?

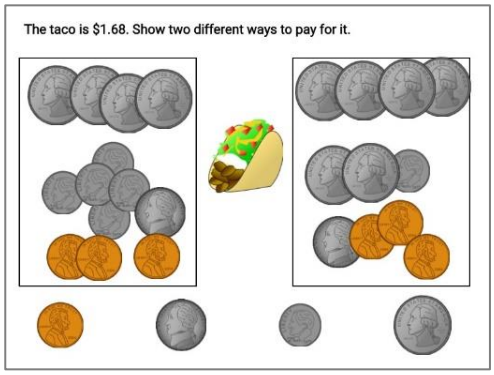
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2	2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24
3	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27	30	33	36
4	4	8	12	16	20	24	28	32	36	40	44	48
5	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60
6	6	12	18	24	30	36	42	48	54	60	66	72
7	7	14	21	28	35	42	49	56	63	70	77	84
8	8	16	24	32	40	48	56	64	72	80	88	96
9	9	18	27	36	45	54	63	72	81	90	99	108
10	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	110	120
11	11	22	33	44	55	66	77	88	99	110	121	132
12	12	24	36	48	60	72	84	96	108	120	132	144

Wixie Template:
Multiplication Chart

Measurement and Geometry

3.6 The student will
a) determine the value of a collection of bills and coins whose total value is $5.00 or less
b) compare the value of two sets of coins or two sets of coins and bills; and
c) make change from $5.00 or less.

Money, Money, Money



Third graders are generally confident knowing the value of money but adding coins that have different value adds another layer of complexity. Completing operations involving money that are presented as word problems gets even more complex.

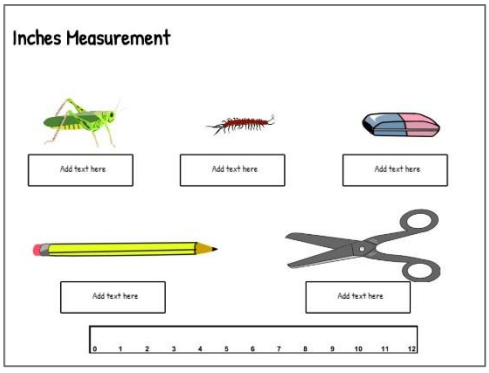
Share loose change with each student and present a few word problems they can try to first solve on their own and then with the help of the rest of the class.

After practicing, have each student complete one of the money templates so you can assess each student's individual comprehension and mastery. Remember, you can also customize your own money templates. You can clone coins and bills to represent different values by selecting the coin/bill and going to Edit, Properties, and Clone. This way, students can easily click and drag to represent money values.

Wixie Templates:
Dollar Challenge, Using Money, or Money Problems

3.7 The student will estimate and use US. Customary and metric units to measure
a) length to the nearest ½ inch, foot, yard, centimeter, and meter.

Measure to Compare



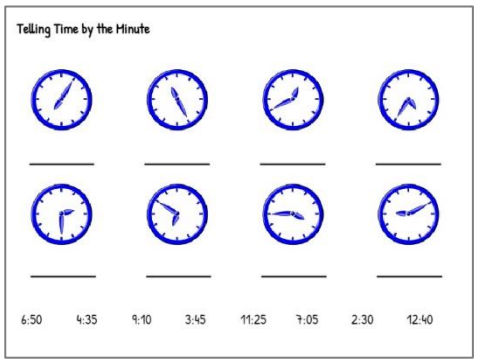
Distribute rulers to your students. Ask them how they can use this to measure objects in the room. Have students measure three objects they find on and/or in their desks. They might find pencils, books, stickers, flashcards, and so on. Have them put the objects on their desk in order from top to bottom from smallest to biggest.

Have students use the virtual ruler to measure the objects in the Measure – Inches template (or Measure-Centimeters if you are outside the US). Ask students to tell you which object is the smallest and which is the biggest. Find a pencil, eraser, and scissors in your classroom and compare them to the ones in the template. Which is larger, which I smaller? How can students be sure? Measure!

Wixie Template:
Measurement-Inches

3.9 The student will
a) tell time to the nearest minute, using analog and digital clocks.

Tell Time



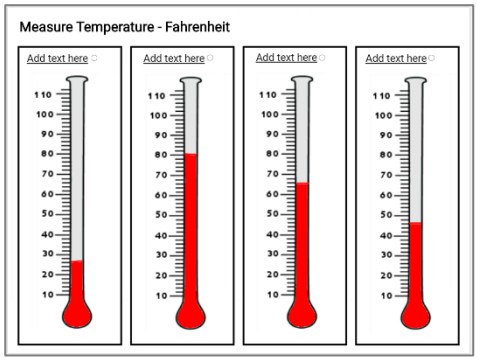
Skip count with your class by fives from 0 to 60. Open an image of a clock without any hands (Stickers>Math>Clocks). Point to various spots on the clock and count from 0 to that number by fives, indicating each mark on the outside of the clock face as you count.

To assess student ability to tell time by the minute, have them complete the Tell Time – Minute template. Have students create clocks at various times of the day and write and illustrate what happens at that time.

Wixie Template:
Tell Time- Minutes

3.10 The student will read temperature to the nearest degree.

Measure Temperature



Students are likely used to parents using a phone app to check the weather or may even have digital device that displays the temperature both inside and outside their home. Their parents probably take their temperature at home (or at the doctor) using a digital thermometer.

Let students know that there are thermometers that aren't digital. These scientific tools use the properties of matter (mercury, or even water) that correctly read the temperature.

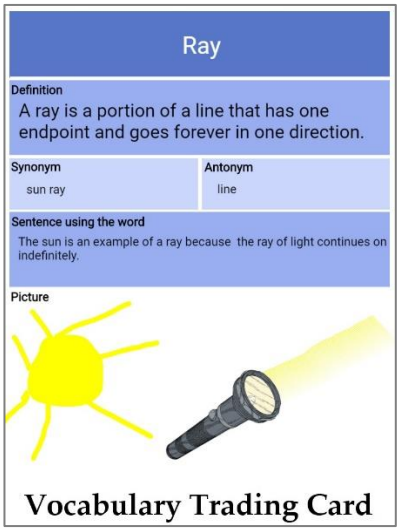
Put a bowl of cold, hot, and warm water on a table in your classroom. Work together to use the thermometer to measure the temperature.

Assign the Measure Temperature template to students, in Fahrenheit or Celsius, to evaluate their understanding of how to use an analog thermometer.

Wixie Template:
Measure Temperature- Fahrenheit

3.11 The student will identify and draw representations of points, lines, line segments, rays, and angles.

Math Vocabulary



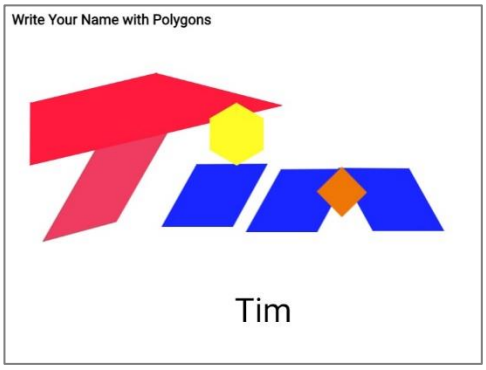
Make learning about lines fun and tasty! Have students represent the different lines, points, and angles using pretzel sticks (lines), candy corns (ray points) and mini marshmallows to place on each end of the line segments. Explain that rays, like the sun, would have one candy corn on the end pointing in one direction. Whereas, line segments would have a marshmallow on each side. Discuss objects in your classroom or in real life that represent these types of lines; square desk as a line segment, flashlight as a ray, yellow traffic lines etc.

Duplicate and customize the Vocabulary trading card template with the different line vocabulary words. Assign students these cards to complete independently to evaluate their understanding of these vocabulary words.

Wixie Template:
Trading Card- Vocabulary

3.12 The student will
a) define polygon;
b) identify and name polygons with 10 or fewer sides.

Polygon Names



Discuss with your class what shapes are and aren't polygons and why. Open up a new document in Wixie, draw a vertical line in middle of the page, type Polygons on one side of the line and NOT on the other and project it so everyone can see it. Click and drag stickers from the Image>Math>Shapes folders and have students tell you they are polygons or not.

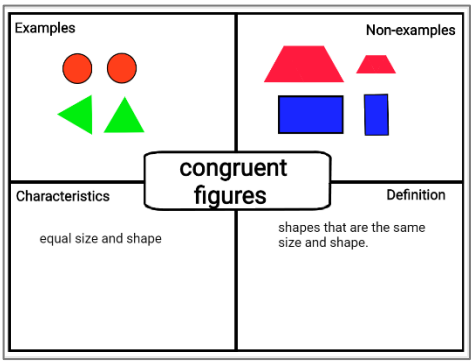
During independent time, have students use the Polygon Names template in Wixie to write their name with polygons.

As an assessment, or exit ticket, have students use a blank document in Wixie to define what a polygon is and identify and name polygons with three or four sides.

Wixie Template:
Polygon Names

3.13 The student will identify and describe congruent and noncongruent figures.
Partition shapes into parts with equal areas. Express the area of each part as a unit fraction of the whole. For example, partition a shape into 4 parts with equal area, and describe the area of each part as 1/4 of the area of the shape.

Congruent Shapes



Start by defining that congruent shapes are the same size and shape. Open up a new document in Wixie, draw a vertical line in middle of the page, type Congruent on one side of the line and NOT on the other and project it so everyone can see it. Find and add Images from the Stickers library and have students tell you if they are polygons or not.

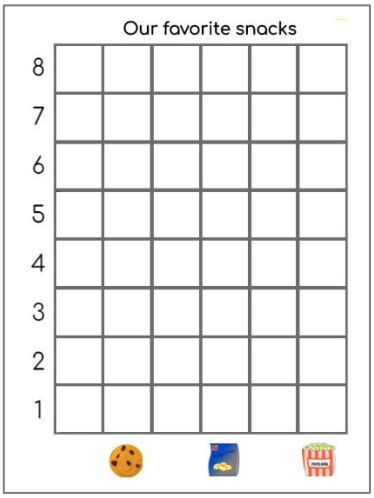
As an assessment, or exit ticket, customize the Frayer Vocabulary template with the word congruent figures in the middle (as shown) and assign it to students to complete.

Wixie Template:
Frayer Vocabulary

Probability and Statistics

3.15 The student will
a) collect, organize, and represent data in pictographs or bar graphs; and
b) read and interpret data represented in pictographs and bar graphs.

Represent and Interpret Data



Have students use the Favorite Snack Template as the basis for their own data collection. Have small teams of students choose a topic like (favorite sports, pets, activities) and have them survey members of their team and other class teams.

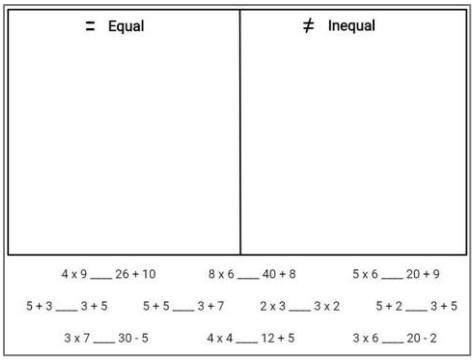
Team members should determine the largest number of respondents in any category so they can select units of measurement for the graph. Teams can work together to collect data and then individually record it in Wixie by filling each square with a solid color using the paint bucket or by adding stickers to each square to create a pictograph.

Wixie Templates:
Favorite Snacks

Patterns, Functions, and Algebra

3.17 The student will create equations to represent equivalent mathematical relationships.

Equivalent Equations



Start by defining what equals means. You may want to bring in a small scale and show them what two items being equal looks like. Open the Equivalent or Not Equivalent template and have students help you drag equations to the correct box. You may need to review concepts like the commutative property.

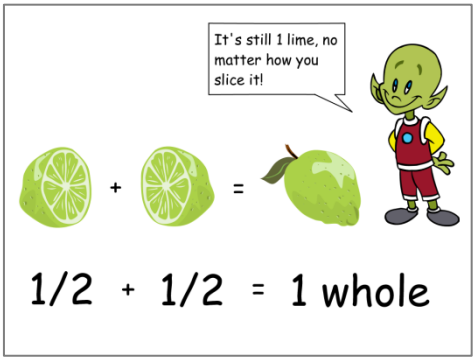
Assign the blank version of the Equivalent or Not Equivalent template and have students write their own equations that involve the commutative property as well as values of multiplication, addition, and subtraction.

Wixie Template:
Equivalent or Not Equivalent

Lesson Plan

While individual activities can be used to address specific math standards, you can also create engaging lessons that address multiple standards in one project.

Fantastic Fractions



Students will use Wixie to demonstrate the concept of fractions and how fractions are written in mathematical terms.

Engage

Discuss the concept of fractions with your students. Help them understand the concept of less than 1, but greater than 0. Provide everyday examples of fractions, such as slices of pizza, orange segments, or squares of a chocolate bar. You can have students work along with you as you read **The Hershey's Milk Chocolate Bar Fractions Book** by Jerry Pallotta and Rob Bolster.

Show how you can divide one object into many objects and how this translates into a written fraction. For example, when 1 chocolate bar is separated into 4 pieces, each piece equals ¼ of the chocolate bar.

Have students work with their parents, or other family members, to brainstorm a list of foods and household objects that can easily be divided into fractions. Have students share their ideas as you create a master list of objects. Have students bring objects to school and work as a class to discuss how each whole object can be divided into pieces that represent fractions.

Create

Let students know that they will work in teams to demonstrate how to divide a whole into fractions. Divide students into small groups of 3–5. Have each team choose an object from the list that the class brainstormed.

Have the team create a storyboard that demonstrates how they will divide their object into different fractions. Their storyboards should demonstrate how they will show the object as a whole, how it will be divided into fractions, and how these fractional parts will be labeled. This will help you evaluate for comprehension before they begin working.

Each team should determine which pages in the project each member will create. Have one team member take the Director position and begin a Team project, inviting each team member to collaborate. Each student can then work to design their

assigned page. When they are all finished, they can work to assist other team members on editing their work.

Share

Celebrate their success by having each team share its presentation with the rest of the class or to another class learning fractions. As they present, ask team members to share what they learned about fractions as they built their project. You may also want to share the completed files by embedding the projects on your web site.

Standards

3.2 The student will

a) name and write fractions and mixed numbers represented by a model.
b) represent fractions and mixed numbers with models and symbols.

3.17 The student will create equations to represent equivalent mathematical relationships.

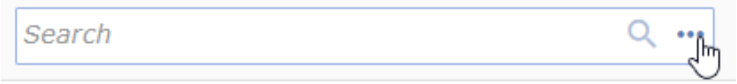
Appendix A

Find Templates by Virginia SOL

You can assign templates in Wixie that you find by searching the Virginia Standards of Learning.

Log in to Wixie with your username and password.

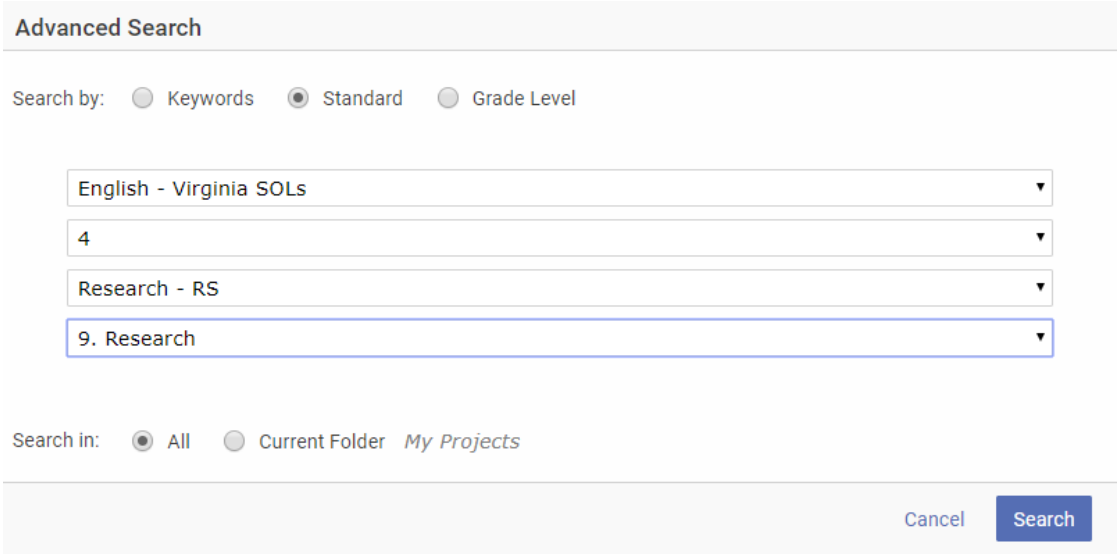
At your teacher home page, click the more search options (three dots) on the right of the Search field.



You will see the Advanced Search dialog.

Select the Standard radio button at the top. The dialog will update to show standard search options.

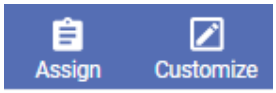
Use the pull-down menus to narrow down your search by subject, grade, topic, and subtopic.



