

"You Are There" Quickwrite

- Daily life of a teacher during the Shang Dynasty.
- Daily life of a woman in Mesopotamia.
- Daily life of a child in a pre-colonial Maori village.

In 2012...

Incoming
Fourth Grader

Born in 2003

Incoming
Seventh Grader

Born in 2000

Incoming
Senior

Born in 1995

- Never known a time without cellphones and mobile devices.
- Never known a time without Google and the Internet.
- Never known a world without a global economy and a global culture.
- Never known a world without female or minority leaders.



If we write from our experience...

How do we build the background knowledge to write across the curriculum?





Using Technology to
Build "Experiences"
for Writing
Across the Curriculum



Married to Super-Teacher



Technology Teacher



Degree in English

Key Considerations

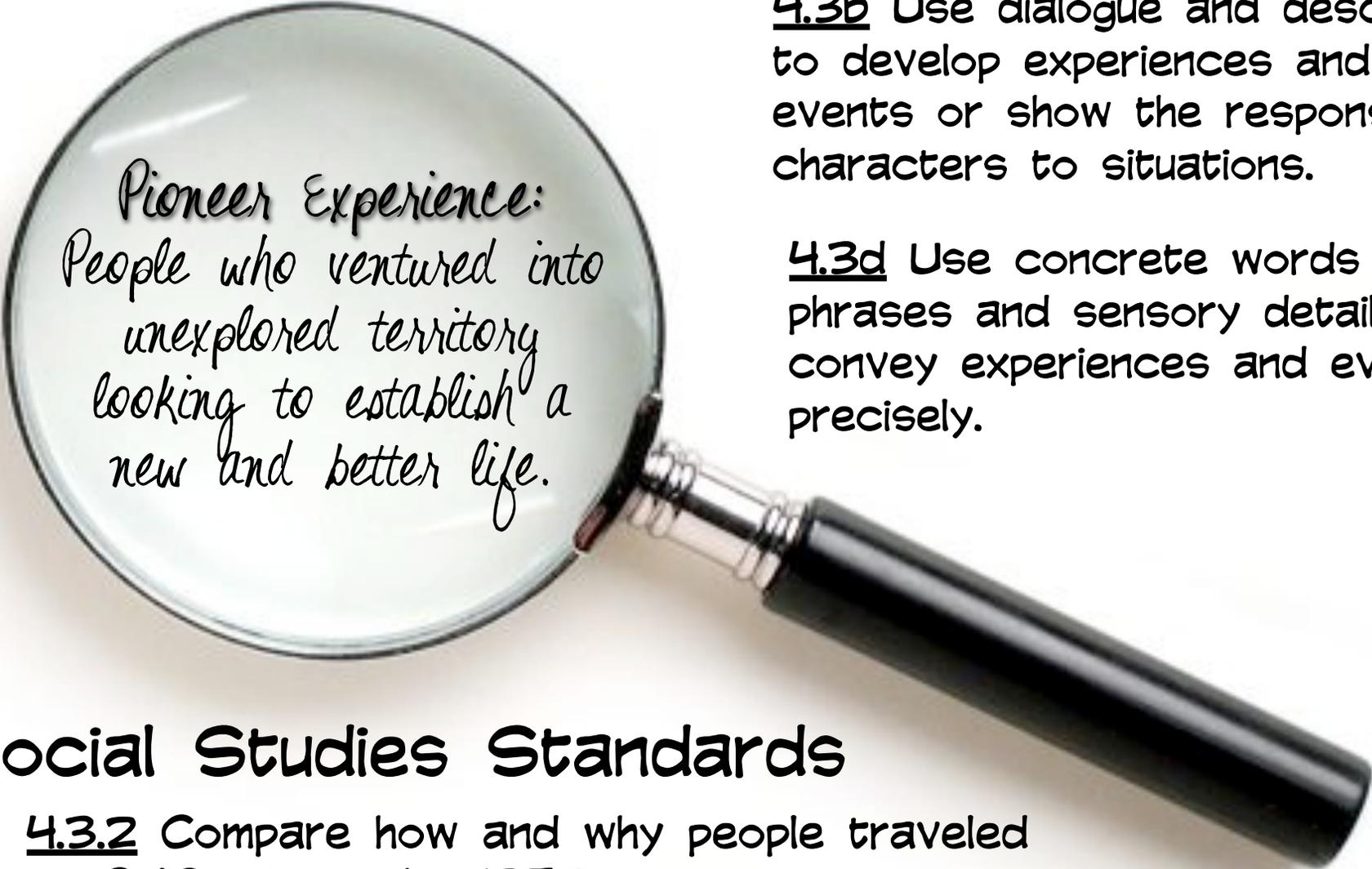
- Preserving sacred writing time.
- Writing outside the workshop.
- Foster deeper understanding of personal stories of the past.
- Making technology meaningful.



