

ELA Kindergarten
Module 4 Units 1, 2, 3
Canterbury Public Schools

Subject	Reading /ELA
Grade Level	Kindergarten
Module 4	Module 4 Contributing to the Community Students investigate the importance of trees through close reading, observation, discussion, writing, and scientific inquiry . Students learn how trees help people, animals, and communities while developing an appreciation for the natural world. They build knowledge, students create informative and opinion pieces that encourage others to care for and appreciate trees. Students read informational and literary
Unit Goals	Unit 1 Exploring and Analyzing Literature Stories of Characters Who Enjoy and Appreciate Trees Overview: Students delve back into the world of trees by exploring and thinking about how and why trees are important to us and our communities, specifically, they consider how different people and characters enjoy trees. They hear the text read aloud, engage in Role-Play protocol, recount the story using key details, track key details about characters, and finally, compare and contrast the characters in the text. Throughout the unit, a strong routine of shared and independent writing in a journal. Students observe pictures, orally rehearse and discuss descriptions for these pictures, and then write descriptions to match the pictures. Unit 2 How Trees Are Important to Communities Overview: students investigate how trees help people, animals, and communities. They discover that trees provide oxygen, shade, food, homes for wildlife, and materials people use every day. Students learn that communities value and care for trees while strengthening informational reading and explanatory writing skills. Unit 3 Inspiring Others to Appreciate and Enjoy Trees Overview: students synthesize everything they have learned by creating projects that encourage others to value and care for trees. They play, write, revise, and present opinion pieces, posters, songs, or presentations explaining why trees matter. Students celebrate their learning through a culminating performance task that demonstrates both literacy growth and environmental stewardship.
Pacing (# of weeks)	Unit 1 4- 6 weeks Unit 2 4 - 6 weeks Unit 3 4 - 6 weeks
Standards	Units 1,2,3 RL.K.1, RL.K.2, RL.K.3, RL.K.4, RL.K.5, RL. K.6, RL.K.7, RL.K.9

	SL.K.2, SL.K. 4
Content/Conceptual Knowledge (know)	Unit 1 Trees are living things Trees have parts with important jobs Trees change during the seasons Different trees look different Trees provide habitats for animals People enjoy trees in many ways Unit 2 Trees provide many benefits Trees help animals survive Trees make communities healthier People depend on trees every day Communities can care for trees Unit 3 Writers can inspire others Good communicators share ideas clearly Communities become stronger when people work together Everyone can help care for nature
Skills (be able to do)	Unit 1 Identify parts of trees Ask and answer questions about trees Describe observations using details Compare different kinds of trees Draw and label tree diagrams Participate in collaborative conversations Unit 2 Explain ways trees help people Identify community uses of trees Compare living needs of people and animals Write informative sentences Use evidence from texts and observations Unit 3 State an opinion with supporting reasons Create informative posters Speak clearly to an audience Collaborate with classmates

	Reflect on their learning Encourage others to care for trees
Essential Questions	Unit 1 Why are trees important to others? What makes a tree special? How do trees change? What can we learn by observing trees? Unit 2 Why are trees important? How do trees help our community? Why should people care for trees? Unit 3 How can we inspire others? Why should everyone appreciate trees? What can we do to care for nature
Enduring Understandings	Unit 1 Trees are important to many living things, including people and animals. Trees not only provide essential items to living things, but also provide enjoyment and beauty. People, animals, and characters in stories can enjoy trees in many different ways. Careful observation helps us learn about nature Trees provide beauty and habitats for living things Scientists use observation to answer questions Unit 2 Trees improve the quality of life in communities. Living things depend on trees. Communities share responsibilities for protecting natural resources Unit 3 Everyone has the power to make a positive difference Sharing knowledge encourages responsible actions Caring for trees helps our communities and our planet Our voices can inspire others to appreciate the natural world
Vocabulary	Unit 1 Tree, trunk, roots, leaves, bark, observe, habitat, season, living, nature Unit 2 Community, shelter, oxygen, shade, protect, environment, wildlife, resource, forest, Conservation

	Unit 3 Opinion, persuade, protect, care, responsibility, appreciate, community, celebrate, nature, stewardship
Common Learning Experiences	Unit 1 Nature walk to observe trees Tree journals Labeling tree comparisons Shared reading of informational texts Interactive read-alouds' Tree bark rubbings Leaf and tree art Class anchor charts Unit 2 Community tree walk Mapping neighborhood trees Sorting ways trees help Informational writing Guest speakers Comparing urban and rural forest habitats Tree benefit anchor chart Collaborative discussions Unit 3 Opinion writing Persuasive posters Tree appreciation celebration Classroom presentation School tree walk Family tree project Shared writing Poetry about trees Classroom gallery walk Performance task presentations
Assessments	Unit 1 Requires students to recall key details about characters, setting, and major events from the text <i>Oliver's Tree</i> by Kit Chase in order to compare and contrast the adventures and experiences of the characters in writing and drawing and small group discussion. Discussion participation Vocabulary checks Label a tree diagram Describe how trees change

	Complete an informational drawing and writing piece Unit 2 Exit tickets Observation notes Vocabulary matching Turn and talk discussions Informational writing ... "Trees are important because...." Tree benefit poster Unit 3 Writing conferences Speaking checklists Peer feedback Self-reflection Performance task: create and present a project that encourages others to appreciate, enjoy, and care for trees using writing, illustrations, and oral presentation
Resources	Unit 1 A Tree for Emmy, Gus is a tree, Oliver's Tree Because of An Acorn A Tree Is Nice The Busy Tree Red Leaf, Yellow Leaf Be a Tree! Unit 2 The Giving Tree Trees Make Perfect Pets Tell Me, Tree If You Hold a Seed Unit 3 The Lorax by Dr. Seuss We Planted A Tree A Grand Old Tree The Forever Tree The Tree Lady (about Kate Sessions)