Click the **Search** button. You will see templates that can help students master this standard.

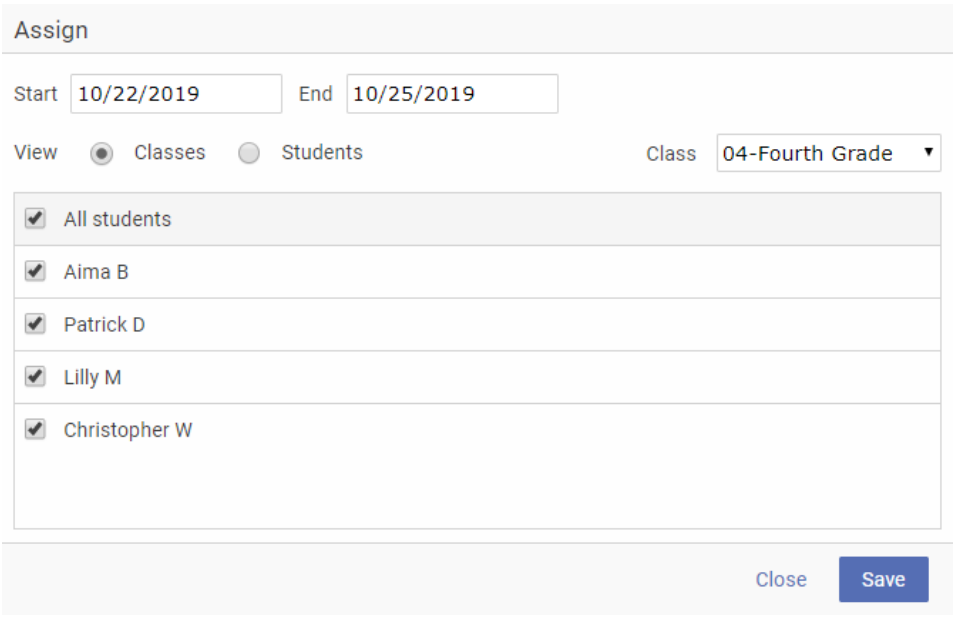
Select the image of the template and it will open in the Wixie authoring tool.

Select Customize to make changes to the template.



Select Assign to assign it to your students as it currently exists.

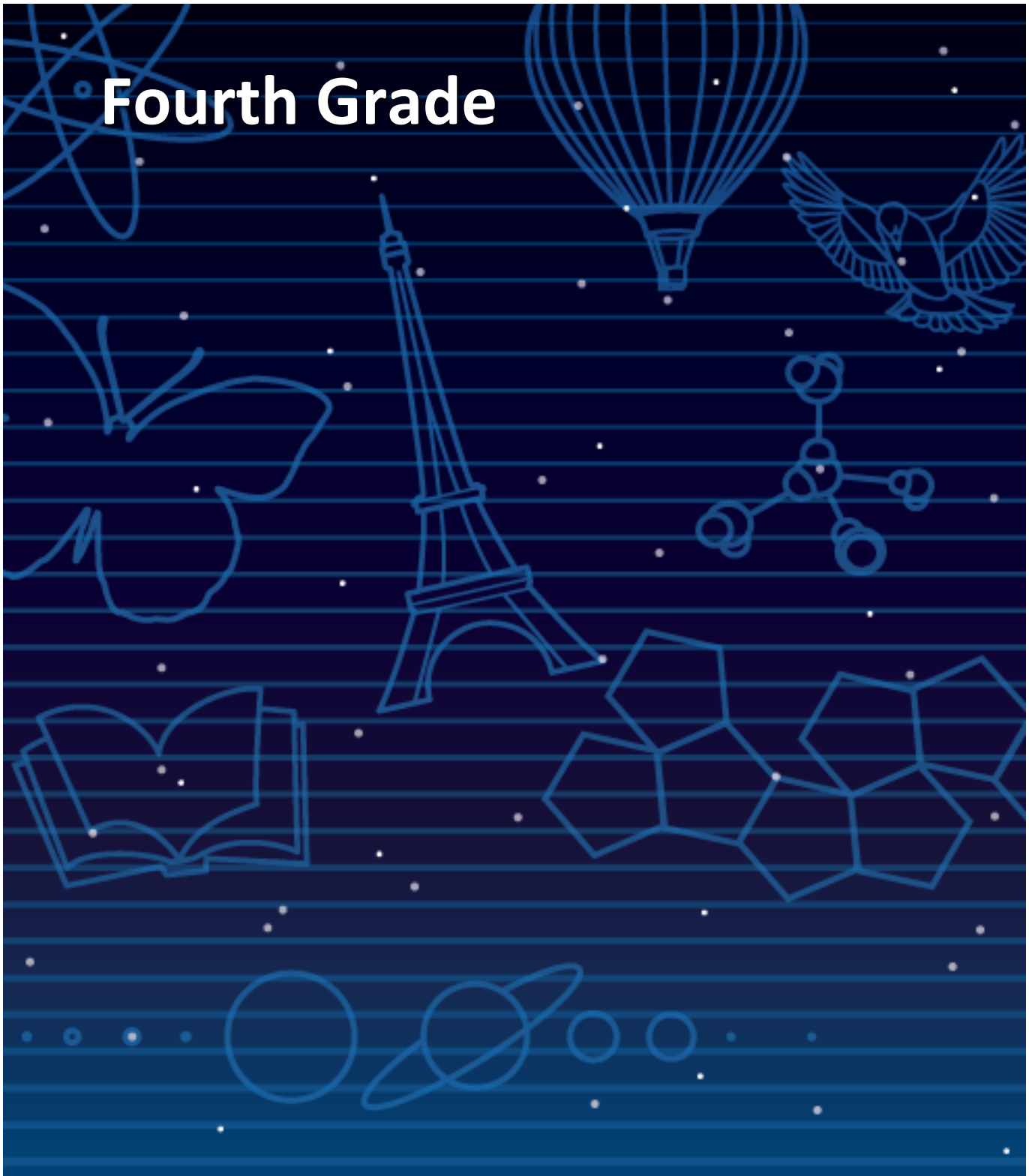
At the Assign dialog, choose the begin and end dates you want students to be able to start working on the template. Use the pull-down menus and radio buttons to choose the class and students you want to assign the template to and select Save.



You will see the template in your Assignments folder.

The students you selected will see the template at the top of their Wixie home page on the dates you specified.

Meeting Virginia Standards of Learning with Wixie®



What is Wixie?

Wixie is an online application fourth-grade students can use to write, record their voice, paint pictures, and tell stories. Wixie provides an engaging way for students to explore and respond to curriculum topics related to the Common Core Standards.

Students can add text to a Wixie page to practice their writing, draw ideas from their imagination using the paint tools, record narration for stories, and more. Student work is online and can be shared immediately through a URL as well as printed as booklets, comics, and more.

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Appendix 25

Find Templates by SOL 25

This guide is provided by:

Tech4Learning
6160 Mission Gorge Road, #206
San Diego, CA 92120

tech4learning.com

Using Wixie with Fourth-Grade Students

In fourth grade, a student's ability and understanding are growing rapidly. Expanding curiosity and the ability to find answers on their own allows students to be more independent learners. While encouraging this independent learning, be sure to remain involved in their work and offer ideas, suggestions, and lots of praise. As they build projects, encourage them to be creative and remind them it takes practice to get good at writing and drawing. Try to find ways to give their creations an audience. This will help keep their time in Wixie from feeling like "work."

As you explore some of the ideas in this guide, think of the students in your class. Which ones will respond if allowed to explore content in this way? Wixie allows you to assign different templates to different students, so you can more easily adjust the content and work to meet individual student learning needs.

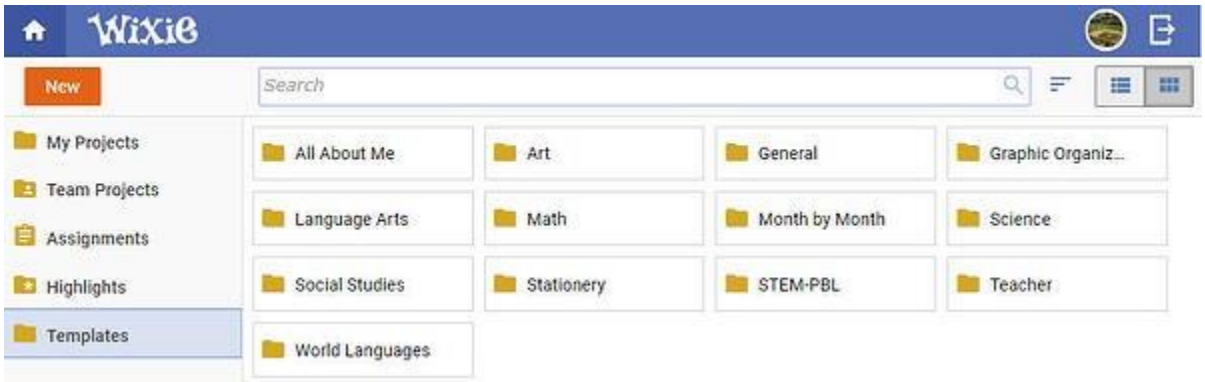
Don't forget time for open "play" in Wixie so students can explore wherever their interests lead. Passion for learning is one of the most important things to teach at this age!

Finding Wixie Templates

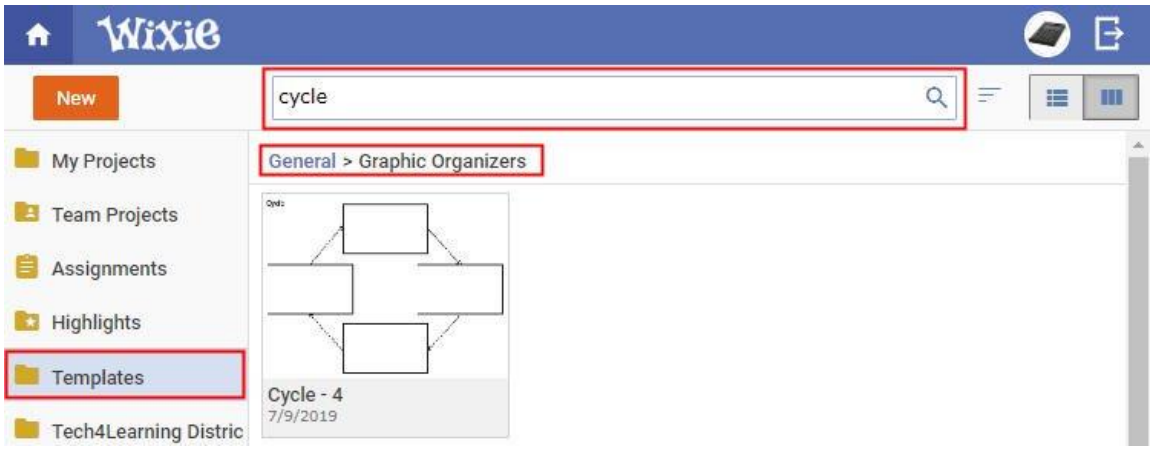
Many of the ideas in this guide use specific templates that come with Wixie. To find the template:

Log in to your teacher account.

Browse for template files by opening the Templates folder and sub-folders.



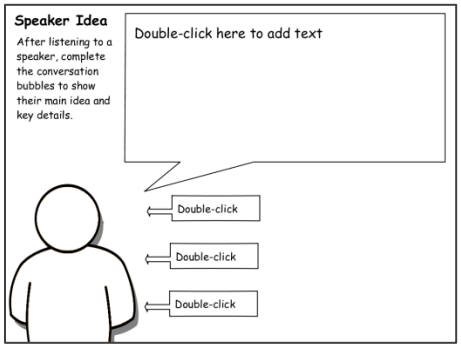
Enter a keyword in the field at the top and press the search button.



Communication and Multimodal Literacies

4.1 The student will use effective oral communication skills in a variety of settings.
c) Orally summarize information expressing ideas clearly.

Our Expert Visitor



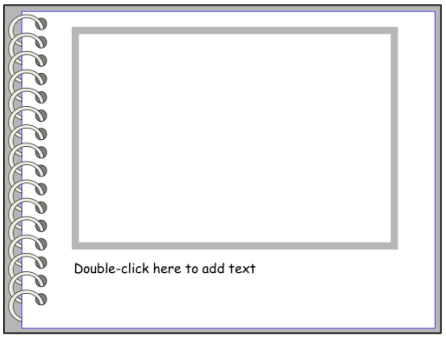
It is important to connect the learning that goes on inside the classroom with the work and lives of people outside of it. One common way to make this connection is by inviting "experts" into our classes to share knowledge and information as it relates to their job or personal history. Encourage students to take notes about what they are hearing.

After a guest visit, have students complete the Speaker Idea template in Wixie to summarize the information they learned. Print their pages and use them to discuss the visit with a classmate or share with the entire class.

Wixie Template:
Speaker Ideas

4.2 The student will create and deliver multimodal, interactive presentations.
b) Speak audibly with appropriate pacing.
c) Use language and style appropriate to the audience, topic, and purpose.

Field Trip Memory Book



Field trips are one of the most enjoyable and memorable events of the school year. After a field trip, have students create a page for the field trip memory book. Have each student recount a favorite exhibit or part of the field trip or brainstorm a list of things that happened during the trip and assign events to different students to capture.

Ask each student to write about the event, use the tools and image options to add appropriate illustrations, and the use the Record to capture an oral description of the event. If pictures were taken, bring in a picture of the event.

Wixie Template:
Memory Book

Reading

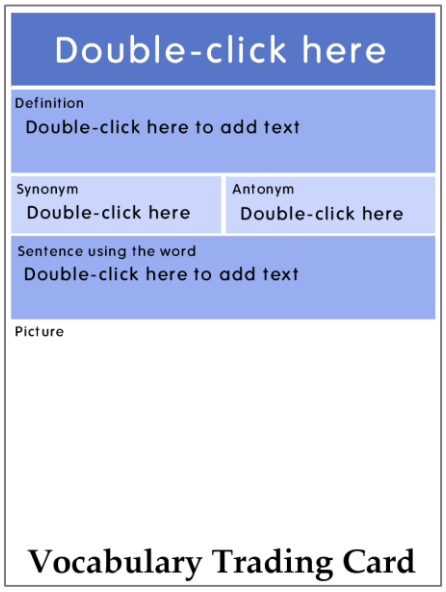
4.4 The student will expand vocabulary when reading.

Vocabulary Trading Cards

Ask students to choose their favorite new word and create a trading card to teach the meaning to other students. Students should define the word so that other students can understand its meaning, use it in a sentence with the same context as the unit you are studying, and draw a picture that helps depict the meaning.

Have students print enough copies of their page using the Postcard style (4 to a page with the Repeat Page option selected) to cut out and distribute to the rest of the class.

Wixie Template:
Vocabulary Trading Card



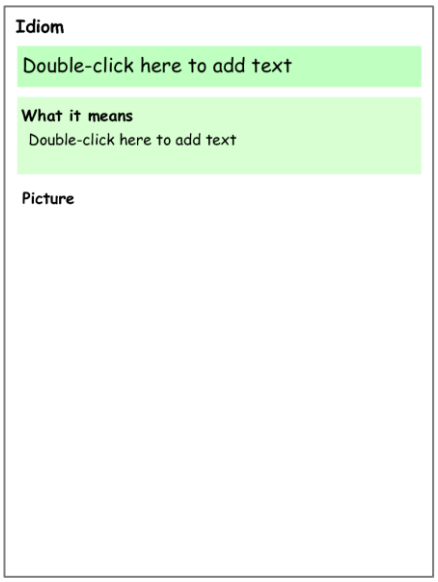
4.4 The student will expand vocabulary when reading.
a) Use context to clarify meanings of unfamiliar words.
e) Develop and use general and specialized vocabulary through speaking, listening, reading, and writing.

Create an Idiom Dictionary

Some idioms are easy to understand (i.e. All bark and no bite) due to the obvious figurative connection, but others aren't quite so easy and require cultural or historical knowledge (i.e.: that attorney is an ambulance chaser). Assign each student an idiom and have them use Wixie to create dictionary entries that explain their idiom with text, illustration, and narration.

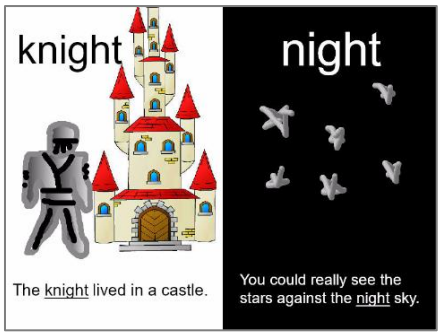
Once the pages are created, you can print them as trading cards or postcards to share with the class. Since printed projects won't include narration, you may also want to link to each student's project to create an online dictionary.

Wixie Template:
Idiom



4.4 The student will expand vocabulary when reading.
a) Use context to clarify meanings of unfamiliar words.
e) Develop and use general and specialized vocabulary through speaking, listening, reading, and writing.