Common Core Narrative Standards

4.3b Use dialogue and description to develop experiences and events or show the response of characters to situations.

4.3d Use concrete words and phrases and sensory details to convey experiences and events precisely.



*Pioneer Experience:
People who ventured into
unexplored territory
looking to establish a
new and better life.*

Social Studies Standards

4.3.2 Compare how and why people traveled to California in the 1850s.

4.4.3 Discuss immigration and migration to California in the 1850s.



Immigrant Experience

Reflection

Places in your Social Studies
or Science curriculum to
incorporate narrative writing.

OREGON TRAIL DIARY



DIARY TRADITION

Purpose & Audience

Responsibility to keep a written record for those who would follow.

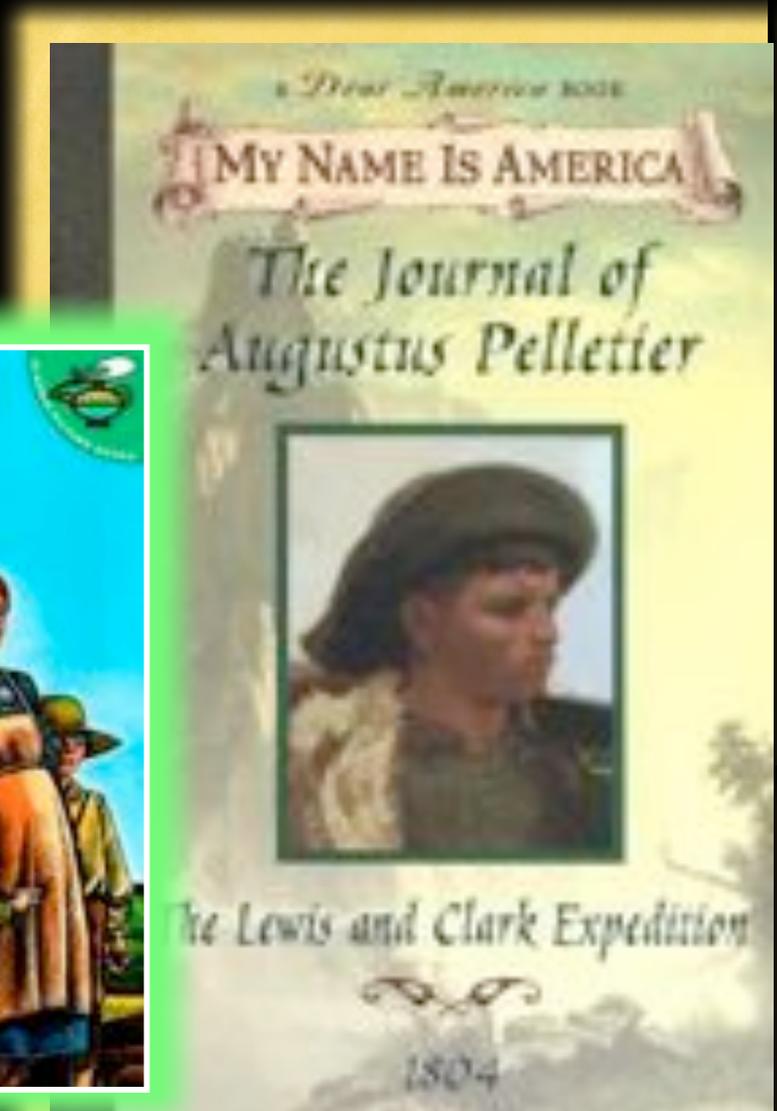
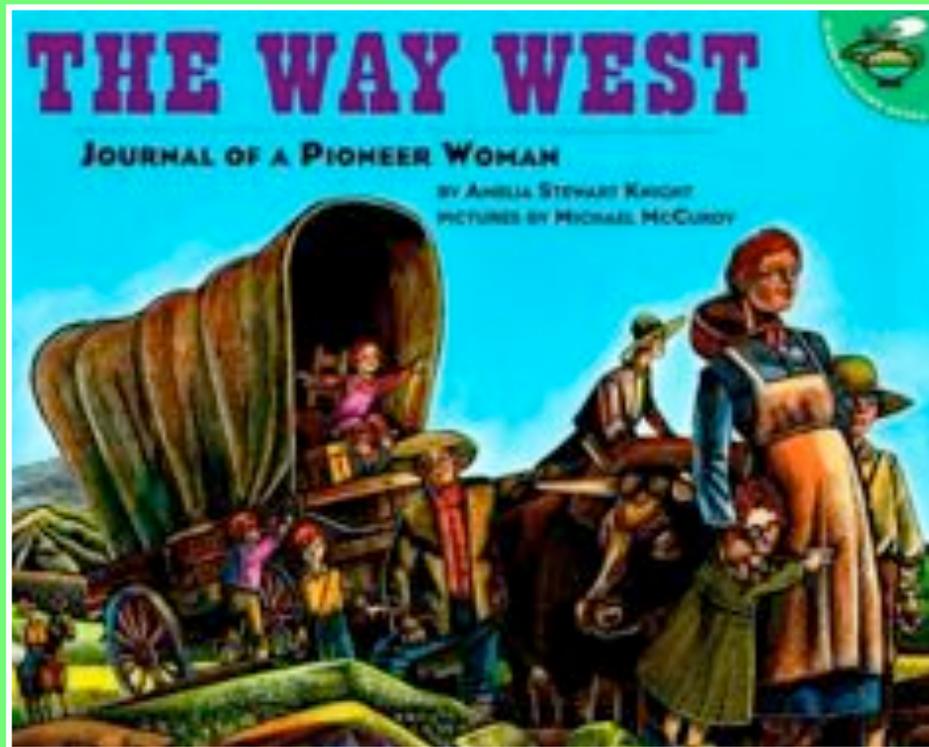
