Common Core Standards for the Informative Writing Unit

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.5.2
Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.5.2.A
Introduce a topic clearly, provide a general observation and focus, and group related information logically; include formatting (e.g., headings), illustrations, and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.5.2.B
Develop the topic with facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples related to the topic.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.5.2.C
Link ideas within and across categories of information using words, phrases, and clauses (e.g., *in contrast*, *especially*).

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.5.2.D
Use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to inform about or explain the topic.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.5.2.E
Provide a concluding statement or section related to the information or explanation presented.

Lesson 14a - including text features

I can help my readers better understand my topic and stay interested **by** including text features.

How will my learning be assessed today?

- my ability to include text features that will further explain my writing

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.5.2.B
Develop the topic with facts, definitions, concrete details,
quotations, or other information and examples related to the topic.

I can help my readers better understand my topic and stay interested **by** including text features.

Connection

In writing workshop, we have been working on adding descriptive details, definitions, and elaborating our writers so that our readers can better understand out topic.

So far we have learned to elaborate based on questions/feedback from a partner.

Today I am going to teach you how writers include text features to help readers better understand the text and stay interested.

I can help my readers better understand my topic and stay interested **by** including text features.

Teach

> Today I am going to teach you how writers include text features to help readers better understand the text and stay interested.

- Some text features that can be added are:

  - Bold words

  - Section headings

  - Embedded and isolated definitions of important terms

  - Illustrations

  - Captions

  - Sidebars

  - Charts

Teach

Let's see how we can keep our readers interested in our topic by adding some charts.

The "health issues" section of the English Bulldogs article would get really boring to read if I just listed a bunch of health issues and wrote what to do about them in a giant paragraph. It makes more sense to create a chart that is easier to read and summarizes the information for the reader.

Health Problem	What to Do
• Heat Stroke—getting too hot and **panting**	• Don't let them play too long in the heat, give them cool water right away
• Cherry Eye—a swollen **gland** in the eye	• Take them right to the vet when their eyes get really red
• Hip Dysplasia—hip doesn't fit in the **joint**	• Don't make them walk up stairs and get a low dog dish

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Teach

Besides charts, we can also add pictures/illustrations and captions.

So that my readers can truly visualize what an English Bulldog looks like, I decided to include a picture with captions.

Brindle color coat

Wrinkles around skull

I can help my readers better understand my topic and stay interested **by** including text features.

Active Engagement

> Let's see how we can keep our readers interested in our topic by adding some charts.

Let's see what we can do with this paragraph:

English Bulldogs cost anywhere from $500-$1,200 to purchase. They can grow to be about 12-16 inches high and can weigh between 45-55 pounds. English Bulldogs can live anywhere from 5-7 years and can have a litter of about 5 puppies.

How can we transform this boring paragraph into a chart?

English Bulldog Facts by the Numbers
- Height: 12–16 inches
- Cost: $500–$1200
- Weight: 45–55 pounds
- Average Life Span: 7–9 years
- Litter Size: 4–5 Puppies

I can help my readers better understand my topic and stay interested **by** including text features.

Independent Practice

As you go off and work independently, be sure to:

1. Read sections of your article and think of places where your reader might understand better what you're saying, if you use a chart, diagram, or illustration.
2. Think about how you can summarize your information in to an easy to read chart or diagram.
3. Sketch it out in your draft.

I can help my readers better understand my topic and stay interested **by** including text features.

Share

⭐ What were some text features that you included in your draft today?

⭐ How will these text features help your reader better understand your information?

Teacher Page

Differentiation: For students who are having trouble coming up with questions to ask their partners, model thinking aloud how it would sound to wonder about information that is not explained in detail.

Assessment:

Self-Students will refer to the "How will I be assessed slide in order to assess their abilities and understanding during active engagement, mid-workshop interruption, and share.

Teacher-conferring, collect a table's notebooks for reading, and listen to student's partner conversations.