Illustrate Homophones



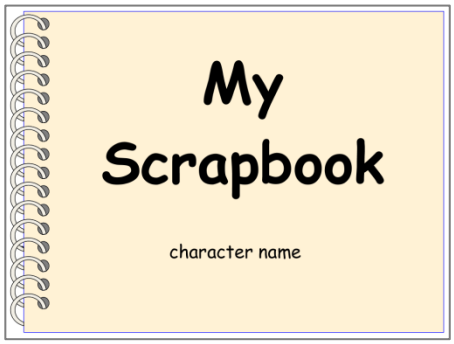
Get students interested in homonyms and homophones by reading Brain P Cleary's fun story How Much Can a Bare Bear Bear? (ISBN: 1575058243). This story is fun to listen to, but it is also helpful to show students the text so they can see how many ways words can vary in spelling and pronunciation.

Have students choose a homophone, homograph, or homonym pair/group and log in to their Wixie accounts and begin a new blank project to illustrate the different meanings.

Wixie Template:
Start from a blank page

4.5.a The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of fictional texts, literary nonfiction texts, and poetry.
a) Describe how the choice of language, setting, and characters contributes to the development of plot.

Character Scrapbook



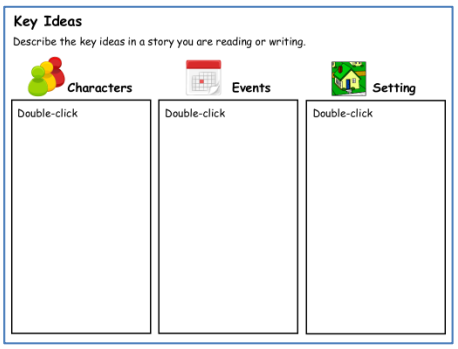
Work with your class to brainstorm traits of the main character of a story you are reading. Open the Character Description template in Wixie and work together to add in details. Ask students to support the details they identify with relevant examples from the text.

Next, have students demonstrate their understanding by creating a digital scrapbook for a character. The Character Scrapbook template includes pages for students to write journal entries about important events, pages for sharing images and souvenirs and why they are important, and a page for them to write a letter from the main character to a secondary character about a problem in the story.

Wixie Template:
Character Scrapbook

4.5.The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of fictional texts, literary nonfiction texts, and poetry.
a) Describe how the choice of language, setting, and characters contributes to the development of plot.

Pictures and Silent Movies



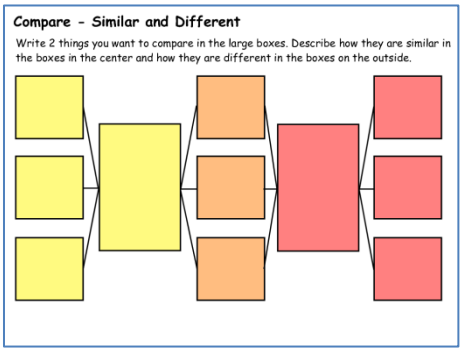
Chris Van Allsburg's books, like **Jumanji** and **Zathura**, are as well known for their illustrations as they are for their stories. Share one of his books with your class, and do a picture walk, asking students to share what they think happens on each page.

Challenge students to determine information about what they think they can know about characters, setting, and events using only the pictures in the book. Print individual student work and work in small teams to compare, or project student projects and discuss as an entire class.

Wixie Template:
Key Ideas

4.5. The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of fictional texts, literary nonfiction texts, and poetry.
i) Compare/contrast details in literary and informational nonfiction texts.

Compare



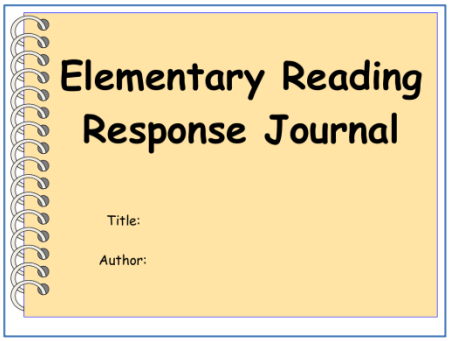
Provide students with, or explore together, different versions of a story with similar themes, such as **Cinderella** and **Ella Enchanted** or one title from the **Harry Potter** series and one from the **Charlie Bone** series.

Have students compare the two stories on their own. When they have finished, have them work with a partner to compare and analyze their diagrams. What similarities and differences did they have in common? Which ones were different? After working with a partner, ask students to duplicate their comparison page and create a second version that includes the new information they and their partner uncovered.

Wixie Template:
Compare

4.5 The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of fictional texts, literary nonfiction texts, and poetry.
b) Identify the theme(s).

Reading Response Journal



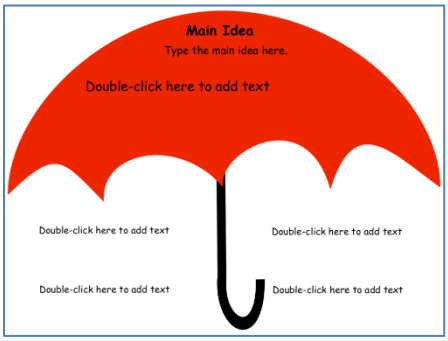
As students are working through leveled readers, assign Wixie's Reading Response template to explore details in a story that hint at the theme. The Reading Response Journal template includes opportunities for summarizing events, sharing how text made a student feel, and opportunities to compare and make predictions.

Most reading series are organized by themes, making it easy to compare texts with a common theme and explore how different authors address the same theme. Using Wixie's Compare template (Templates>Graphic Organizers) can also help students identify ways that different stories approach a theme.

Wixie Template:
Reading Response Journal 3-5

4.5 The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of nonfiction texts.
c) Identify the main idea and
d) Summarize supporting details.

Explore Main Idea



Have students think about the main idea as an umbrella that covers all of the content and holds it together. Look at the cover picture and title of a book you are reading. What is the main idea? Now explore the titles, pictures, and text inside the book. How are they organized?

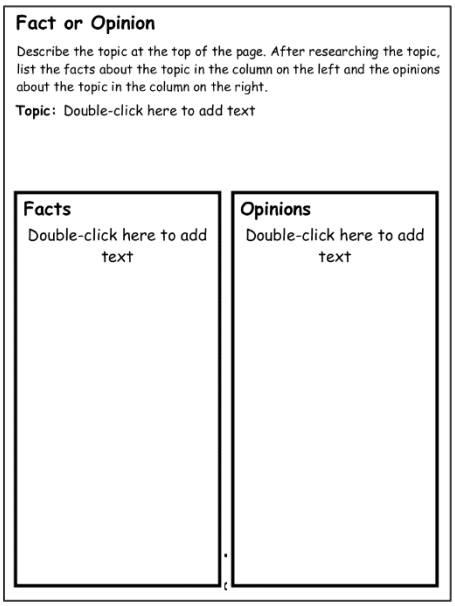
Have students complete the Main Idea Umbrella template on a nonfiction topic they will be exploring in their writing workshop. This will help them collect information for their writing. You can also have students create a page that illustrates the main idea using clip art, the text tool, and the paint tools.

Wixie Template:
Main Idea Umbrella

4.6 The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of nonfiction texts.
g) Distinguish between fact and opinion.

Research with Graphic Organizers

Fourth graders are independent learners and generally want to learn more about topics they enjoy. Have students conduct research on a person in history you are studying, or if you have the support, let them research a famous sports star or musician. A student-driven project will require more assistance to find appropriate informational materials, but often results in increased engagement.



Have students take notes as they complete their research using the Fact or Opinion organizers in Wixie. Rather than writing a research report, ask students to create a two-page presentation in Wixie. The first page should include at least three facts they have found in their research. The next page should include their personal opinions about the subject using opinion words they found in their research such as: feel, believe, always, never, most, best, and worst.

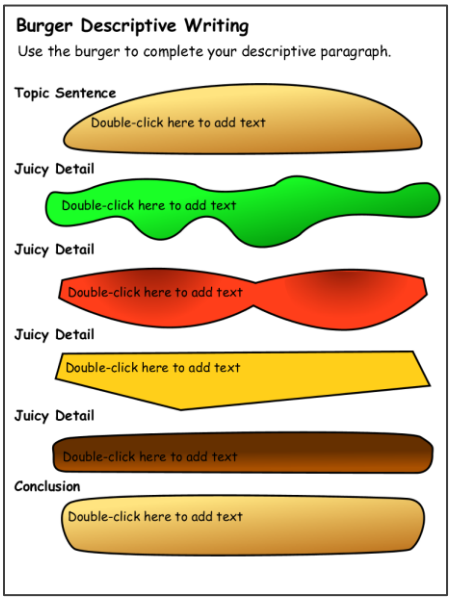
Wixie Template:
Fact or Opinion

Writing

4.7 The student will write in a variety of forms to include narrative, descriptive, opinion, and expository.
d) Use a variety of prewriting strategies.

Descriptive Writing - Burger Style

Have students develop a personal narrative about something that occurred recently, such as a family event or a trip to the zoo. Choosing a familiar event will help them determine sequence as well as remember specific details to make their writing descriptive. Have each student plan out their writing use the Burger Writing template in Wixie. In this simple diagram, students start with the topic and brainstorm "juicy details" that make their story tasty and interesting.



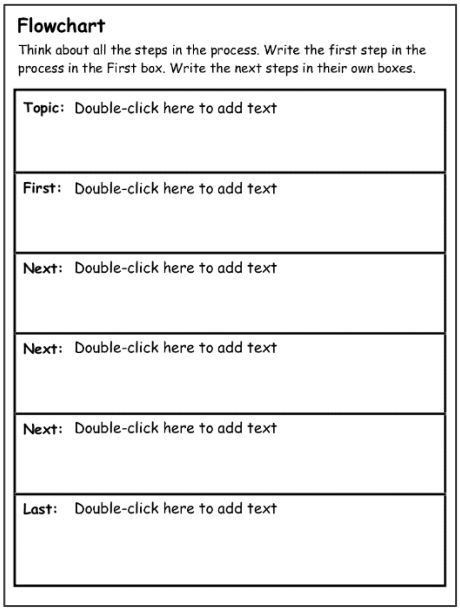
After the introduction and conclusion (the top and bottom buns that hold the story together) and the juicy details have been outlined, have students write and illustrate each idea on a separate page in Wixie. Print out the pages as a comic.

Wixie Template:
Burger Writing

4.7 The student will write in a variety of forms to include narrative, descriptive, opinion, and expository.
e) Recognize different forms of writing have different patterns of organization.
f) Organize writing to convey a central idea.

Your Very Own eHow

Fourth-grade students have likely watched a video to learn how to make a rubber band bracelet or learn a new soccer juggling trick. Now that many of them have already found passions like soccer, woodworking, or sewing, ask students to create a how-to with Wixie. Letting them practice procedural writing on their favorite topics will engage them in writing informational text.



As they begin to think about what to share, have students use the Flowchart template to brainstorm the steps in the procedure and identify words they can use to link the steps, such as next and also.

Once their steps and ideas have been added to the flow chart, have students create individual pages in a new Wixie project for each step someone needs to complete in order to sew a skirt, complete a great corner kick, or bake a great chocolate cake.

Wixie Template:
Flow Chart

4.7 The student will write in a variety of forms to include narrative, descriptive, opinion, and expository.
f) Organize writing to convey a central idea.
i) Elaborate writing by including details to support the purpose.

ABC's of Fourth Grade

Select a theme for a fourth grade ABC book. You might choose to focus on processed and procedures of 4th grade as a book to share with students the next year, select your state or other social studies focus, or even select a general theme like math and use this as an opportunity for review of terminology and concepts.

Assign each student a letter and ask them to use Wixie to create a page for a class ABC book on your topic or theme. For example, "L is for laughs because Ms. Brown makes us laugh with all the great jokes and stories."

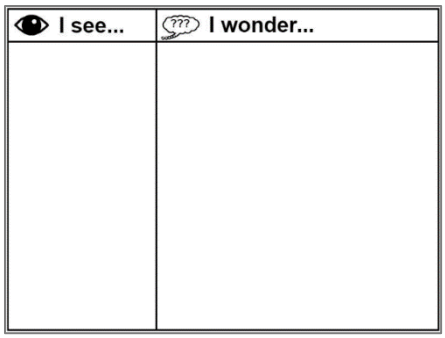
Students should type text on the page and use the tools and stickers to create appropriate illustrations. When their work is complete, import the individual projects into a single class file to create a digital book or print the pages at postcard size to make a physical book or set of ABC cards.

Wixie Activities:
Letter /A/ template

Research

4.9 The student will demonstrate comprehension of information resources to create a research product.
a) Construct questions about a topic.

I see… I wonder…



An I See, I Wonder organizer is a great way to get students to expand their thinking when they are just learning to take ownership of learning.

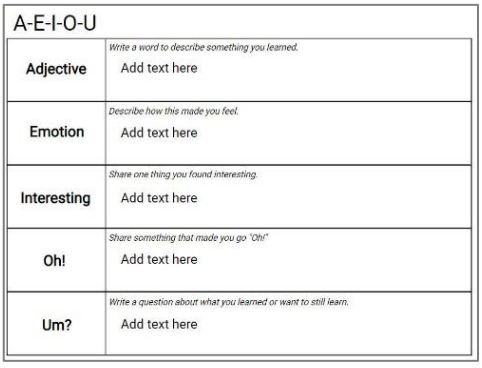
Show students a picture connected to a topic you are introducing. For example, share a picture of a historical map or scene or place a selection of different types of rocks on a table for them to observe. This would make a great station rotation or center.

Students then capture their observations in the I see column of the template. After their observations are written down, have them reread them or share them with a friend and come up with questions they have about what they have identified. Students can then complete additional research to answer the wonder questions they have generated.

Wixie Template:
I See, I Wonder

4.9 The student will demonstrate comprehension of information resources to create a research product.
b) Collect and organize information from multiple resources.

A-E-I-O-U



Read a literary or nonfiction text or even watch a video to learn about a topic. Then have students share their information and thinking using an A-E-I-O-U organizer.

In this template, students explore a topic and collect their research in the form of A-E-I-O-U:

A - an adjective that describes what they learned
E - how it made them feel
I – something interesting they learned
Oh! – Something surprising they learned about the topic
Um? – A question they have about the topic.

Have students partner with another classmate to share their thinking.

Wixie Template:
A-E-I-O-U

Lesson Plan

While individual activities can be used to address specific language standards, you can also create engaging lessons that address multiple standards in one project.

Persuasive and Presidential Writing

Students will use Wixie create a presentation to persuade the National Park Service to add another monument or memorial to Washington DC.

Engage

Washington DC is a treasure trove of Memorials and Monuments. Take a picture tour of the different monuments and memorials, sharing the difference between a memorial and a monument.

As a class, create a list of the qualities shared by the monuments and memorials. Let students know that it is their task to identify these qualities in the next person or event that should be added to the DC Monuments and Memorials. They will craft a persuasive argument and then develop a persuasive presentation to convince others to support adding their selection.

Give students some time to think about the memorial they think should be added. You may want to assign research about several lesser-known events or people before having them choose or ask them to survey family and friends for their opinions.

Have students choose the event or person they think should be added to Washington DC. You might have them complete a KWL worksheet to help them identify what they already know about their selection, as well as identify topics that they will need to research.

Create

The goal of persuasive writing is to convince others to agree with our facts, share our values, accept our arguments and conclusions, and adopt our way of thinking. Discuss elements of persuasive writing with your students, so they are ready to establish facts, provide examples, prioritize arguments, craft an emotional appeal, state conclusions, and communicate logically.

Have each student use his or her research to write a persuasive essay about why their selection should be the next DC Monument/Memorial. Have students share their rough drafts with a classmate before editing and submitting their finished written arguments.

Discuss the structure of the Wixie project with your students. Like their persuasive essay, the first page should contain a position statement, such as “The New DC Memorial/Monument should be _____ because...”

The rest of the project should include pages that present arguments why this selection should be added to Washington DC and a final page that restates the position and summarizes the argument. The presentation should include supporting images and illustrations, as well as narration that summarizes the argument.

Share

Have students share their persuasive presentations with the rest of the class using the Show option on the Wixie toolbar. They can mute the audio if they would like to summarize live instead of playing their recorded narration. As a

class, discuss the effectiveness elements of each argument. At the end, can the class choose just one new memorial/monument.

Virginia Standards of Learning

4.1 The student will use effective oral communication skills in a variety of settings.
- c) Orally summarize information expressing ideas clearly.
- e) Use evidence to support opinions and conclusions.
- g) Use specific vocabulary to communicate ideas.

4.4 The student will expand vocabulary when reading.
- e) Develop and use general and specialized vocabulary through speaking, listening, reading, and writing.

4.6 The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of nonfiction texts.
- c) Identify the main idea.
- d) Summarize supporting details.
- e) Draw conclusions and make inferences using textual information as support.
- g) Distinguish between fact and opinion.

4.7 The student will write in a variety of forms to include narrative, descriptive, opinion, and expository.
- b) Select audience and purpose.
- f) Organize writing to convey a central idea.
- j) Express an opinion about a topic and provide fact-based reasons for support.

4.8 The student will self- and peer-edit writing for capitalization, spelling, punctuation, sentence structure, paragraphing, and Standard English.