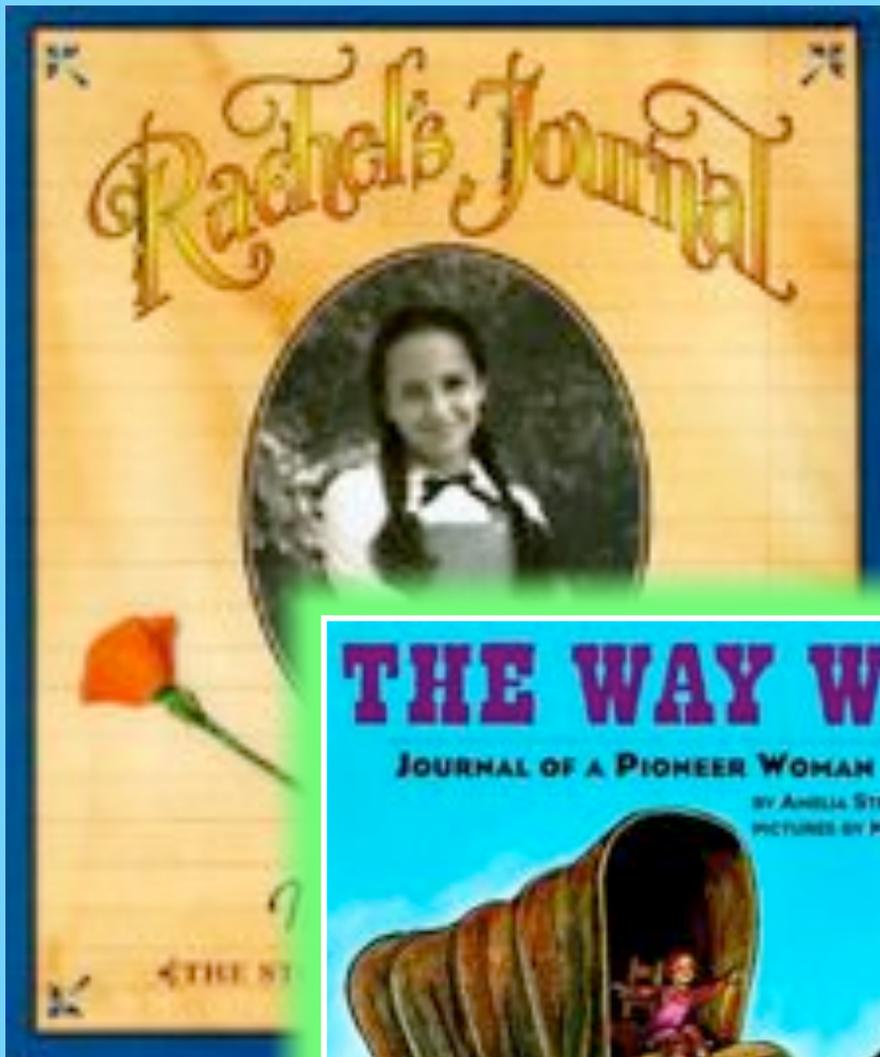
Reflect on personal experiences.

Entertainment

More



MENTOR TEXTS





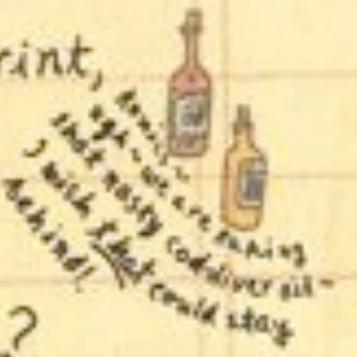
March 10, 1850

bedding



I have never had my own book to write in, but I have one now, and my own pen, too. Grandfather gave them to me. He says it is my task to chronicle our long journey and write letters back to the States. Mother and Pa will be busy driving the teams of our two wagons, and Ben and Will have to tend the stock. That leaves me with the chore of writing. I do not mind so long as I can print, because even with all the exercises Mother gives me, my handwriting is still fearsome to see. And what could be the point of writing if even I cannot read what I have written?

family album



prairie wildflowers -
They are as pretty as any we
grew in our
garden.



