



4th Grade Wonders

Unit 2 Week 3



Essential Question:
How are all living things connected?

Spelling - Focus: Three-Letter Blends

Standard List				
1. shred	2. shriek	3. script	4. shrink	5. screw
6. screech	7. straighten	8. strand	9. sprout	10. sprawl
11. sprang	12. splashing	13. splotch	14. thrill	15. throb
16. throat	17. throne	18. through	19. sketched*	20. whine*

Challenge List				
1. shredding	2. shrieking	3. script	4. shrinkage	5. screwdriver
6. screeching	7. straightening	8. stranded	9. sprouting	10. sprawled
11. sprang	12. splashing	13. splotchy	14. thrilling	15. throbbing
16. throttle	17. thriftiness	18. throughout	19. photograph *	20. physical*

Super Spellers			
1. sprinkling	2. threshold	3. straightforward	4. threatening

Vocabulary

drought	Long periods of dry weather without rainfall
ecosystem	All the living and nonliving things in an area
extinct	Something that no longer exists
flourished	Something that thrived or grew strongly
fragile	Something that is delicate and tends to break easily
imbalanced	Something with its parts not equal, steady, or secure
ripples	Small waves

Challenge Words

erosion	Movement of small particles of rocks and soil to a new spot via wind or water
horizon	The line where the earth's surface and sky appear to meet
nutrients	A substance that provides nourishment for growth and repair
reservation	An area of land set aside by the government for use by Native Americans
treaty	An agreement between two groups of people
symbiotic relationship	A close interaction between two or more species, sometimes beneficial, sometimes harmful



Latin/Greek/Persian Root-a-Toot



Root (Origin)	Meaning	Sample Word
drūgath (OE)*	dry	drought

*Old English: English language from about A.D. 500 to A.D. 1100

eco (L & F)	house	ecosystem
erodere (L)	gnaw, eat away	erosion
fragilis (L)	easily broken	fragile
florere (L)	to blossom, bloom	flourish

Latin/Greek Roots Connections

Because **fragile** plants were not able to **flourish** on the plains due to a severe **drought**, there was great soil **erosion**. As a result, the **ecosystem** on the plains was upset.

Strategies and Skills Focus

Genre	Narrative Nonfiction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tells a true story about an event Presents information in sequence Presents information in an engaging way so it reads like a story Can include text features, such as headings, charts, and graphs
Comprehension Strategy	Summarize <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask which details are important and which are not important. Retell important details in logical order. Check for accuracy.
Comprehension Skill	Main Idea and Key Details <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review key details and decide which are most important. Determine what the details have in common to figure out the main idea.
Vocabulary Strategy	Context Clues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> May provide another name for an unfamiliar word or may say what it does or how it is being used

Author's Craft

Jean Craighead George	Sensory Language
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Grammar Goodies

Irregular Plural Nouns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One type of irregular plurals comes from nouns that end in f or fe. Change the f to a v and add es. Other irregular plurals change the vowel sound from the singular, such as foot to feet. Some irregular plurals use a different ending to form the plural, such as child to children.
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Lit Tidbit (Connection to the Story)

The Dust Bowl was an area in the Midwest that suffered from drought during the 1930s. Because there was so little rain, the soil dried out. In addition, farmers had misused the land to grow wheat, so the topsoil was destroyed. Huge dust storms buried homes and fields and made it hard for people to even breathe. Many people suffered from dust pneumonia. Giant dust storms called black blizzards were so strong that they carried dust clear to the east coast. It became nearly impossible to live in the Dust Bowl, so many people migrated to California, where they believed they could find jobs. Unfortunately, these desperate people were not treated well when they arrived. In fact, California eventually made a law that made it illegal to bring poor people into the state. Author John Steinbeck wrote a famous novel about this time period called The Grapes of Wrath.