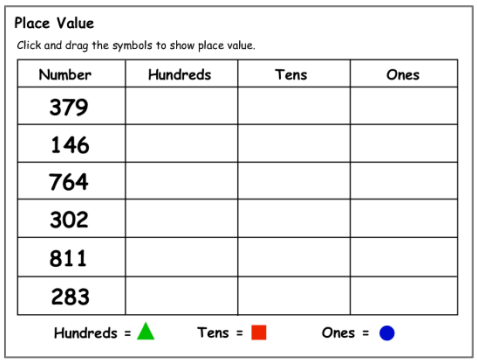
4.9 The student will demonstrate comprehension of information resources to create a research product.
- b) Collect and organize information from multiple resources.
- d) Give credit to sources used in research.
- e) Avoid plagiarism and use own words.

Number and Number Sense

4.1 The student will
a. read, write, and identify the place and value of each digit in a three-digit numeral, with and without models.

Game - What number is it?

Place value is the value of a digit depending on its position in the number, such as ones, tens, hundreds, and thousands places. After practicing with place value, create or assign a place value template to evaluate student's ability to add the correct number of shapes to each column to mark out the number of hundreds, tens, and ones.



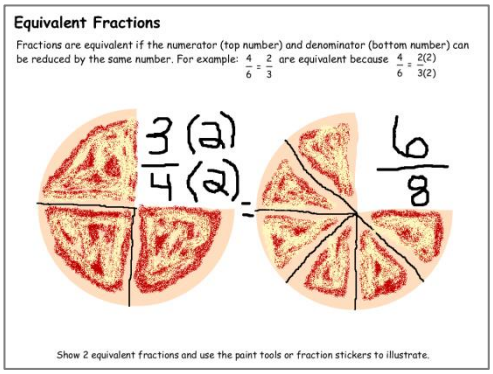
Show the project and play a game with your class. See how fast students can call out the number as you show each page. You may also choose to display each page for a given number of seconds and ask the students to write down the numbers they see.

Wixie Template:
Place Value – Hundreds

4.2 The student will
b. represent equivalent fractions.

Equivalent Fractions

Fractions are equivalent if the numerator (top number) and denominator (bottom number) can be reduced, or multiplied, by the SAME number. This is why you can double each of the ingredients for a batch of cookies to feed twice as many people, but still create the same cookie, since each ingredient is still the same fraction of the whole as it was before. After demonstrating how to produce equivalent fractions to your students, have students use the Equivalent Fractions template to demonstrate their understanding.



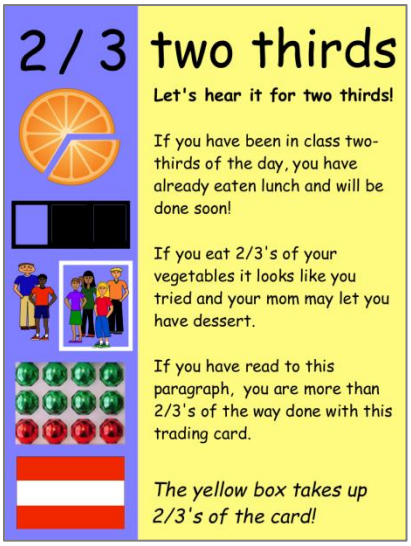
By pairing numeric representations of equivalent fractions with a visual model of the same thing, students will learn that they need to copy and paste the model (X) number of times to create the equivalent. This will help cement their understanding of the concept.

Wixie Template:
Equivalent Fractions

4.2 The student will
b. represent equivalent fractions.

Real World Fractions

When represented only by numbers, fractions can be scary. This is why most people introduce fractions with mathematics manipulatives or familiar objects like chocolate bars. After exploring how to identify and create basic fractions using a chocolate bar or another manipulative, assess your students' understanding using various Wixie Fractions activities.



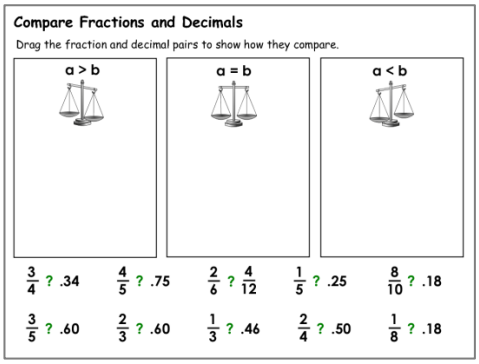
As your students start to identify fractions in the world around them, have them create a poster sharing examples of fractions in the real world.

Wixie Template:
Fractions

4.3 The student will
c. compare and order decimals;
d. and given a model, write the decimal and fraction equivalents.

Fractions and Decimals

Show four quarters to your students. How much does this total? Ask students if they can guess where the name "quarter" comes from. Represent 100 cents as $1.00. Then, show students that the decimal representation of a quarter is .25. Ask your students if they know the decimal equivalent of some common fractions (a half-dollar is another great place to start).



Show your students how to convert from a fraction to a decimal by dividing the numerator by the denominator. This might also be a good time to revisit how to round numbers as well.

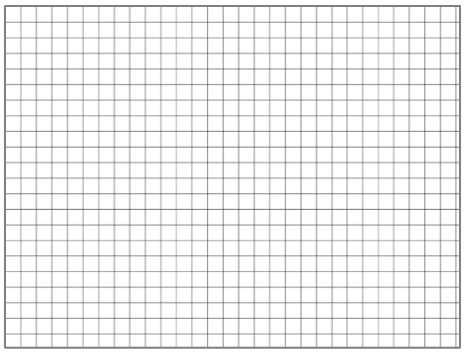
To assess your students' ability to convert basic fractions to decimals, round to the nearest hundredth, and compare values, have them complete the Fractions and Decimals template. After completing, see if students have found any shortcuts to help them assess comparative value before they convert the fraction and compare decimal against decimal.

Wixie Template:
Fractions and Decimals

Computation and Estimation

4.4 The student will
a. demonstrate fluency with multiplication facts through 12 x 12, and the corresponding division facts.

Multiplying with Arrays



Using arrays helps students visualize mathematical equations, making them more concrete and easier to understand. The patterns in arrays also build foundations for patterns in algebra. Open Wixie's Grid – XSmall template so all students can see it and work together to develop an array that represents a simple multiplication equation.

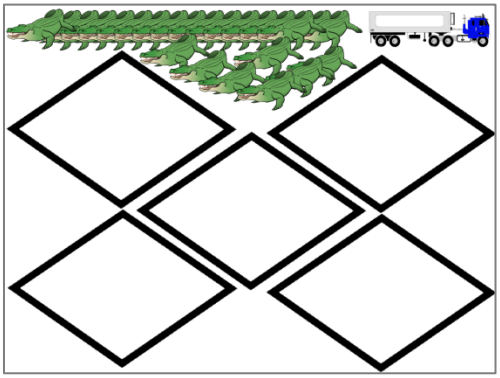
Assign each student a different multiplication equation. Have students open the medium-sized grid template in the Wixie Templates folder (Math>Templates>Grid – Medium) and use the Paint Bucket Fill tool to create an area model. When the first model is complete, ask students to duplicate the page and adjust the colors in their model to show different ways to factor the number.

Wixie Template:
Grid – Xsmall

4.4 The student will
d. estimate and determine quotients of whole numbers, with and without remainders.

Visualizing Remainder

N. Gordon, Potomac, MD



"Many students who were good with fact families couldn't extend their skill to division problems that have no 'non facts' that did not have a matching multiplication fact (for example 9/3 vs. 10/3) and struggled with the concept of the remainder.

I developed several Division Zoo templates that asked students to drag animals into cages so that each cage contained the same number of animals. Each page also included a picture of a truck, allowing students to move 'spare' animals into the truck for shipment to another zoo.

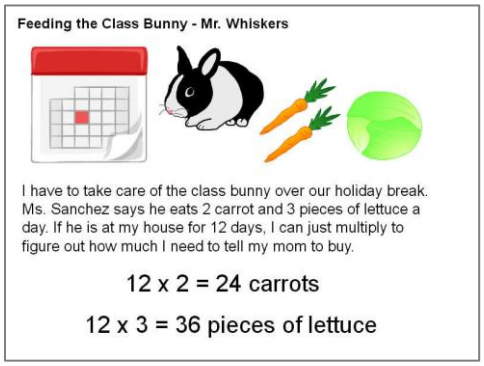
Some students rushed into spreading out their animals and wound up with equations that did not match their manipulative work, providing instant feedback that demonstrated which students were struggling.

Working visually really helped students see the remainder as the 'left over' amount. Using Stickers as graphic manipulatives and typing equations and answers into text objects made Wixie an invaluable tool in exploring the world of division."

4.4. The student will
d. create and solve single-step and multistep practical problems involving addition, subtraction, and multiplication, and single-step practical problems involving division with whole numbers.

Multiplication in the Real World

Real life practice of the multiplication tables will help the students understand why they need the skill and will help them retain the skill. Have students think of a time when they had to add items that were already grouped together, such as there are “five tables with seven new books on each table. How many new books did the library receive?”



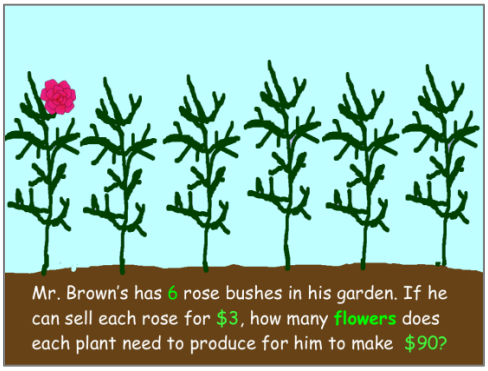
Assign each student a multiplication fact. Then students open Wixie, and using the Wixie tools, write their “real world” multiplication story. Use images to show the objects being grouped. Add audio to the slide sharing how multiplication made solving the problem easier. Then share the project.

As the teacher, import all of the pages into one class file. Embed the project on your class website or share the link on your class networking page.

4.4. The student will
d. create and solve single-step and multistep practical problems involving addition, subtraction, and multiplication, and single-step practical problems involving division with whole numbers.

Now That’s a Problem

Read **Bunches and Bunches of Bunnies** by Louise Mathews to your students. This book explains the concept of multiplication using pictures. Work as a class to brainstorm everyday objects that work for multiplication word problems.



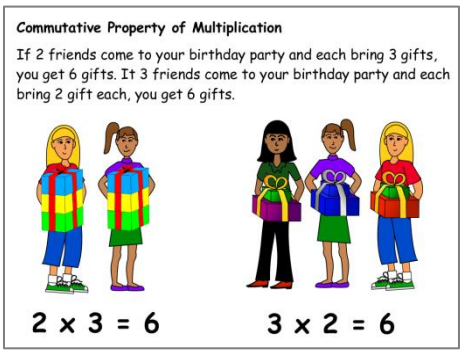
Have each student brainstorm a word problem and then use Wixie to write out the word problem and add illustrations that show the multiplication. For example, “Mr. Brown has 5 rose bushes in his garden. If he can sell each rose for $3, how many roses does each plant need to produce for him to make $30?”

Have each student duplicate their first page to show how they would solve the equation mentioned in the word problem. The second page should demonstrate how to solve the problem with an equation and by highlighting the array in the image.

4.4. The student will
d. create and solve single-step and multistep practical problems involving addition, subtraction, and multiplication, and single-step practical problems involving division with whole numbers.

Student-created Tutorials

Talk to students about the commutative, associative, and distributive properties of multiplication and how these can be applied to problems to make them easier to solve. For example, the distributive property means you can multiply a number by breaking the number into parts, like tens and ones, multiplying the parts separately, and adding the products.



Have students work to develop multi-page projects in Wixie that introduce a property of multiplication or division and demonstrate how it can be used as a strategy to solve sample operations.

Having students create their own tutorials provides them with an opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge while helping their peers. Link to student tutorials from your classroom web site so students can use the tutorials as homework, review, and for differentiation.

4.4. The student will
d. create and solve single-step and multistep practical problems involving addition, subtraction, and multiplication, and single-step practical problems involving division with whole numbers.

Multiplication Patterns

While many students can simply memorize the multiplication tables, others need to see and understand the underlying patterns to be able to apply this knowledge to fractions and other operations in the future.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2	2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24
3	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27	30	33	36
4	4	8	12	16	20	24	28	32	36	40	44	48
5	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60
6	6	12	18	24	30	36	42	48	54	60	66	72
7	7	14	21	28	35	42	49	56	63	70	77	84
8	8	16	24	32	40	48	56	64	72	80	88	96
9	9	18	27	36	45	54	63	72	81	90	99	108
10	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	110	120
11	11	22	33	44	55	66	77	88	99	110	121	132
12	12	24	36	48	60	72	84	96	108	120	132	144

Have each student open the Multiplication Chart template in Wixie. Look at the numbers in the 5 column. See if students identify that the product always ends with a 0 or a 5. Then, work with students to see if you can determine a simple rule (like even and odd) for this pattern.

Let students explore the multiplication chart on their own. Encourage them to look diagonally as well as horizontally and vertically. What other patterns can they find? How do 0 and 1 work?

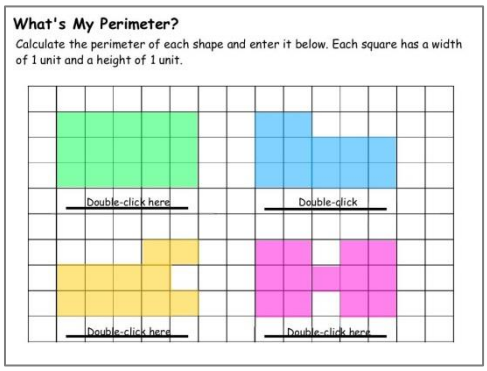
Wixie Template:
Multiplication Chart

Measurement & Geometry

4.7 The student will solve practical problems that involve determining perimeter and area in U.S. Customary and metric units.

Finding Perimeter

Perimeter is the total length around the outside of a 2-dimensional shape. Students can find the perimeter by counting similar units. Have them complete the Perimeter template.



In this template, students first count to determine perimeter. Then, they work to rearrange complex shapes into rectangles so they can apply the 2x +2y formula to find the perimeter. This helps them begin to learn to break down complex shapes into simple ones to determine perimeter and area as their mathematical expertise grows.

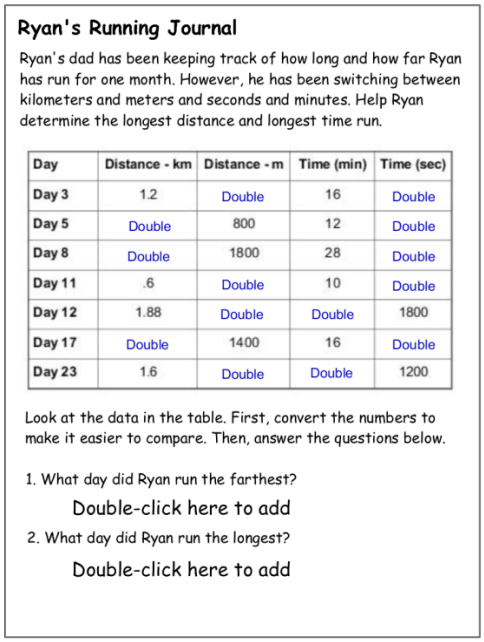
You can assess students' ability to determine perimeter, and work with formulas, by having them apply what they know to real world examples. The last page of the Perimeter Wixie template asks them to create flower beds that have a perimeter of 64. Once students have completed this part of the template, ask them to add a new page to the file to create another shape or space and show how they can determine perimeter.

Wixie Template:
Perimeter

4.8 The student will
c. given the equivalent measure of one unit, will identify equivalent measures of length, weight/mass, and liquid volume between units within the U.S. Customary system.

Converting Chart Data

Introduce the various units within both systems of measurement. Have each student use the Ten Frame template to develop their own conversion charts for converting liquid measurements, time, and distance within these systems. If you are working with limited time or a range of ability, group students together and have them complete one conversion chart to share with the class.



Day	Distance - km	Distance - m	Time (min)	Time (sec)
Day 3	1.2	Double	16	Double
Day 5	Double	800	12	Double
Day 8	Double	1800	28	Double
Day 11	.6	Double	10	Double
Day 12	1.88	Double	Double	1800
Day 17	Double	1400	16	Double
Day 23	1.6	Double	Double	1200

To assess ability to work with charts and begin converting on their own, have them complete the Running Chart template. After converting meters and kilometers, and minutes and seconds, work as a class to brainstorm other real-world activities that might require conversion within the same measurement system such as liquid measurements in recipes, the time it takes to complete a task, and distance travelled.

Wixie Template:
Ten Frame
Running Chart

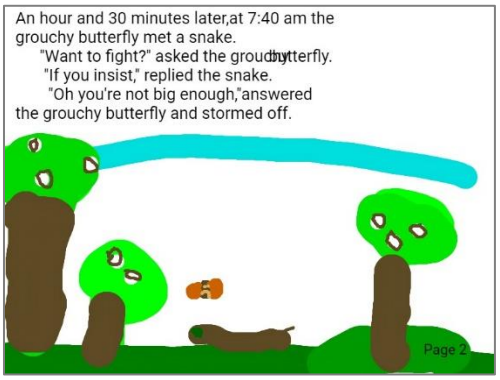
4.9 The student will solve practical problems related to elapsed time in hours and minutes within a 12-hour period.

