Reading Workshop: Topics for Focused Mini Lessons

- Expectations, routines, and rules in reading workshop
- Intro to how to use reading logs, folders, etc
- Choosing just right books
- Strategies to decode unknown words
- Paying attention to punctuation, pauses, intonation when reading aloud
- Making predictions before reading
- Prediction outcomes while reading
- Using a table of contents
- Characters
  - Character traits
  - Analyze main character by creating story maps which highlight adventures, personalities, and growth of main characters
  - Characters thoughts and motivations
  - How character changed throughout story
- Setting
- Problem
- Events
- Solution
- Theme (e.g., good vs. evil) * do a theme study
  - Believe in Yourself
  - Overcoming Challenges
  - Accepting Others’ Differences
  - Don’t Be Afraid to Try New Things
  - Teamwork
  - Honesty
  - Always Be Kind to Others
  - Be Happy With What You Have
- Retelling (Informational)
- Retelling (Fictional)
- Mapping out an original story, using map to write
- Various genres
  - Fantasy
  - Realistic Fiction
  - Mystery
  - Historical Fiction
  - Traditional Literature
    - Folktales
- Legends
- Fables - lesson or moral
- Fairy Tales
- Tall Tales
- Myths
  - Science Fiction
  - Informational Genre (encyclopedia, textbooks, magazines)
    - descriptive
    - Informational text patterns: problem/solution, compare/contrast,
      Nonfiction/Informational Text Elements (headings, captions, index, bibliography, glossary, graphs, charts, maps)
  - Biography
  - Autobiography
  - Magazines
  - Poetry
    - Reading and Understanding Poetry
    - Sound and rhythm (alliteration, assonance, stresses, pauses, and meter)
    - Poetic forms
- Authors Craft
  - Various Points of View
  - How dialogue is used
  - Personification
  - Similes
  - Exaggeration
  - Flash backs
  - Descriptive details
  - Exploding a moment
  - Timelines
  - Prefaces
  - Indices
- Identify favorite author
- Author Studies (background information about a particular author)
- Publishing conventions
- Determine the source of a piece of text
- Self questioning
- Creating ‘thick’ questions
- Dictionary skills
- Determining meaning of phrases and unknown words
- Vocabulary
- Understanding types of words
- Synonyms
- Antonyms
- Homonyms
- Homophones
- Base words
- Comparatives
- Superlatives
- Irregular verbs
- Pronouns
- Suffixes
- Prefixes
- Affixes
- Consonant blends
- Contractions
- Compound words

- Connections
  - Connections text to text (how the book reminds you of other books, especially the characters, events, or setting)
  - Connections text to world
  - Connections text to self (how the book reminds you of yourself, people you know, or of something that happened in your life)
  - Connecting personal knowledge, experience, and understanding of the world to themes and perspectives in text

- Main Idea and details that support
- Sequence of Events
- Story Details
- Relevant and irrelevant details in an orally read passage
- Orally summarize a story
- Identify the best summary of a given passage
- Obtaining meaning from illustrations, titles, content
- Constructing mental images
- Creating an original story ending
- Inferring meaning
- Rereading
- Skimming
- Cause effect
- Fact Opinion
- Using prior knowledge to understand what is read
- Human experiences found in literature: birth, death, heroism, love
- Compare and contrast
  - Compare and contrast narrative to informational
- Compare and contrast historical event to a current event
- Compare and contrast different illustrators
- Compare language from neighborhood to neighborhood, community, or cultural group
- Venn diagrams
  - Analogies
  - Discussing Literature with peers
  - Graphs
  - Tables
  - Flow Charts
  - Categorize information
  - Reflect and respond by taking a position
  - Conventions of standardized tests and test questions
  - Create Rubrics