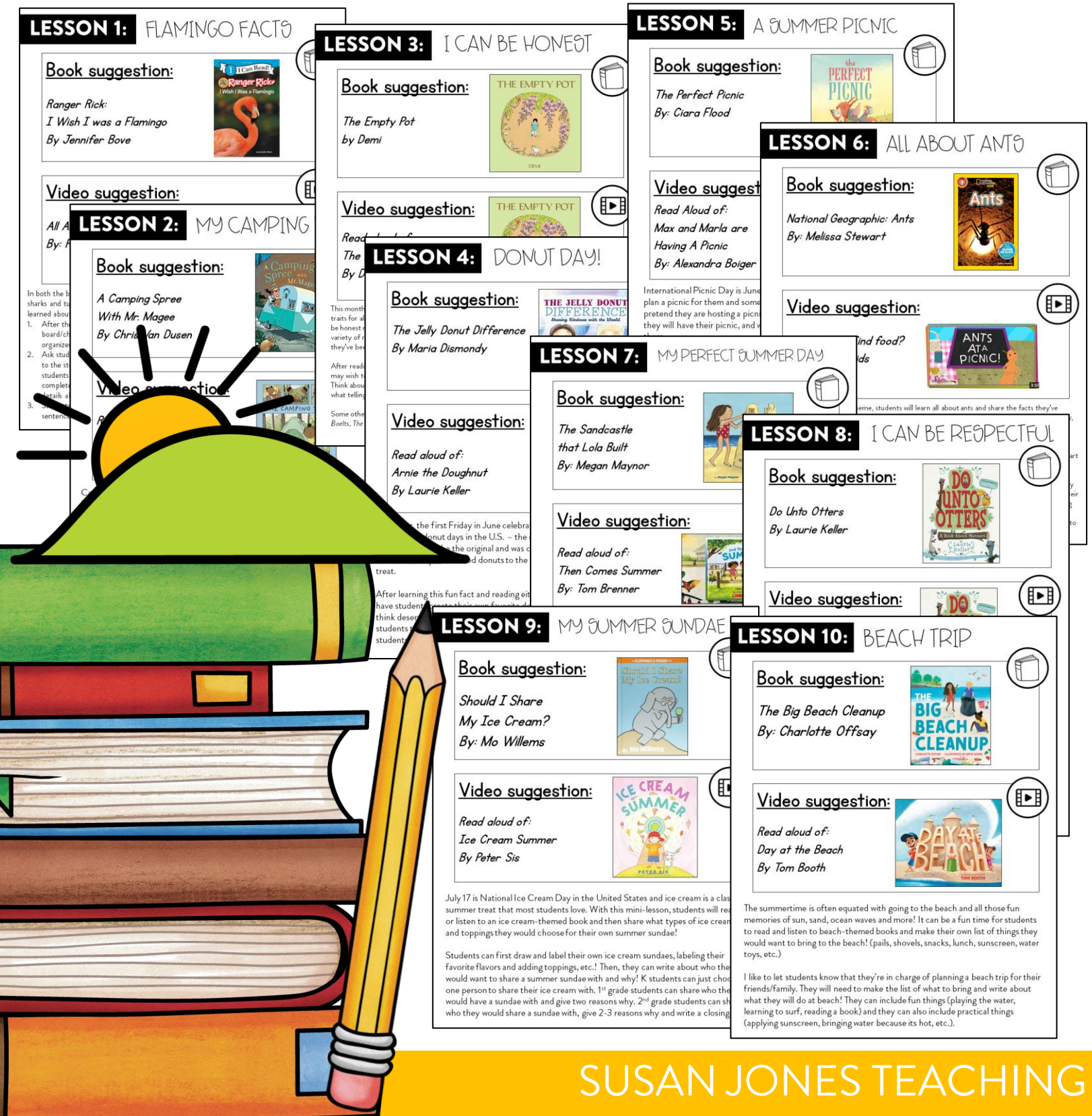
SUMMER:

MINI WRITING LESSONS



SUSAN JONES TEACHING

IN THIS UNIT:

These fun mini writing lessons are thematic and can be used with common summer (June/July) 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).