The Grouchy Ladybug

T. Parisi, Williamstown, NJ

"Taking a lateral, or more creative approach, helps engage my students and cement math concepts more deeply. As a recent performance task to demonstrate elapsed time, I read them Eric Carle's Grouchy Ladybug.

In his tale, Eric Carle talks about a ladybug over the course of an entire day. I asked students to write a story that demonstrated how an animal would feel about events that happened over a period of time and asked them to explain how much time had passed between each event.



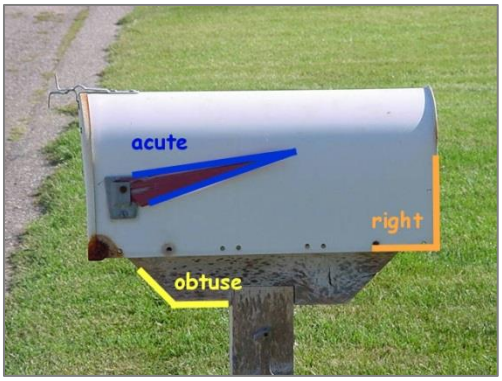
4.10 The student will
a. identify and describe points, lines, line segments, rays, and angles, including endpoints and vertices.

Angles All Around Us

Introduce different features of lines, rays, and angles, such as points and vertices. Ask students to look around the classroom and share an example of one they see.

Task students with finding more examples on their own and capturing images of the objects. Ask them to import the photos into Wixie and identify the features, such as points, lines, or type of angle.

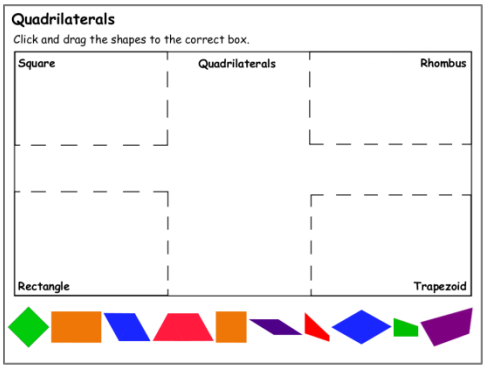
Print and display student work in the classroom to help other students better understand these terms.



4.12 The student will classify quadrilaterals as parallelograms, rectangles, squares, rhombi, and/or trapezoids.

Quadrilaterals

Talk about shapes in different sizes and categories. Any four-sided, 2-dimensional shape with straight sides is a quadrilateral. There are special types of quadrilaterals like rhombus and rectangles. Use this template to practice understanding of the different types of quadrilaterals.



After students complete the template, have them add a text box or record their voice to share the rule for what makes each type of quadrilateral different from the others.

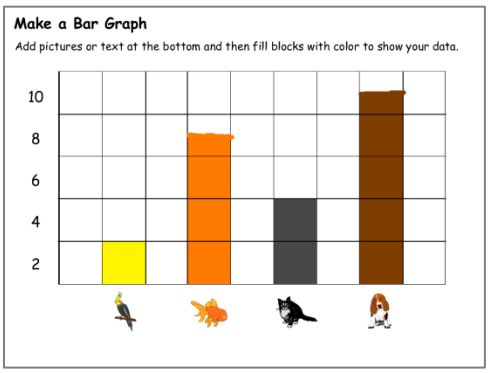
Wixie Template:
Quadrilaterals

Probability and Statistics

4.14 The student will
a. collect, organize, and represent data in bar graphs and line graphs.

Favorite Bar Graphs

Have students use the Make a Graph Template, as the basis for their own data collection. Have small teams of students choose a topic (like favorite food, sports, or pets) and have them survey the members of their team and other class teams.

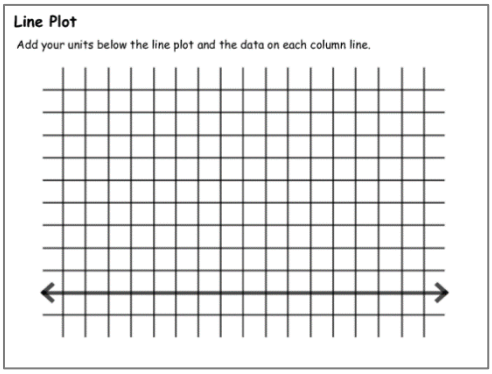


Team members should determine the largest number of respondents in any category so they can select units of measurement for the graph. Teams can then work together to collect data and then individually record it in Wixie by filling in each square with a solid color using the paint bucket or by adding stickers to each square to create a pictograph.

Wixie Template:
Make a Graph

4.14 The student will
a. collect, organize, and represent data in bar graphs and line graphs.

Whose Cookie is the Biggest?



Bring in a bag of animal crackers or cookies. These should all be about the same size, but still with enough difference to be easily measurable. Distribute 3-4 cookies to each student. Ask them to measure each cookie to the nearest 1/8 of an inch using a standard ruler.

Log in to your teacher account. Click the Activities tab, open the Math folder, open the Templates folder, and select the Line Plot template. Click the Assign button to assign the template to students.

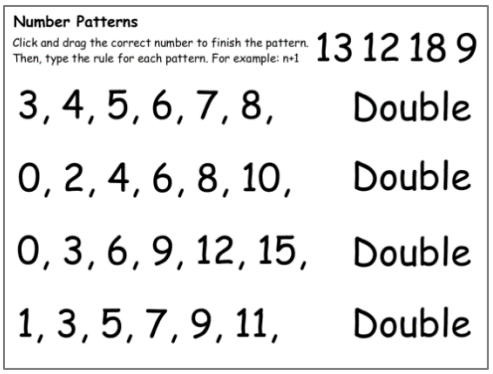
Then, have them use the Line Plot template and place units along the line at the bottom at 1/8 increments from the largest to the smallest cookie size. Using their line plot, ask students to identify the largest cookie, the smallest cookie, the two cookies closest in size, and the two cookies that have the largest size difference.

Have students share their finding with the entire class, describing the size differences in eighths of an inch.

Patterns, Functions, and Algebra

4.15 The student will identify, describe, create, and extend patterns found in objects, pictures, numbers, and tables.

Pattern Rules



Patterns are all around us, in designs for architecture, flooring, art work and much more. Sometimes patterns are for function purposes, as a way to "lock" pieces in. Have students investigate where they see a pattern and discuss if the pattern is based on design or function and what rules the pattern follows. Next, have the students develop their own patterns for a floor or wall design. Developing their own patterns helps elementary student build concrete understandings of patterns and their rules.

Have students use objects in Wixie's Sticker library to create and extend patterns. Share student work between small teams or log into your account and share with the entire class. Ask students to predict which shapes will come next in the patters. How do they know? Work as a class to determine the rule for each visual pattern.

Explain to students how to write mathematical rules for determining sequences. Teach them how to write the rule, with 'n' representing the position in the sequence (for example, n+1). Have students work on their own to extend the remaining sequences. Get back together as class and discuss the rules students developed to determine the next number.

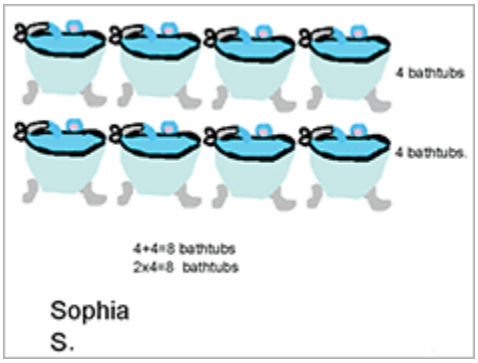
Wixie Template:
Patterns-Numbers

Lesson Plan

While individual templates can be used to address specific language standards, you can also create engaging lessons that address multiple standards in one project.

Now That's a Problem

Students will improve multiplication skills by skip counting and creating their own multiplication word problems.



Task

Recent studies have shown that many people don't know how to multiply. The Mathematix Book Company thinks it can help. It wants to begin creating interactive storybooks that teach multiplication to the general public. It has asked your class to come up with prototype books for multiplication by 2's, 3's, 4's, 5's, and 6's.

Engage

Introduce the concept of skip counting to your students. A fun way to get them excited about skip counting and to practice their skills is to play with a rubber ball. Have the students take turns bouncing the ball and counting off by 2's, 5's, 10's, etc. Be sure to explain to them that skip counting is another way to multiply.

Once the students have an understanding of skip counting, read **Bunches and Bunches of Bunnies** by Louise Mathews. This book explains the concept of multiplication using pictures. Ask your students to illustrate this word problem:

> There are four cats. Each cat has four legs. How many cat legs are there in all?

Have the students share their pictures in small groups. Encourage them to notice that while the pictures are different, they still have the same numbers in them. Post them on the wall as examples.

Next, work on the same process using a different approach. Have students practice identifying numbers in pictures and writing multiplication word problems. Log in to Wixie and add a sticker of a rain cloud from the Weather folder.

> Each cloud has four raindrops. If there were X clouds, how many raindrops would there be?

Continue this process with a few other stickers. As an entire class, brainstorm everyday objects that work for multiplication word problems. Ask the students to find an object at home that could be part of a multiplication word problem. When you meet again, have each student share their object with the rest of the class. You may even want to ask them to bring the object to school.

Create

Let students know they will create their own multiplication word problems using stickers in Wixie. Assign students a number series (2's, 3's, 4's) appropriate for their multiplication skill level.

Give each student a four-pane storyboard to help them develop the pages of their book. Have students write an equation in each of the panes. Next, have each student find stickers they can use to represent the numbers in the equation. Have them write down the name of the sticker (or a description) and write the text of their multiplication word problem in each box on their storyboard.

You might want students to create two pages for each problem, the first one containing the problem, and the second one containing the problem and the answer.

Share

Once the students have completed their problems, have them print their work at postcard size to create a set of word problem flash cards the class can use at a center in your classroom. You can also link to each student's project from your class web site as a place that students can go to review multiplication facts and practice solving word problems from home.

Standard

VASOL.Mathematics.CE.4.4.D
The student will create and solve single-step and multistep practical problems involving addition, subtraction, and multiplication, and single-step practical problems involving division with whole numbers.

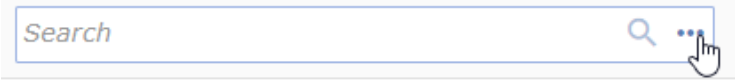
Appendix

Find Templates by SOL

You can assign templates in Wixie that you find by searching the Virginia Standards of Learning.

Log in to Wixie with your username and password.

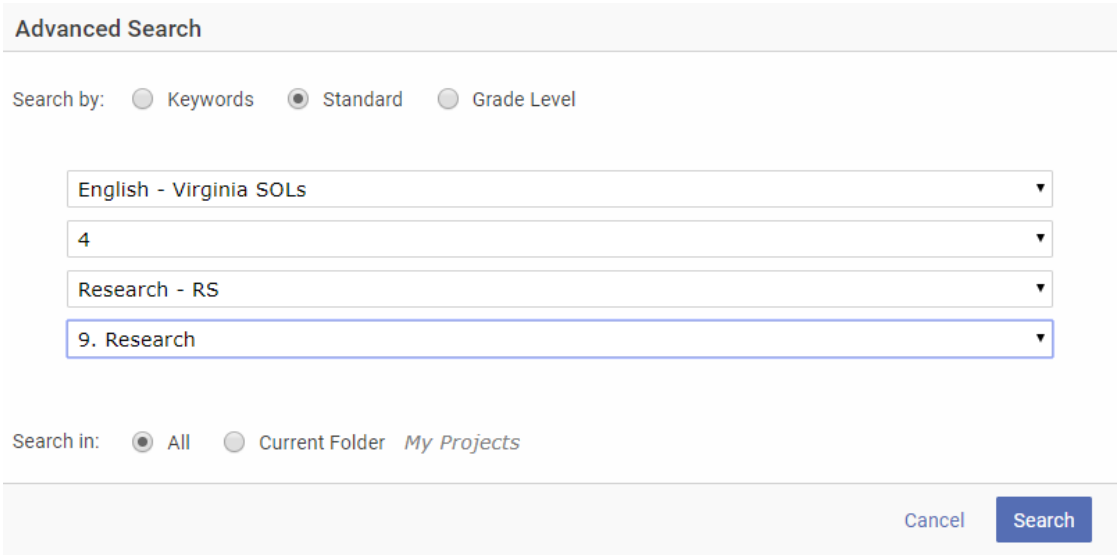
At your teacher home page, click the more search options (three dots) on the right of the Search field.



You will see the Advanced Search dialog.

Select the Standard radio button at the top. The dialog will update to show standard search options.

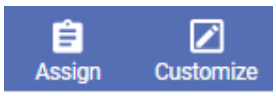
Use the pull-down menus to narrow down your search by subject, grade, topic, and subtopic.



Click the **Search** button. You will see templates that can help students master this standard.

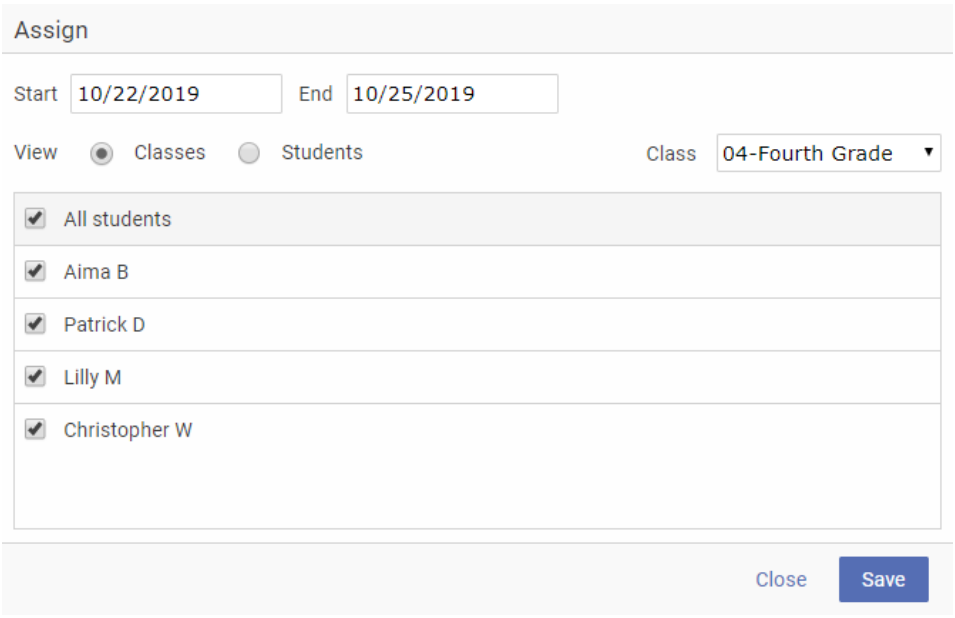
Select the image of the template and it will open in the Wixie authoring tool.

Select Customize to make changes to the template.



Select Assign to assign it to your students as it currently exists.

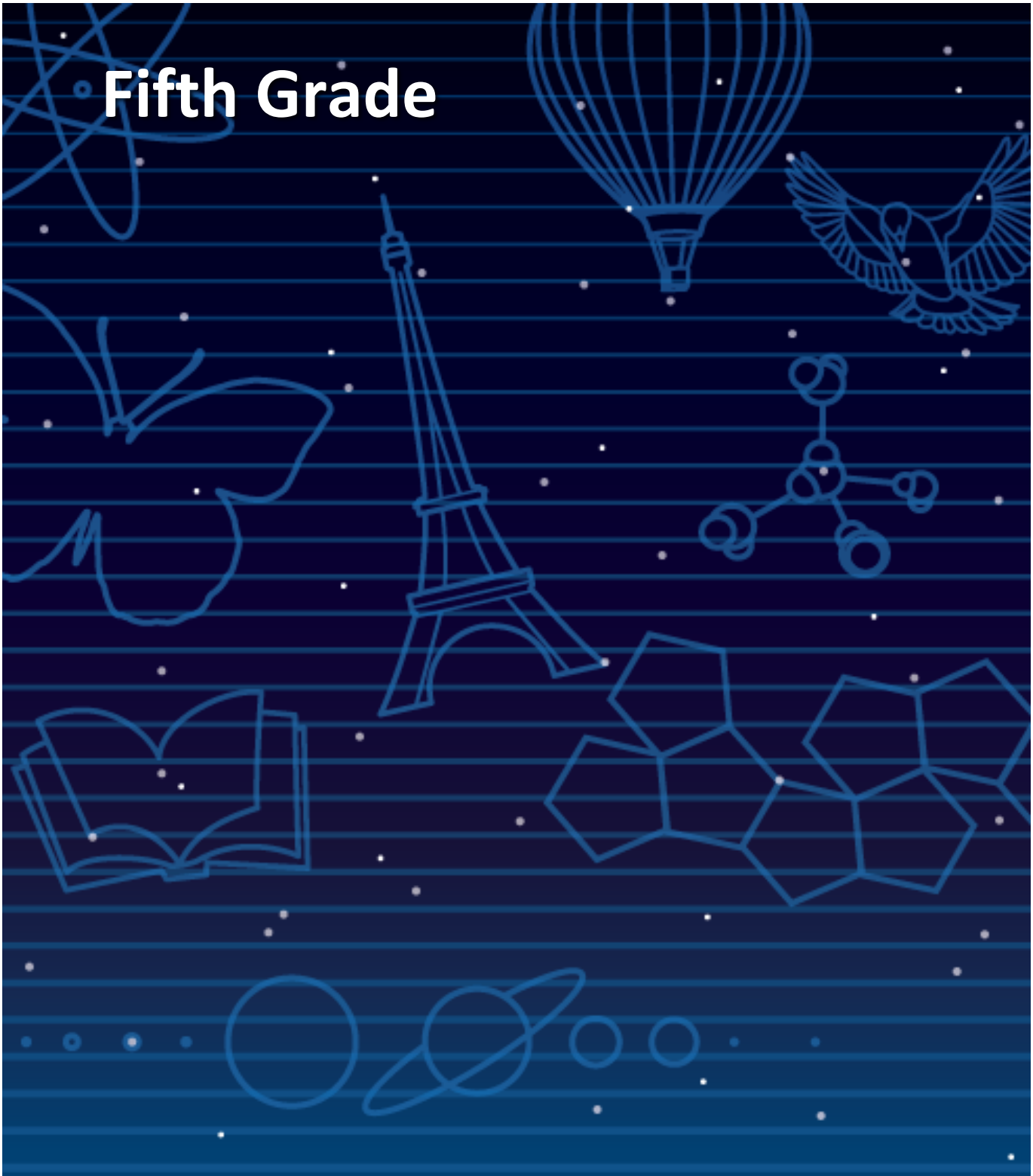
At the Assign dialog, choose the begin and end dates you want students to be able to start working on the template. Use the pull-down menus and radio buttons to choose the class and students you want to assign the template to and select Save.



