### **Gr. 1 APS Literacy Curriculum Overview**

The Grade 1 Literacy Program consists of five reading units of study, and four writing units of study, with optional additional units if time permits. The literacy units are rooted in the Lucy Calkins reading and writing units of study. The predictable routines and flow of the reading and writing workshop help students transfer skills across the curriculum.

## READING Building Good Reading Habits



Overview: This unit is centered around first graders growing their identity as readers. Students will learn the new routines of reading workshop, and then draw on all they know to solve tricky words. As they progress, readers will channel the growing repertoire of strategies to read with partners and talk about books. Interactive read aloud, shared reading, independent reading, stamina building, book shopping and more make this unit spark a love of reading and talking about books!

# READING Word Detective Unit



#### Overview:

The power of play and learning come together in this unit that invites students to take on the role of an official "word detective." Students will be on alert for difficult words and as new strategies are taught, they will test them out in a variety of settings. Students will utilize word solving strategies as they read books of their own choosing. While the focus of the unit is on solving unknown words, we never set aside the bigger goal of understanding and enjoying books for the stories they tell. This unit combines rigor and fun!

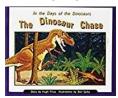
### READING Learning About the World: Non Fiction



### Overview:

Through teaching strategies that support meaning and integrating knowledge from multiple sources, first graders will be learning all kinds of new information about the world and their interests. Students will learn to linger on the pages of nonfiction texts to think closely about what they see and read. Partnerships will look back on books to recall what they have learned and share their new thinking in conversation.

### READING Reader's Have Big Jobs To Do



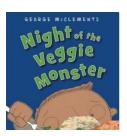
Overview: In this unit children learn that they are ready to take on big and important jobs as a reader to develop independence and to take charge of their own reading. This unit sets children up to be able to read increasingly complex texts with accuracy, comprehension, and fluency. Working in reading partnerships, students will use strategies in higher level texts, with longer, more complex words, while maintaining meaning across large chunks of text. Strategies are also introduced to help students gain an understanding of new vocabulary words.

# READING Meeting Characters and Learning Lessons



Overview: This unit supports young readers by solidifying their literal comprehension skills and pushing them to think more deeply by inferring and interpreting. The characters they meet in their books become tour guides, inviting students into the character's world and taking them along on their adventures. Readers learn that characters are the most important ingredient in any story, and that when we read fiction we need to pay close attention to details to learn all we can about the characters we meet along the way.

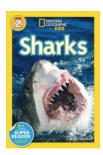
# WRITING Narrative: Small Moments



#### Overview:

The first grade narrative unit launches students into the writing workshop. Students will experience all that real authors think, say, and do. Students will begin the writing process by generating ideas of special moments from their own lives. Students begin with larger ideas. then zoom into small moments. For example, a large idea might be a trip to Cape Cod and the small moment would be the time during the trip when the family discovered a starfish on the rocks. Our first grade writers will learn to bring the people in their stories to life with action, dialogue, and feeling.

## WRITING Information: Non Fiction Chapter Books



Overview: Our first graders know a lot about many varied and interesting topics. In this information writing unit the students become the teacher. With a new level of sophistication. our first grade "experts" write nonfiction chapter books that teach all about a topic. Students are taught to use a teaching voice in their writing. Writers also learn to organize their information in a way that makes their thoughts and ideas clear to their reader. Students learn to create a table of contents and add labels for their pictures. They also practice using precise words to convey information to their reading audience.

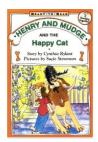
# WRITING Opinion: Writing Reviews



### Overview:

Look out Zagat and Yelp...our first graders will be busy writing reviews of collections, restaurants. books, tovs, and more! This unit supports revision as well as qualities of good writing. By studying mentor texts, students learn how to begin to shape their writing to mirror what you would expect to find in persuasive texts. Writers begin the unit by writing about collections of treasured artifacts as they begin to apply essential elements of persuasive writing, such as claims or opinions, followed by reasons and explanations for those reasons. Writers then use these skills in persuasive writing to review other topics of their choice.

# WRITING Narrative: From Scenes to Series



### Overview:

This unit begins by inviting children to bring their love of pretend and play into writing workshop. Students will invent characters and draw on what they know about small moment writing to create adventures for their characters. As the unit progresses and children get to know their characters, they will learn to put that character into more than one book and create a series of books for this character. Specific strategies to elaborate and "show not tell" will help students gain experience with the genre of fiction writing.