Sample Unit of Study in Grades K-2

Unit Of Study	Small Moments/Personal Narrative
	(adapted from Calkins & Oxenhorn, 2003)
Goal/Important	• Students will tell, draw, and write stories from their own lives in sequence.
Concepts	• Students will understand and use story structure (B-M-E) and story language.
	 Students will understand and describe "a small moment" in time.
	 Students will describe a small moment using details and feelings.
	• Students will write sight words, and use letter-sound knowledge to spell.
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Mentor Texts	• <u>A Chair for My Mother</u> by Vera Williams
	<u>The Leaving Morning</u> by Angela Johnson
	<u>The Snowy Day</u> by Ezra Jack Keats
	<u>Shortcut</u> by Donald Crews
Anchor Charts	How do we write about a small moment?
	 How do we spell all the words we want to write?
	How do we make our writing better?
Possible Focus Lessons	
Immersion Stage	Noticing and naming characteristics of small moment stories.
	 Identifying and sharing small moments from your own life.
Rehearsal and Free	• Telling stories in sequence (B \rightarrow M \rightarrow E).
Writing Stage	• Using narrative language when we talk and write (Ex: one day, then, finally).
	 Stretching one moment over several pages.
	• Using the Word Wall (and your memory) to write some words quickly.
	• Stretching words, and using sound-symbol knowledge, to spell new words.
Revision Stage	Including details in our words and pictures.
	Telling feelings or thoughts.
	 Writing a good ending, staying close to the story.
Editing Stage	Checking to be sure the words and pictures match.
	 Rereading to see if the story makes sense.
	Finding and correcting one or two spelling errors.
Publishing and	Hand-written
Celebration	 Invite Kindergarten reading buddies to Author's Tea and share stories with partners.
	 Share with parents at Curriculum Night/Parents write a response.

(Blank unit templates are included in the pages that follow.)