You will see the template in your Assignments folder.

The students you selected will see the template at the top of their Wixie home page on the dates you specified.

Meeting Virginia Standards of Learning with Wixie®



What is Wixie?

Wixie is a cloud-based tool fifth grade students can use to write, record their voice, paint pictures, and tell stories. Wixie provides an engaging way for students to explore and respond to curriculum topics related to the Virginia Standards of Learning.

Students can add text to a Wixie page to practice their writing, draw ideas from their imagination using the paint tools, record narration for stories, and more. Student work is online and can be shared immediately through a URL as well as printed as booklets, comics, and more.

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Find Templates by Virginia SOL 22

This guide is provided by:

Tech4Learning
6160 Mission Gorge Road, #206
San Diego, CA 92120

tech4learning.com

Using Wixie with Fifth-Grade Students

In fifth grade, students are transitioning from thinking like a child to thinking like an adult. They are capable of dealing with conflict and complexity and should be asked to create products for use by other people that challenge their abilities. Work in Wixie should involve lots of writing and creativity as they explore the new boundaries of their thinking.

As you explore some of the ideas in this guide, think of the students in your class. Which ones will respond if allowed to explore content in this way? Wixie allows you to assign different activities to different students, so you can more easily adjust the content and work to meet individual student learning needs.

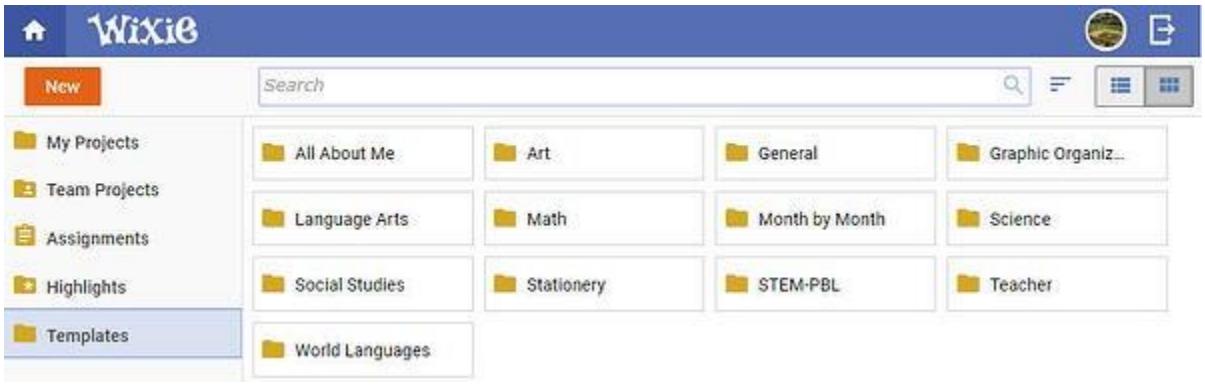
Don't forget time for open "play" in Wixie so students can explore wherever their interests lead. Passion for learning is one of the most important things to teach at this age!

Finding Wixie Templates

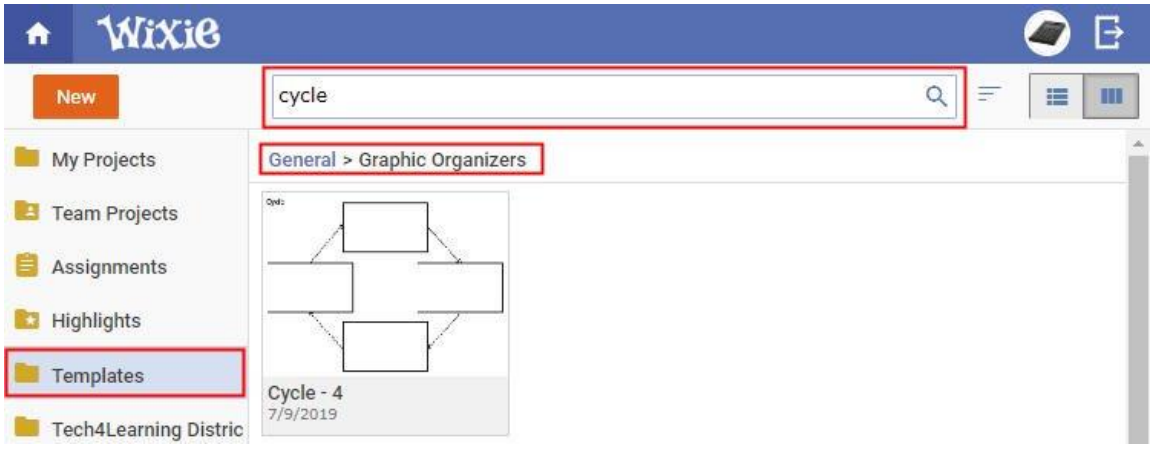
Many of the ideas in this guide use specific templates that come with Wixie. To find the template:

Log in to your teacher account.

Browse for template files by opening the Templates folder and sub-folders.



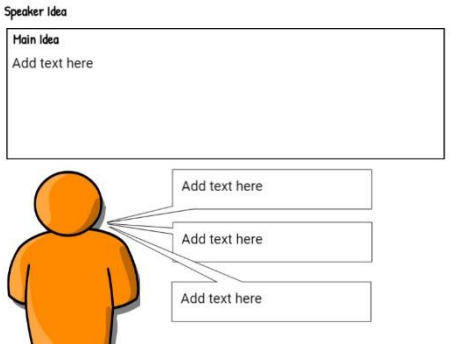
Enter a keyword in the field at the top and press the search button.



Communications and Multimodal Literacies

5.1 The student will use effective oral communication skills in a variety of settings.
f) Summarize the main points a speaker makes and connect comments to the remarks of others.

A Speech to Remember



It is important to connect the learning that goes on inside the classroom with the work and lives of people outside of it. One common way we make this connection is by inviting "experts" to our classes to share knowledge and information as it relates to their job or personal history. Encourage students to take notes about what they are hearing.

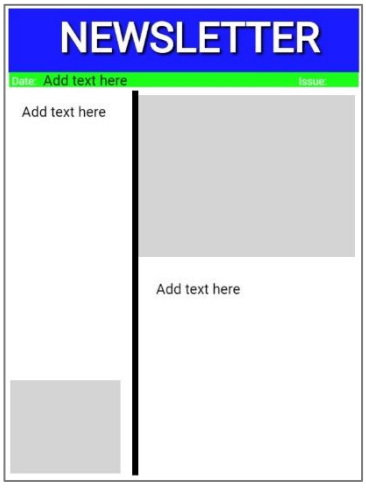
After listening to the speech, have students complete the Speaker Idea template to summarize the information they learned, including how the speech was relevant today. Have students print out their pages and use them to discuss the visit with another peer or share with the entire class.

There have been many important speeches given throughout history, and many of those speeches can be found archived online for today's generation to experience.

Wixie Template:
Speaker Ideas

5.2 The student will create multimodal presentations that effectively communicate ideas.
a) Effectively use verbal and nonverbal communication skills to plan and deliver collaborative and individual, formal and informal interactive presentations.

Classroom News



Rather than putting together a monthly newsletter for parents, include students in the process and create your own class magazine or daily news section on your web site with embedded Wixie projects. This is a great way for students to share their knowledge and practice their speaking skills.

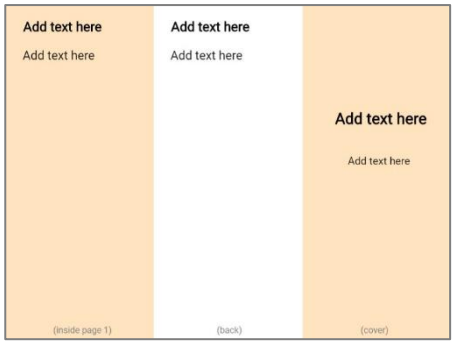
Encourage students to work collaboratively and include written details, images, and links that make their documents interesting and engaging to the viewer/listener. Students can also use the record feature to practice oral fluency and intonation.

Once finished, embed and share the documents on your website.

Wixie Template:
Newsletter

5.3 The student will learn how media messages are constructed and for what purposes.
a) Identify the purpose and audience of auditory, visual, and written media messages.
b) Identify the characteristics and effectiveness of a variety of media messages.

My City, My State



What makes where you live special? Our families choose places to live based on economics, weather, family, geography, and culture. Have your students talk to their parents about why they chose to live where they do. Talk with the class about these conversations and discuss what attracts people to their city or state.

Have students conduct research to learn more about a given city or state. Once they have their facts and information, ask them to create a pamphlet for people who might choose to visit their city or state.

Have students conduct research to learn more about a given city or state. Once they have their facts and information, ask them to create a pamphlet for people who might choose to visit their city or state.

Wixie Template:
Trifold Brochure

Reading

5.4 The student will expand vocabulary when reading.
a) Use context to clarify meaning of unfamiliar words and phrases.
b) Use context and sentence structure to determine meanings and differentiate among multiple meanings of words.

Vocabulary Wanted Posters

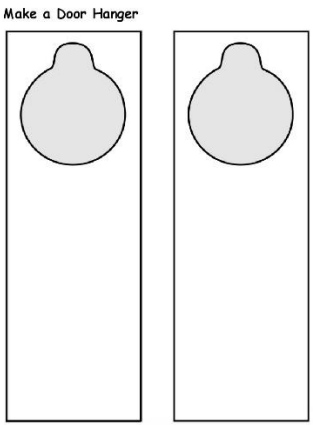
As you read to the class or when students are reading independently, have students raise their hand to let you know they encounter an unfamiliar word. Have them ask the rest of the class if anyone can help share the meaning of the word. Keep a list of these and post it where all students can both see it and add to it.

Have each student select a word from the list and creates a Wanted poster for the word. Print the posters out in postcard format (4 to a sheet) and find acceptable place around the classroom and school to post them to build everyone's vocabulary.

Wixie Template:
Wanted- Vocabulary

5.4 The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of fictional texts, literary nonfiction, and poetry.
d) Identify an author's use of figurative language.

Figuratively Speaking Doorknob Hangers



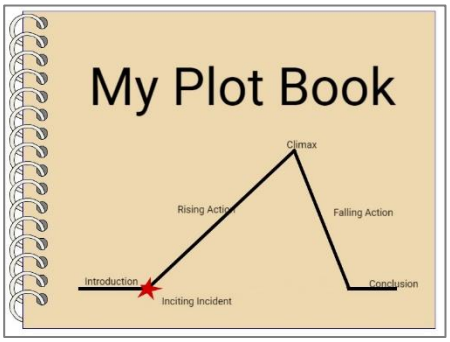
Some figures of speech are easy to understand (i.e. Busy as a Bee), but others aren't quite so easy and require cultural or historical knowledge (i.e.: that attorney is an ambulance chaser). Assign each student an example of figurative language in use and have them use Wixie to create a door hanger that explains the figure of speech with text on one side and an illustration on the other.

Once each student has created a door hanger, have them print them out and hang them on various doors around school.

Wixie Template:
Door Hanger

5.5 The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of fictional texts, literary nonfiction, and poetry.
a) Summarize plot events using details from text.
b) Discuss the impact of setting on plot development.

Plot it Out!



Students will create plot books to summarize their understanding of the different events and developments that take place in a novel they are reading.

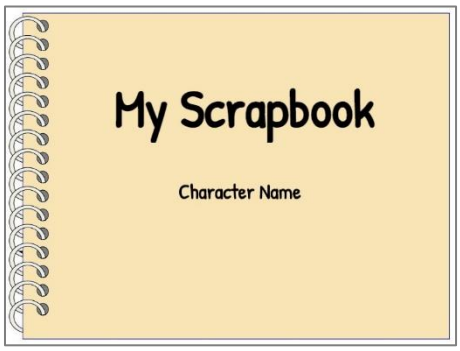
Have students work collaboratively to complete the Diagram Plot book template in Wixie. Each page will instruct the students to add text and images that indicate plot events (inciting, rising, climax, falling action, and conclusion).

Use the sharing options in Wixie to either print out or share the projects online so the student teams can share and reflect on how they represented the different parts of their novel.

Wixie Template:
Diagram Plot- Book

5.5 The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of fictional texts, literary nonfiction, and poetry.
c) Describe character development.

Character Scrapbook



Have students create a scrapbook project to showcase their understanding of how an author develops character.

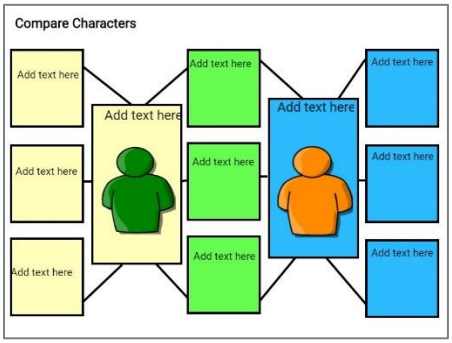
Assign students the Character Scrapbook template in Wixie to create a digital scrapbook of their assigned character. The template tasks students to include journal entries about important events from the character's perspective, pictures to show important events, a souvenirs page to share objects and define why they have picked them, and a page where students write a letter between their character and another about a problem that arises in the story.

Share the student's scrapbooks by embedding them into the class blog or website, or by emailing the links home to parents.

Wixie Template:
Character Scrapbook

5.5 The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of fictional texts, literary nonfiction, and poetry.
g) Differentiate between the first- and third-person point-of-view.

First or Third Person



Wendelin Van Draanen's **Flipped** tells a story from two points of view, Julie and Bryce. After reading with your students, talk about how an author's use of first-person and/or third person point of view can have an effect on how you perceive a character or event.

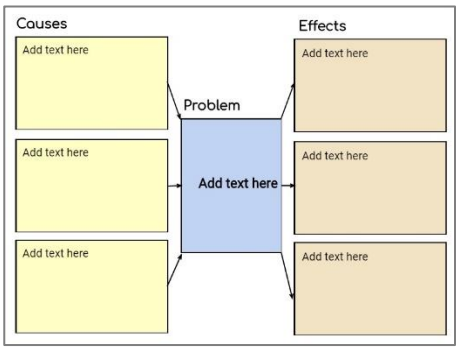
Have students complete the Compare template in Wixie to find similarities and differences of one of the events that Julie and Bryce share. Pair students together who have chosen the same event to discuss their comparisons. Ask them questions like: What details did not match between the stories? Was something left out of the first-person version? Did this help to better frame the point of view of Bryce or Julie?

After student teams are finished discussing their events, get the entire class to discuss the following questions: Does point of view affect how we perceive events in a story? How can an author use point of view to give us the perspectives on events they want us to believe?

Wixie Template:
Compare Characters 3-5

5.6 The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of fictional texts, literary non-fiction, and poetry.
k) Identify cause and effect relationships.

Cause and Effect



Brainstorm with your class various examples of cause and effect in real life like “the alarm was not set, so we were late to school.” Project the Cause and Effect template in Wixie so your students can see it. Have your students identify examples from the non-fiction texts or poems you are reading and add them into the boxes in the graphic organizer.

