# Five Types of Mini-Lessons

Each genre unit of study includes at least four types of mini-lessons that teachers can draw from. The Program Scope and Sequence in the backmatter of this Teacher’s Resource System summarizes the skills and strategies addressed at each grade level. The Mini-Lessons at a Glance document summarizes all of the mini-lessons at your grade level.

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<thead>
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<th>MINI-LESSON TYPE</th>
<th>PURPOSE</th>
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| **Introduce the Genre** | Using these mini-lessons, students and teacher will:  
  • Develop genre awareness  
  • Hear multiple examples of the genre through shared readings (Grades K–1) or read-aloud experiences (Grades 2–6)  
  • Analyze the features of the genre  
  • Analyze the text structures and signal language associated with the genre |
| **Model the Writing Process** | Using these mini-lessons, students and teacher focus on specific strategies and skills to support the writing process within the specific genre unit of study:  
  • Brainstorming  
  • Conducting research  
  • Organizing ideas using graphic organizers  
  • Drafting  
  • Revising  
  • Editing  
  • Publishing |
| **Author’s Craft** | Three types of craft lessons are provided in each unit of study: Voice, Word Choice, and Sentence Structure. These mini-lessons align directly with 6+1 Traits™. Each mini-lesson focuses on a craft element specific to the genre. |
| **Grammar and Conventions** | Research suggests that the most effective grammar instruction takes place within the context of writing. The grammar mini-lessons embedded within each unit of study align to the Language standards in the Common Core. |
| **Research** | You can’t write a report or a biography without the facts. You can’t set a historical fiction story in ancient Mesopotamia without understanding the time and place. You can’t argue a position unless you can support it. Research mini-lessons show students how to find reliable information, take notes, and cite their sources. |