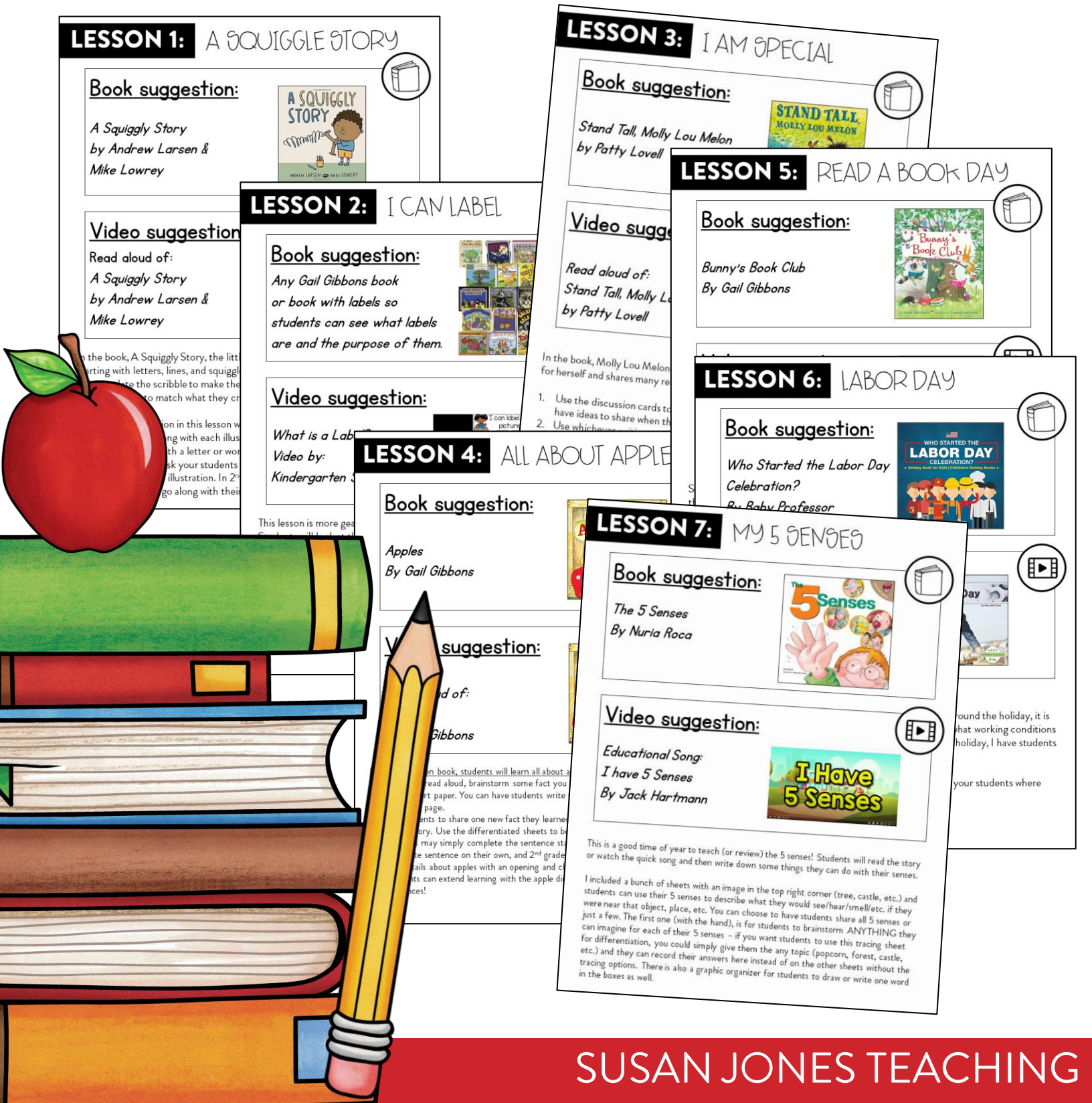
SEPTEMBER:

MINI WRITING LESSONS



SUSAN JONES TEACHING

IN THIS UNIT:

These fun mini writing lessons are thematic and can be used with common September themes taught in K-2 classrooms. I suggest a picture book and a kid friendly video for each topic, but these are designed to be used with any book you can find about the topic! Many of the lessons don't even require a book and you could simply have a conversation with kids first about the topic (but I find a book or video helps make things more memorable and gives students more to write about).

With each lesson, there are differentiated writing pages so these can be used with kindergarten, first, and second grade students. Your K students may end up relying heavily on a picture box and the traceable sentence stems. Your 1st grade students may use the word banks to generate their own complete sentence. Your 2nd grade students may write their own paragraph (or 2-3 sentences) about the topic at hand. These are just some baseline ideas and since our students span a varying range of skillsets, you can use more than one of the pages within your own classroom to meet the needs of your students!