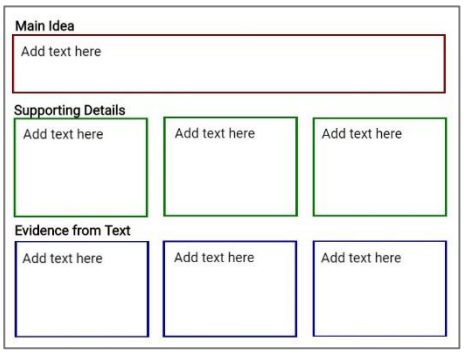
As an extension, have students create a comic strip in Wixie to apply their understanding of cause and effect. You can have students complete a prompt you give them such as, “If you give a 5th grader a.... they will….” They can use Wixie’s text bubble options to transform their comic into a conversation.

Use the

Wixie Template:
Cause and Effect

5.6 The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of nonfiction texts.
c) Identify the main idea.
d) Summarize supporting details.

Explore the Main Idea



Distribute nonfiction books related to a science or social studies topic you are studying.

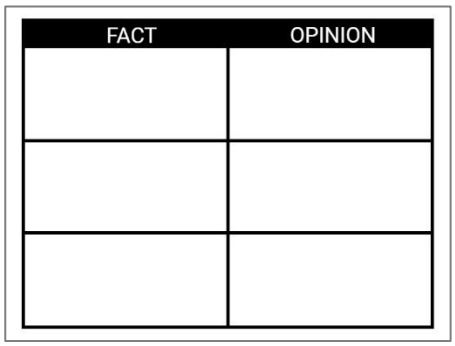
Have students look at the cover picture and title. What is the main idea? Now explore the titles, pictures, and text inside the book. How are they organized? Project the Main Idea template so your whole class can see it. Ask students to help you fill in the main idea, supporting details and evidence they extract from the text.

You might also have students complete the Main Idea template on a nonfiction topic they will be exploring in their writing workshop. This will help them collect information for their writing.

Wixie Template:
Main Idea

5.6 The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of nonfiction texts.
i) Differentiate between fact and opinion

Research with Graphic Organizers



To teach effective research strategies and information literacy, let students choose the topic or problem they want to research. Even if they choose a famous sports star or musician, they will learn the process of asking questions, determining where they can find answers, locating and assessing resources, and using and applying the information in a research report. Tell students they will create a booklet to share their research.

After students have chosen the topic they want to research, have them brainstorm a list of questions on the subject. Have students take notes as they complete their research using the Fact or Opinion organizer in Wixie.

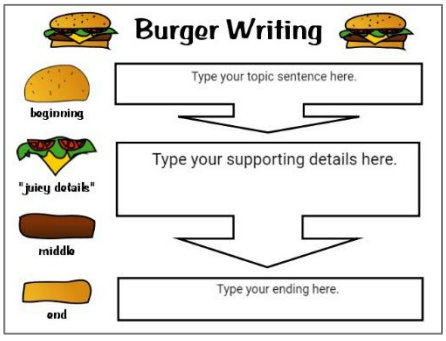
Once research has been completed, ask students to create a two-page presentation in Wixie. The first page should include at least three facts they found in their research. The next page should include the student's opinion about the subject using opinion words they found in their research, such as feel, believe, always, never, most, best, and worst.

Wixie Template:
Fact or Opinion

Writing

5.7 The student will write in a variety of forms to include narrative, descriptive, expository, and persuasive.
d) Introduce and develop a topic, incorporating evidence and supporting details.

Organize with Juicy Details



The hamburger model is a great way to explain the components of what a good paragraph needs to have including good "juicy" details. Project the Burger writing template so your entire class can see it.

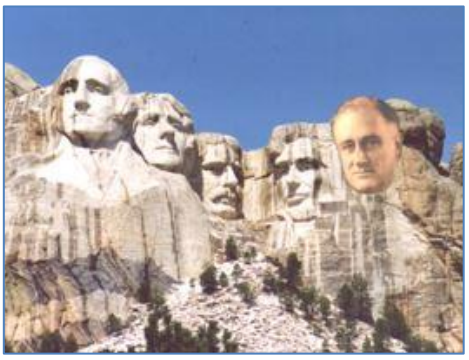
Choose a fun and engaging topic that your students will all relate to such as technology, social media, or a popular sport. Come up with a topic sentence and have students help you type in supporting details and a conclusion.

Assign the burger writing template to students to complete independently in writer workshop.

Wixie Template:
Burger Writing

5.7 The student will write a variety of forms to include narrative, descriptive, expository, and persuasive.
h) Clearly state a position including supporting reasons and evidence to persuade the intended audience.

Persuasive and Presidential Writing



The goal of persuasive writing is to convince others to accept our conclusions based on the way we present facts and ideas. Discuss elements of persuasive writing with your students to prepare them to establish facts, provide examples, prioritize arguments, craft and emotional appeal, state conclusions, and communicate logically.

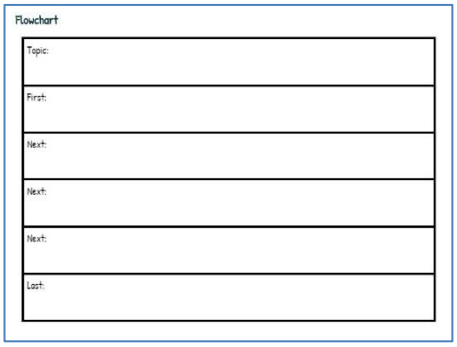
Work as a class to brainstorm qualities that make a great leader. Have your students imagine that a time machine can bring one of those former Presidents to the future to be President again. Have them investigate a President they think would be a great leader in today's world.

Challenge your students to create a persuasive presentation that argues for the President to be brought to the future. Have students craft a persuasive argument and use Wixie to create a presentation to convince others.

As students share their persuasive presentations with the rest of the class, discuss the effectiveness of the elements of each argument.

5.7 The student will write in a variety of forms to include narrative, descriptive, expository, and persuasive.
k) Vary sentence structure by using transition words and prepositional phrases.

Your Very Own eHow



Television loves DYI programming. The eHow DYI web site features videos and articles on how to do just about anything. Have your students choose one of their favorite pastimes and create a how-to using Wixie. As they begin to think about what they wat to share, have them brainstorm ideas using the "Flowchart" template.

Once their steps and ideas have been added to the flow chart, have students create a page in Wixie for each step that must be included in order to sew a skirt, complete a great corner kick, or make slime. Encourage them to use transitional words (first, after, next, and finally) in their writing and add supporting illustrations for each page. They should also record their voice to explain each step.

Have students print out their projects in booklet form and/or share them electronically from your classroom website.

Wixie Template:
Plan- Flowchart

5.8 The student will self-and peer edit for capitalization, spelling, punctuation, sentence structure, paragraphing, and Standard English.
d) Use prepositional phrases.

Preposition Stories

Gillian Ryan, Santee, CA

"I sat down with my plan book and Teacher's Editions for my combined fourth and fifth-grade class and noticed a couple of language arts lessons on prepositions for both grades. As a former kindergarten teacher, prepositions always remind me of the book Rosie's Walk by Pat Hutchins. After creating several digital stories this year with my students, I thought my students might like to create a preposition story using Wixie! It turned out to be one of the most fun and creative projects that my students created all year. Who knew prepositions could be so fun?

I started by reading Rosie's Walk to my students. They giggled at the story as the blundering fox followed the oblivious hen throughout the farm. As a class we recalled all the places Rosie went— around the pond and over the haystack, which led perfectly into a discussion on prepositions and how we use them in our writing. Normally during this discussion, half the class starts counting the holes in the ceiling tiles or planning ahead to their recess games. However, upon mentioning that they would be making a digital preposition story, eyes brightened, ears perked up, and I had their attention.

We identified the prepositions in the story and brainstormed many more. Working in small groups, the students were given a list of prepositions and a storyboard. They began by coming up with a character and setting. After a little encouragement, they came up with catchy character names like Tyler the Tiger and Yacka the Alpaca. They wrote eight prepositional phrases on the storyboard with quick sketches for the illustrations.

Students created a title slide, a page for the beginning of the story, a page for each prepositional phrase, and an ending page using stickers and original drawings. They enjoyed creating pictures with their creatures going up, over, around, and through. For each page, the students recorded their voices to tell the story. With a few guidelines from me and many options in Wixie, the students used their creativity and developed fabulous Preposition Digital Stories!"

Research

5.9 The student will find, evaluate, and select appropriate resources to create a research project.
a) Construct questions about a topic.
b) Collect and organize information from multiple resources.
c) Evaluate the relevance, reliability, and credibility of information.
d) Give credit to sources used in research.
e) Avoid plagiarism and use own words.
f) Demonstrate ethical use of the Internet.

Digital Documentaries

Turning a research report into a digital documentary can bring life and enthusiasm to this process in your classroom. Kids love being the expert, and developing a digital project allows them to demonstrate their command of the content as well as their skills combining images, text, narration, and music.

You can use this project to explore specific aspects of a topic, such as the causes of the Great Depression or the desert ecosystem. First, have students complete research on the topic, then organize their ideas into a storyboard to show the general content and ideas they want to share on each page. Then, have students craft specific text or narration for each page and explore images they can add to support their ideas.

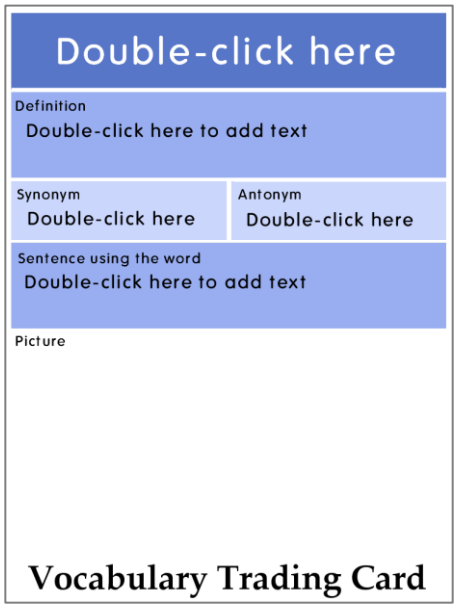
Have students build each page, or scene, of their documentary by adding images they have located and cited or by creating their own illustrations. Encourage students to use the Record feature to add narration to each page.

Make sure students use the Story feature to click and drag their pages in the correct order, adjust the timing, and add background music if appropriate. Share the projects by embedding them in a class blog, or by emailing the links home to parents.

Lesson Plan

Vocabulary Trading Cards

Engage



Let your students know they are going to create their own set of vocabulary trading cards for a unit vocabulary list. Share a sample you have created in Wixie or visit the Inside Story web site to print some examples.

Share the vocabulary list with your students. As a class, explore the meaning and spelling of each word. Provide definitions or have students research definitions on their own. Have students practice their fluency by writing sentences that contain the word.

You may also want to find examples in the texts the students are currently reading. Work together to explore the sentences students have written for key words that can help you determine the meaning of the word. This models the strategy of using the context of a sentence to help decode unfamiliar vocabulary terms.

Create

Depending on the level of your students, distribute vocabulary words to each student or divide them into small teams and assign terms. Each student, or team, should write or locate a definition for their vocabulary word and brainstorm synonyms and antonyms. Next, have them write a sentence that uses the word in context.

Looking back at their definition and sentence, have students brainstorm ideas for pictures that represent the meaning of the word or provide a visual clue to its meaning. Have students use a digital camera to capture their favorite image idea or search the Web to locate an appropriate image. Encourage them to use the copyright-friendly images at Pics4Learning.com.

Have students log in to Wixie and add their photo to a page. Have them add a second page and type a definition, sentence, and even synonyms and antonyms.

Share

Have students print the pages as a trading card, making sure to repeat the pages. Have students cut out the cards, glue front and back together, and trade them with the rest of the class so every student has a complete set.

You may also want to print the pages full-size in color to include on a word wall or classroom vocabulary list. You can also use Wixie's Import Pages function to collect all of the finished terms into one project that you can

run as a slide show that students can watch when they arrive at class in the morning.

Standards

5.4 The student will expand vocabulary when reading.
a) Use context to clarify meaning of unfamiliar words and phrases.

f) Develop and use general and specialized content area vocabulary through speaking, listening, reading, and writing.

5.5 The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of fictional texts, literary nonfiction and poetry.

5.7 The student will write in a variety of forms to include narrative, descriptive, expository, and persuasive.
j) Use precise and descriptive vocabulary to create tone and voice.

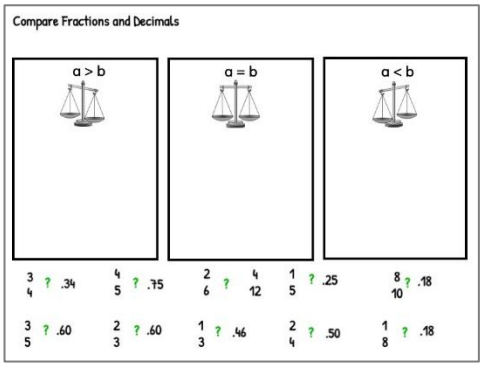
5.8. The student will self- and peer- edit writing for capitalization, spelling, punctuation, sentence structure, paragraphing, and Standard English.

Mathematics

Number and Number Sense

5.2 The student will
a) represent and identify equivalencies among fractions and decimals, with and without models; and
b) compare and order fractions, mixed numbers, and/or decimals in a given set, from least to greatest and greatest to least.

Comparing Decimals and Fractions



Draw a number line on your whiteboard with the numbers indicated as following going left to right (0, ½, 1). Use a set of number flashcards with decimals and fractions (¾, .50, .089) you have created in advance. And, have students come up and place each of the number flashcards where they would go on the number line. Discuss why were the numbers placed on the number line at each point? And, how they knew which was least and which was greater.

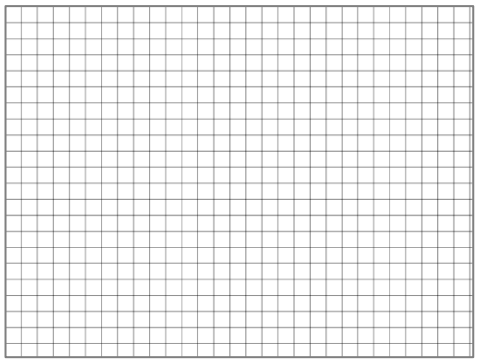
Evaluate the student's understanding of the concept by assigning the Fractions and Decimals template to each student.

Wixie Template:
Fractions and Decimals

Computation and Estimation

5.4 The student will create and solve single-step and multistep practical problems involving addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division of whole numbers.

Using Arrays



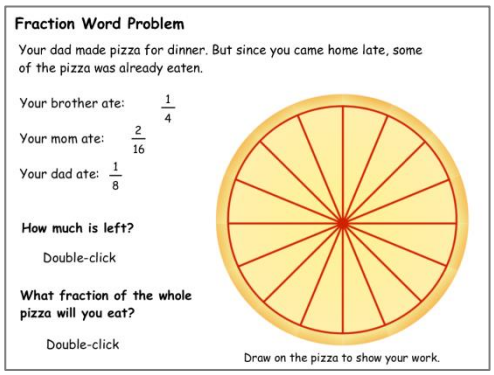
Using arrays helps students visualize mathematical equations, making them more concrete and thus easier to understand. The patterns in arrays also build foundations for patterns in algebra. Open Wixie's Grid – Small template so all students can see it and work together to develop an array that represents a simple multiplication equation, such as 15x11.

Task each student with creating arrays of multiplication for a specific number. Have students open the Small Grid Template and use the paint bucket to create an area model. Import all student arrays into one complete project. Print into mini flip-books by printing 4 or 6 slides to a page. Embed the array projects on the class webpage.

Wixie Template:
Grid-Small

5.4 The student will create and solve single-step and multistep practical problems involving addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division of whole numbers.

Fraction Word Problems – Add and Compare



Word problems allow students to apply what they've learned to real-world situations but solving them is often difficult for many students. Word problems challenge students to apply math calculations, helping you identify misconceptions. Before you begin working with word problems that include fractions, share some strategies for breaking down word problems as well as strategies for visualizing them.

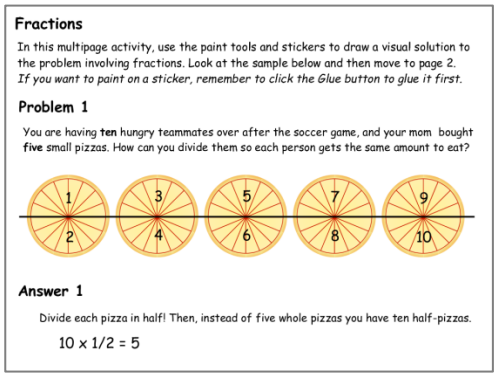
Open the Word Problems 1 template and explore the first problem together. Look at the illustration. Ask students if they have other ways of drawing or labeling the problem. Have students work individually to solve the fraction word problems on the next couple of pages of this template. As they are working, walk around the room to answer questions and support students.

The last page of the template asks students to create and illustrate a fraction word problem of their own. Use this template to assess their level of sophistication with adding and subtracting fractions.

Wixie Template:
Word Problems 1

5.6 The student will solve single-step practical problems involving multiplication of a whole number, limited to 12 or less, and a proper fraction, with models.