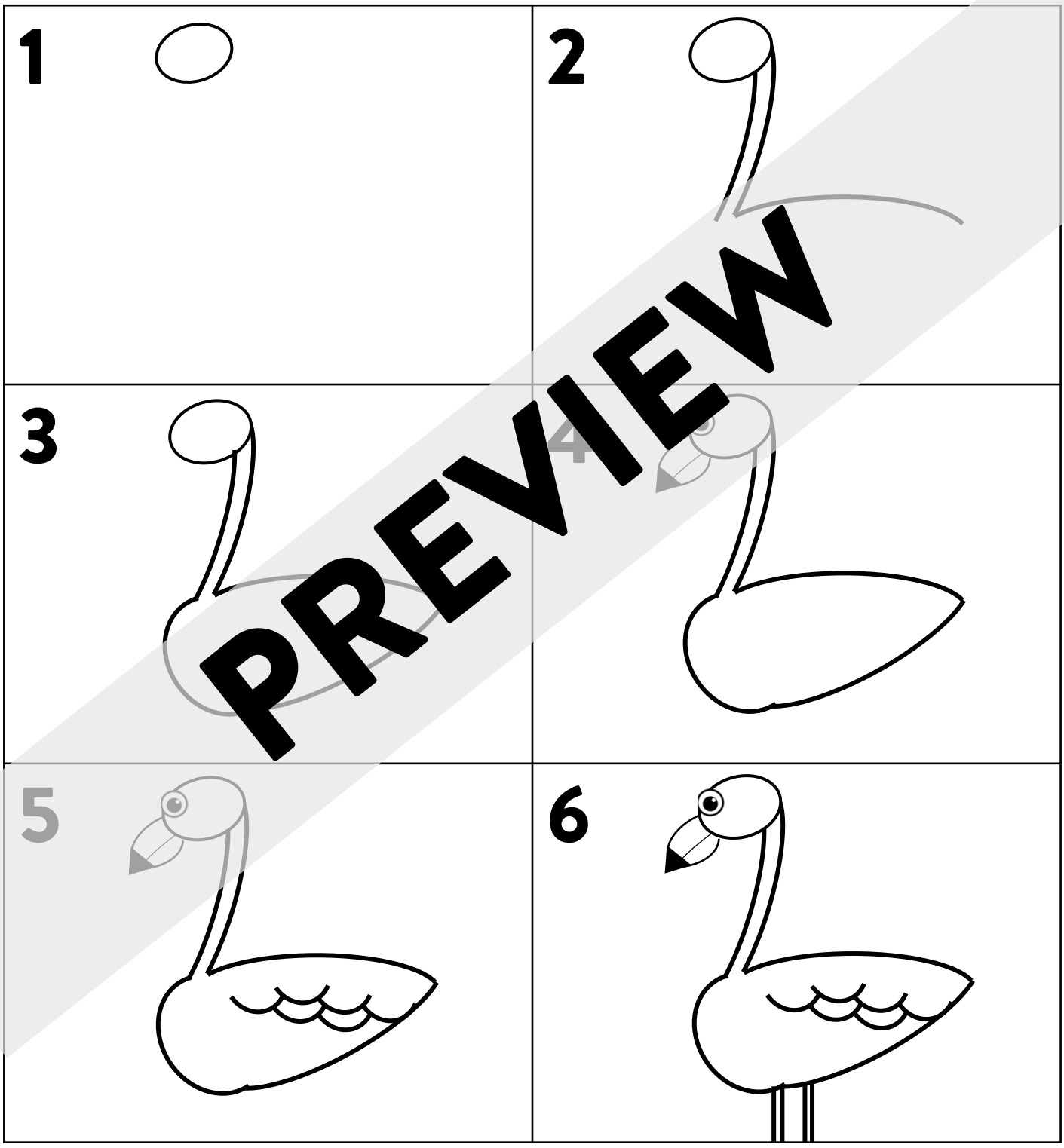
With each lesson, there are differentiated writing pages so these can be used with kindergarten, first, and second grade students. Your K students may end up relying heavily on a picture box and the traceable sentence stems. Your 1st grade students may use the word banks to generate their own complete sentence. Your 2nd grade students may write their own paragraphs (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!