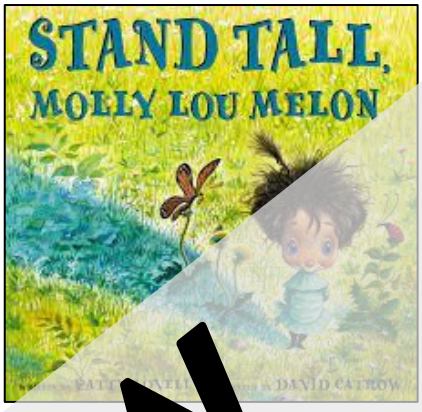
The September mini lessons are:

1. Write a Squiggle Story
2. We can label
3. I am special
4. All about Apples
5. Read a Book Day
6. Labor Day
7. My 5 Senses

LESSON 3: I AM SPECIAL

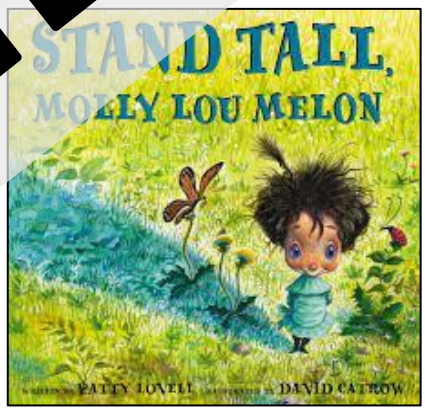
Book suggestion:

Stand Tall, Molly Lou Melon
by Patty Lovell



Video suggestion:

Read aloud of:
Stand Tall, Molly Lou Melon
by Patty Lovell



PREVIEW

In the book, Molly Lou Melon, a bully makes fun of Molly Lou but she stands up for herself and shares many reasons she loves herself!

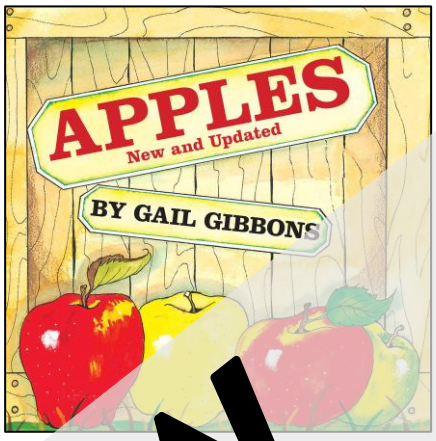
1. Use the discussion cards to get students talking about themselves so they have ideas to share when they get to writing.
2. Use whichever writing page fits the needs of your students to extend their learning and share why they are special! Some students may complete the sentences starters with a word or two while other students may use the blank lines to write 2-3 reasons why they are special!

LESSON 4: ALL ABOUT APPLES

Book suggestion:

Apples

By Gail Gibbons

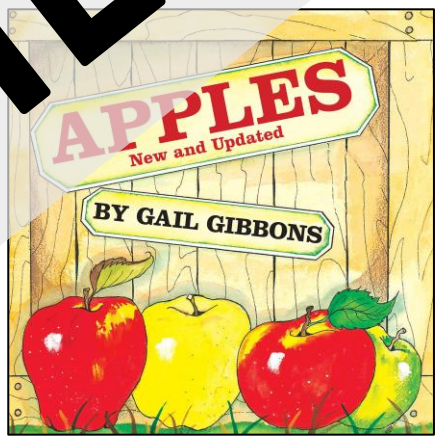


Video suggestion:

Read aloud of:

Apples

By Gail Gibbons



PREVIEW

In this nonfiction book, students will learn all about apples!

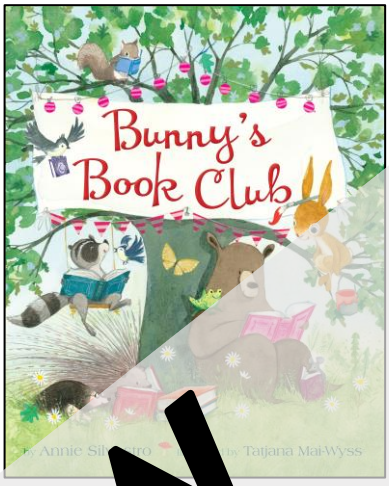
1. After the read aloud, brainstorm some fact you learned about apples together on the board/chart paper. You can have students write their own facts on the apple fact organizer page.
2. Ask students to share one new fact they learned about apples after reading to/listening to the story. Use the differentiated sheets to best meet the needs of your students – K students may simply complete the sentence starter, 1st grade students may write a complete sentence on their own, and 2nd grade may write a paragraph sharing a fact and details about apples with an opening and closing sentence. (just some ideas!)
3. Students can extend learning with the apple directed drawing to display with their sentences!

LESSON 5: READ A BOOK DAY

Book suggestion:

Bunny's Book Club

By Gail Gibbons

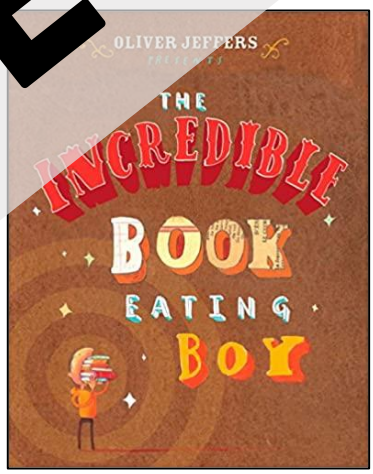


Video suggestion:

Read aloud of:

The Incredible Book Eating Boy

By Oliver Jeffers



PREVIEW

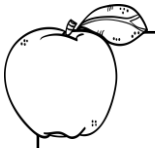
September 6th is National Read a Book Day so it's a fun reason to get students thinking about what types of books they like to read! Even if you miss the holiday, the beginning of the year is perfect to start instilling a love of reading and help students see the joy and benefits of books!

After they read either of the books above, students will share a book they love, a reason they love to read, or a topic they want to learn about this year through reading!

Use any of the differentiated sheets to best meet the needs of your students.

Name: _____

ALL ABOUT APPLES



PREVIEW

seed tree juice pie picking water sun

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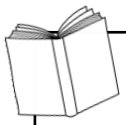
READING IS FUN!

Name: _____



PREVIEW

book reading because learn favorite

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MY 5 SENSES

Name: _____

I can see

I can smell

I can taste

I can touch

I can hear

PREVIEW

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