Fraction Word Problems – Divide and Compare



Before you begin working with word problems that include fractions, share some strategies for breaking down word problems as well as strategies for visualizing them. Open the Word Problems 2 template and explore the first problem together. Look at the illustration. Ask students if they have other ways of drawing or labeling the problem.

Have students work individually to solve the fraction word problems on the next couple of pages of this template. As they are working, walk around the room to answer questions and support students.

When students are finished, have them click the Wixie button and choose Share. Log into your account, click the Wixie button, and choose Import Pages to import the last page of each project into a class project. Print the collection as a booklet or use it to lead a class discussion.

Wixie Template:
Word Problems 2 - Fraction Problem Solving

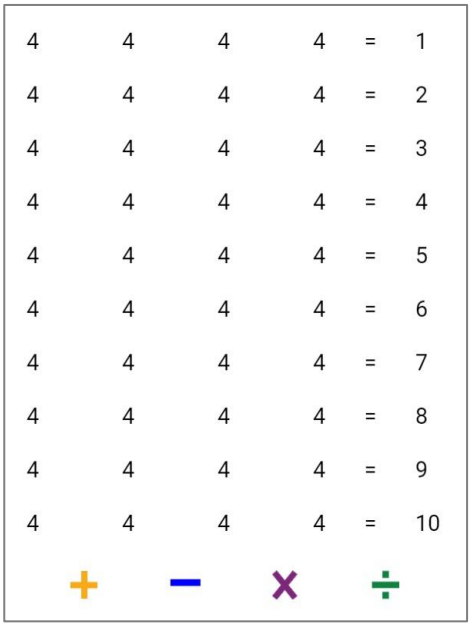
5.7 The student will simplify whole number numerical expressions using the order of operations.

PEMDAS

Review the acronym PEMDAS- “Please Excuse My Dear Aunt Sally” and (Parenthesis, Exponent, Multiplication, Division, Addition, and Subtraction)” as it pertains to solving numerical expressions.

Put an equation up on the board like (6 + 4 x 2 + 3). Have students tell you how they arrived at their answer using PEMDAS. Assign the Four fours challenge template for students to work on independently.

As an extension, have students use the recording and text features in Wixie to create their own digital PEMDAS tutorials that teach others how to solve an equation using the PEMDAS order of operations.



Wixie Template:

Four fours challenge

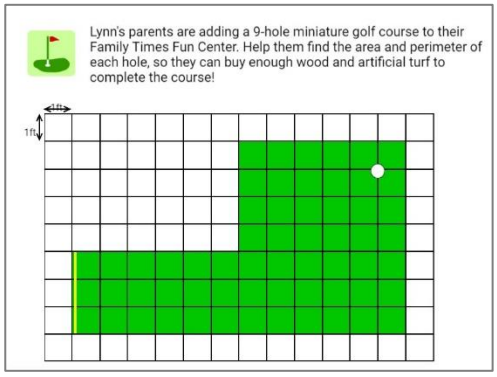
Measurement and Geometry

5.8 The student will solve practical problems that involve perimeter, area, and volume in standard units of measure.

Measure Up!

Search “perimeter” in templates and project it so the whole class can see it. Review the rules for calculating perimeter and then calculate the regular and irregular polygons in the template together.

Once students are familiar with the rules, tie in real world scenarios that require them to calculate the perimeter of an object(s) to solve problems. You can assign students the template Mini golf Polygons which tasks students to find the area and perimeter of each golf course hole in order to calculate the amount of materials needed to design an entire course with wood and turf.



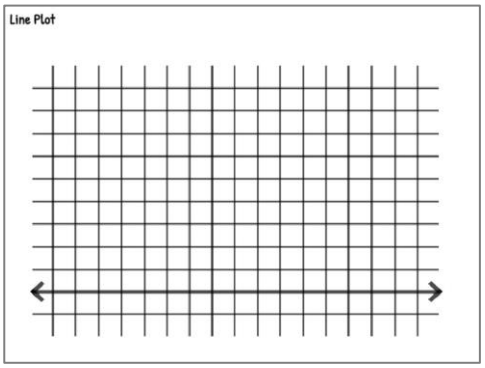
Wixie Template:

Perimeter

Mini golf Polygons

5.9 The student will
a) given the equivalent measure of one unit, identify equivalent measurements within the metric system; and
b) solve practical problems involving length, mass, and liquid volume using metric units.

How Much Does Ice Displace?



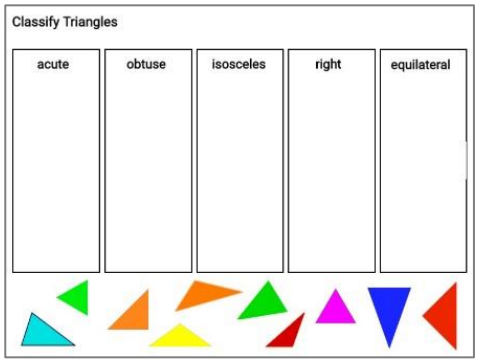
Give each team of students three to five cups that have been filled with random amounts of ice (or no ice) and then water. Each cup needs to be measured as to how much liquid was actually in the cup in the form of a fraction and the weight of the ice by pouring out the liquid into a measuring cup and then weighing cup and ice on a scale.

First have the students duplicate the page with the line plot. Next, have the teams plot the amount of water in each cup on page one, and then create a second line plot of the weight of the ice on page two. Using their line plots, ask students to how the amount of ice impacted the amount of water in each cup.

Wixie Template:
Line Plot

5.13 The student will
a) classify triangles as right, acute, or obtuse and equilateral, scalene, or isosceles.

Classify Triangles



Open the Classify Triangles template so that all students in the class can see it. Work with the class to correctly categorize the triangles into their categories (right, acute, etc). Have students articulate the specific attributes of each triangle, making sure that they identify properties of the vertices.

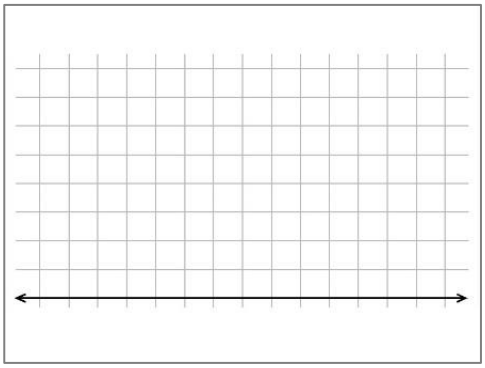
As an extension, have students create a scene in Wixie that incorporates all the types of triangles. For example, students can use the stickers or paint tools to draw a skateboard ramp (scalene), road signs (acute) and/ a sailboat's sail (right) in their pictures.

Wixie Template:
Classify Triangle

Probability and Statistics

5.16 The student, given a practical problem, will
a) represent data in line plots and stem and leaf plots; and
b) interpret data represented in line plots.

Line Plots



You may want to start this lesson by showing a video of line plots from Khan Academy.

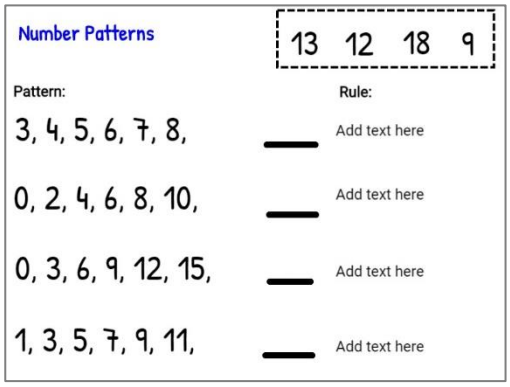
Search “Line or Plot Dot” in the templates. Display the template so everyone in your class can view it. Create a real-life scenario your students will relate to like technology, sports, or music. Then, use the graph to display and analyze as a class how frequently something occurs.

Wixie Template:
Line or Plot Dot

Patterns, Functions, and Algebra

5.18 The student will identify, describe, create, express, and extend number patterns found in objects, pictures, numbers, and tables.

Pattern Rules



Developing their own patterns helps elementary students build concrete understandings of patterns and their rules. Students can easily use objects in Wixie’s Sticker library to create and extend patterns.

Open the Number Patterns template so that all students in the class can see it. Work with the class to determine the rule for each number pattern (for example, n +1).

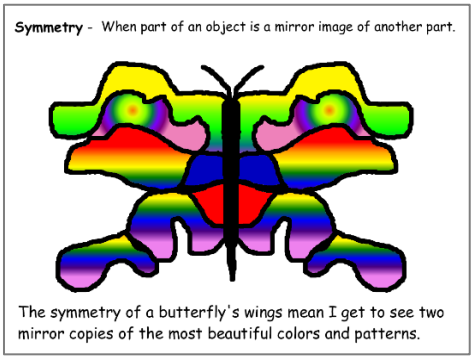
Customize the simple Number Patterns template you did with the whole class with new sets of patterns and assign it to your students to complete independently. For an even greater challenge, you can assign the Number Patterns- Difficult which involves have students multiply and add numbers to find the correct rule.

Wixie Template:
Number Patterns
Number Patterns- Difficult

Lesson Plan

Math Terminology

Students will learn academic vocabulary by creating an illustrated math dictionary in Wixie.



Task

You have been asked by the Didactic Book Company to submit a proposal for an online dictionary that teaches math terminology using the alphabet. Because of your extensive knowledge of math terms, compiling a thorough list of terms you propose for your dictionary should be a snap. Your work on this project will help students nationwide understand important math vocabulary so they can do better in school.

Engage

When students are asked to take a standardized test, they often encounter unfamiliar terminology. This template is designed to help them. Collaborating with the Language Arts teacher to explore how context clues skills help a reader determine the meaning of words will be helpful for students as they encounter unfamiliar terminology.

Remind students that thousands of words and expressions pertain to math. For example, we use the abbreviation MPH (miles per hour) to measure speed. Discuss symbols used in mathematics and how they can be included as math words. For example, x is a symbol used to mean multiply or used in equations to represent a variable.

Work with your class to create a word wall of math terms they already know. In small groups, have students brainstorm basic math terminology. Have them write the math terms on one index card and the definitions on a separate index card. Use the index cards as a matching game for students who don't know the basic terms. Post the words and definitions together to create a math word wall.

Bring math-related objects to class to help students come up with even more terms they know. You might share geometric shapes, formulas, manipulatives, and measuring tools, such as a liter container, meter stick, tangrams, graph paper, and number lines.

As you describe each object, use terminology that is both familiar and unfamiliar to the students. Ask students to write down words that are unfamiliar to them. Make sure to include geometry words, formula words, measurement words, number sense words, and logic and probability words. When you're finished, review the unfamiliar words with your students and have them create cards to add to the word wall.

Create

Group students together into small teams. Have each team develop a list that includes a math term for every letter of the alphabet. After they have most of their list completed, provide examples of additional terms they might use.

Encourage students to use the terms from the word wall as well as new terms they find in the glossary of your math text. You could offer extra credit for using words that are not on the class list.

Share an example that includes the elements that each dictionary page should feature: a title, including the term; the definition; the word used in a sentence; and an image depicting the term.

Before working on the computer, or as homework, have team members write three sentences for each letter:

1. ___ is for _____. (for example: A is for area).
2. The definition of the math term.
3. A sentence that describes the image and uses the math term in context.

Next, have students or team members, create, capture, or locate an image that helps define or depict each term. They can use the paint tools in Pixie to draw their own images, use a digital camera to capture images they find in the world around them, or search for images in the Stickers library.

If students are having a hard time finding a picture, have them share their definition and sentence with other students in the class. Work together to brainstorm similar words and more descriptive sentences to help determine key words they can use to search for images.

When student pages are finished, have them click the Wixie button and choose Share. Have one student on the team choose Import Pages to import the shared pages into one project. Go to the View menu and choose Full Screen to present the file as a slide show or embed on your class web site.

Share

When the dictionary is finished, each team should present their illustrated dictionary to the rest of the class so that everyone reviews all of the new terminology, or academic vocabulary. You can also link to the URLs for each team's project from your classroom web site. You might also print out each page at comic or trading card size and have students swap so each everyone has a complete collection of terms.

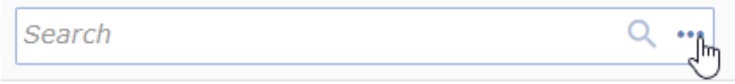
Appendix A

Find Templates by Virginia SOL

You can assign templates in Wixie that you find by searching the Virginia Standards of Learning.

Log in to Wixie with your username and password.

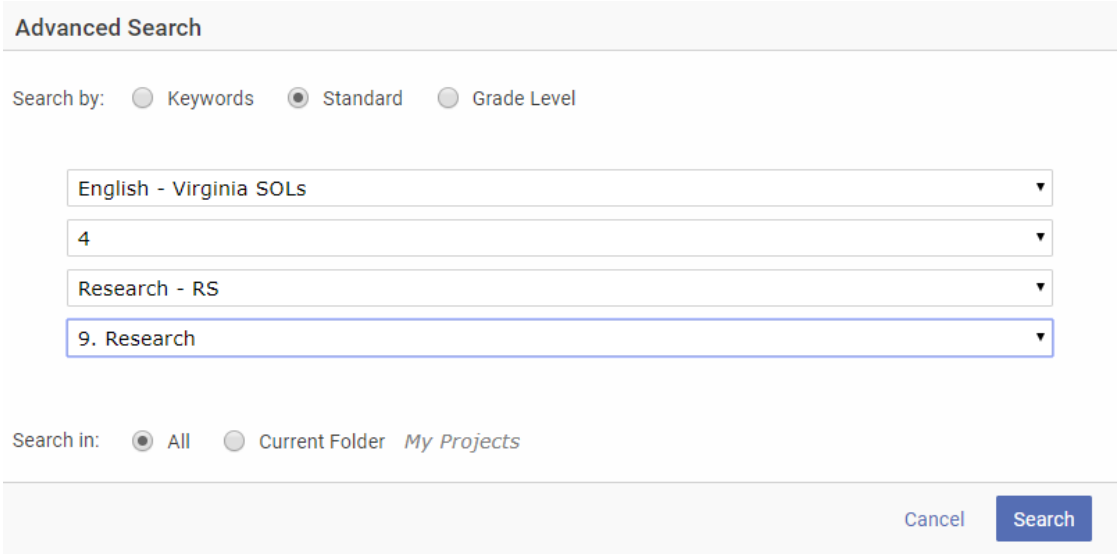
At your teacher home page, click the more search options (three dots) on the right of the Search field.



You will see the Advanced Search dialog.

Select the Standard radio button at the top. The dialog will update to show standard search options.

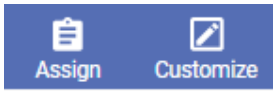
Use the pull-down menus to narrow down your search by subject, grade, topic, and subtopic.



Click the **Search** button. You will see templates that can help students master this standard.

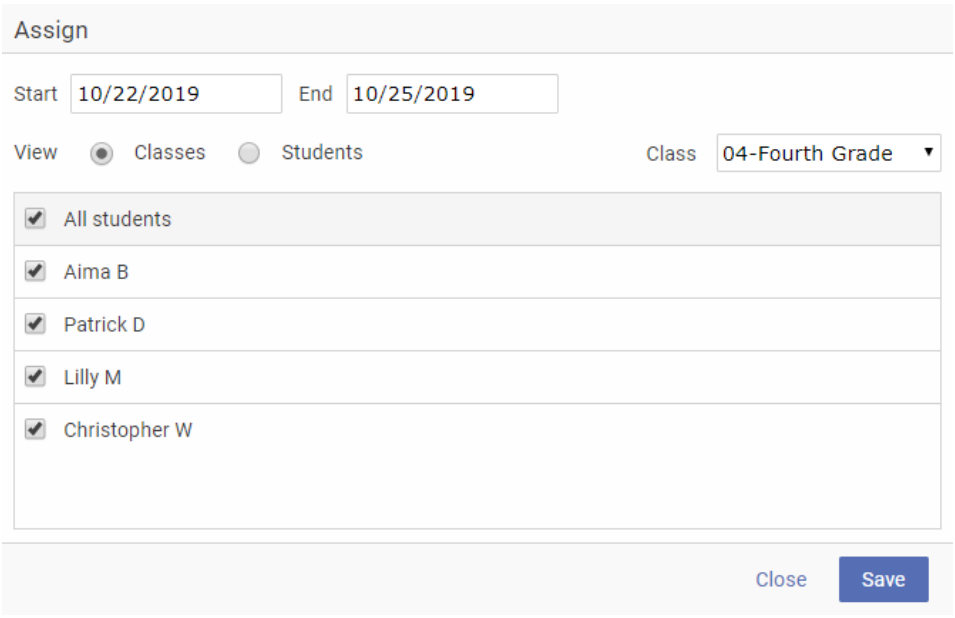
Select the image of the template and it will open in the Wixie authoring tool.

Select Customize to make changes to the template.



Select Assign to assign it to your students as it currently exists.

At the Assign dialog, choose the begin and end dates you want students to be able to start working on the template. Use the pull-down menus and radio buttons to choose the class and students you want to assign the template to and select Save.



You will see the template in your Assignments folder.

The students you selected will see the template at the top of their Wixie home page on the dates you specified.