The mosquitoes
are even getting into
my journal - I
swatted one between
the pages.



April 28, 1850

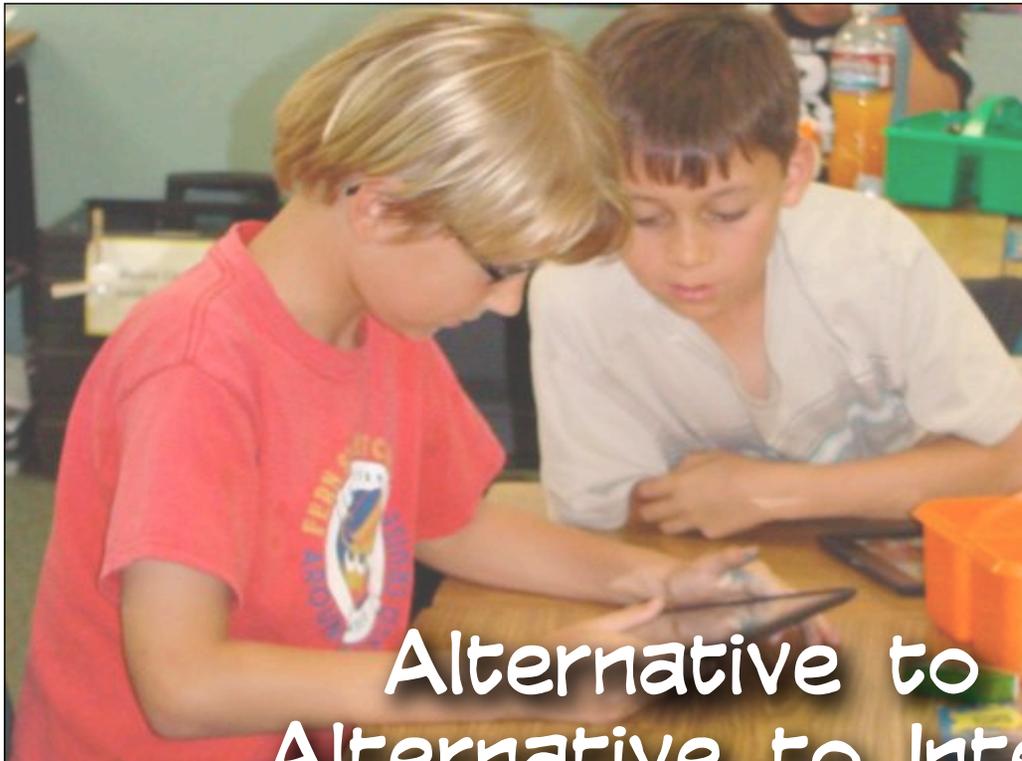
The wide expanse of the Great Plains is now before us. As far as we can see, there is tall grass all around, dotted with beautiful wildflowers. At first the other wagon trains were so thick about us, we saw more of schooner "sails" than of the prairie. Now the crowds have thinned out, and when we camped for the night we felt truly alone, like small specks in a vast ocean of wilderness. I ached for home for the first time, but Ben played his fiddle while Mother sang, and that cheered us all.

The mosquitoes here
are as big as flies
and just as common -
I hate them!

milking the cow in the morning, and the cream in the
evening. By evening the rubbed road will have churned

OREGON TRAIL APP





Alternative to a novel study.
Alternative to Interact simulations.
Alternative to the virtual field trip.

THE OREGON TRAIL



What was life like for pioneers on the trail?

TRIALS AND TRIBULATIONS



**List 5 problems you
faced on the trail.**

**List 5 things you
had to do to
survive on the trail.**

DIARY ENTRIES

After a long day on the trail, you hunker down next to the fire and begin to record your thoughts and experiences...

- Why are you making this dangerous journey?
- Who is accompanying you on your journey?
- During which season did you begin your journey? Why did you choose to leave at that time? What is the weather like?
- What hardships have you faced on the trail?
- What have you had to do in order to survive?

Writing Lessons Outside the Workshop

4.3b Use **dialogue** and **description** to develop experiences and events or **show** the response of characters to situations.

4.3d Use **concrete words** and phrases and **sensory details** to convey experiences and events precisely.



What mini-lessons could we teach using our diary entries?

Questions?



Comments?