<u>The Summer mini lessons are:</u>

1. Flamingo Facts
2. How to Go Camping
3. I can be honest
4. Donut Day!
5. A summer picnic
6. All about ants
7. My perfect summer day
8. I can be respectful
9. My Summer Sundae
10. What to pack for the beach

FLAMINGO DIRECTED DRAWING:

Students can follow these easy steps to draw their own flamingo in the illustration box of their writing. Simply show students each step one-by-one and their own flamingo will show their personality! There are some notes on the bottom to go along with some of the steps.



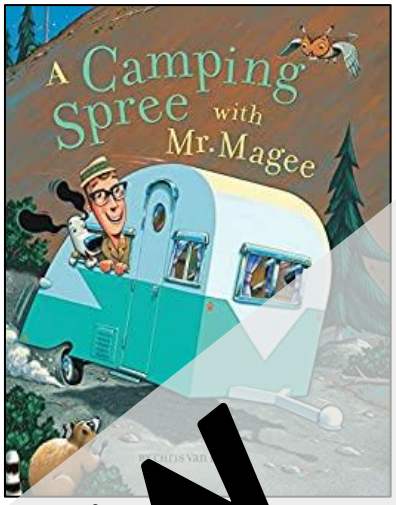
PREVIEW

Students can have fun drawing these little flamingos with their own personality! Remind them that when making the eyes, feathers, and faces, they can really add their own twist! This way each flamingo is unique and different! They can also add their own water background too!

LESSON 2: MY CAMPING TRIP

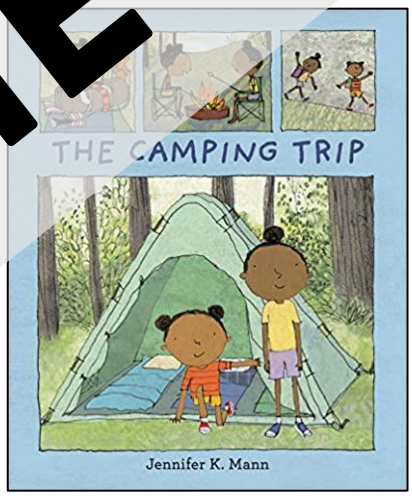
Book suggestion:

A Camping Spree
With Mr. Magee
By Chris Van Dusen



Video suggestion:

Read Aloud of
The Camping Trip
By Jennifer K. Mann



PREVIEW

Camping is a fun summer theme to explore with your students! After reading or listening to some camping themed books, I like to have students write about how THEY would like to go camping. I have two prompts I like to use when using a camping theme. First, students can share a camping list where they choose their top 6 items they would bring with them when camping for a weekend. Then, I like to have students write a procedural piece sharing how they would go camping.

I like to emphasize that this isn't necessarily about how to go camping the "right" way, but rather the steps they would take to go camping in an enjoyable way to them! There is a brainstorming sheet for them to think of ideas that would make camping fun for them before they start writing.

MY CAMPING FAVES:

Where I would go camping:

What I would eat:

Who I would go with:

What I would do to entertain myself:

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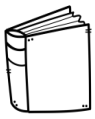
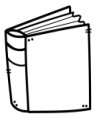
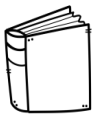


What words would you use to describe Ping in this story?



What did the other children do with their pots? Why do you think they did that?



Why did the emperor choose Ping as his successor? Do you think that was a good choice? Explain.

Why was the emperor frowning when he saw the other children's pots?

Ping's father tells him that he did his best and as long as you try your best, you should feel proud. Do you agree with this? Explain.

When is a time you've shown honesty, even if it was difficult?

PREVIEW

HONESTY

Name: _____

Honesty is important because

PREVIEW

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