**Literacy Planning**

**The Watsons Go to Birmingham by Christopher Paul Curtis 4-6 Weeks**

**Concept Question: Why is it important to know yourself and to understand the points of view of others in order to successfully face and solve conflicts?**

**Central Theme: There’s a strength in all of us that gives us the courage to deal with our problems.**

Week 5 – 11/4 to 11/7

11/4 - YWBAT understand that cause and effect texts are written to explicitly show how one action, event or thing can effect another.

Success is: identifying the key components of cause and effect writing

YWBAT understand how ancient civilizations developed and how they contributed to the current state of the world

Success is: reading about Mesopotamian religion and architecture and using it to make statements about Mesopotamian culture

* Writing: Cause and Effect
  + Students skim, “Volcanoes: Indonesia’s Deadly 3”
  + Discuss: why was this written? How was this organized?
  + Intro to cause and effect writing: fill out the grid and students fill out their copies
  + Foldable
* Read article “Ziggurats and Temples”
  + Write about the importance of a ziggurat in the religious practices of the ancient Mesopotamians

11/5 - YWBAT use context clues to determine the meanings of unfamiliar words.

YWBAT identify details of a story in order to increase comprehension and draw conclusions.

YWBAT understand that problem/solution writing is when an author presents a problem and describes one or more solutions.

Success is: using sticky notes, background knowledge and context to narrow down a definition

Success is: use evidence to draw inferences

Success is: identifying the key components of problem/solution writing

* Writing: Problem Solution
  + Students skim article
  + Discuss: why was this written? How was this organized?
  + Intro to problem solution: fill out the grid and students fill out their copies
  + Foldable
* Read article “Ziggurats and Temples”
  + Write about the importance of a ziggurat in the religious practices of the ancient Mesopotamians
* Read Watsons chapter 7
  + Hair straightening in the 1960’s – Malcom X’s autobiography excerpt <https://www.scribd.com/doc/29978/My-First-Conk>
  + Comprehension check: Making Predictions, Characters’ Motivations
  + The conk analysis
  + Respond: why would mama and daddy be so upset with By for getting a conk?

11/6 - YWBAT use context clues to determine the meanings of unfamiliar words.

YWBAT identify details of a story in order to increase comprehension and draw conclusions.

YWBAT understand that informative/explanatory texts to are written to examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and analysis of relevant content.

Success is: using sticky notes, background knowledge and context to narrow down a definition

Success is: use evidence to draw inferences

Success is: identifying the key components of the various text structures learned

* Writing: text structure sort
  + Main idea in informational text activity
* Read Watsons chapter 8
  + Listen to “yakety yak” <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-WfDYssJMqs>
  + Comprehension check:
    - Think Pair Share: When Dad first surprised the family with the new Ultra-Glide, what was Momma’s reaction? And why did she react this way?
    - Eventually, Momma changes her attitude and joins the family fun outside with

the Ultra-Glide. What made her change her tune?

* + RACE: Momma and Dad had threatened to send Byron to Grandma Sands’ house many times, but the kids never believed it would really happen. Why?
  + Debate – Given what we know is happening in Alabama during the time that the Watsons decide to visit Birmingham, do you recommend that the family go? What advicewould you give them about the trip?
  + Prediction: How do you think the Watson children will like Birmingham?

11/7 - YWBAT use context clues to determine the meanings of unfamiliar words.

YWBAT identify details of a story in order to increase comprehension and draw conclusions

Success is: using sticky notes, background knowledge and context to narrow down a definition

Success is: use evidence to draw inferences

* Read Watsons chapter 9
  + Words found
  + Questions we are wondering
  + Comprehension check:
    - Think Pair Share: Why doesn’t Joetta like the angel that Mrs. Davidson gives her? Why would the color of the angel’s face be a problem for Joetta?