WEEK 5 Day 2



Writing Explanation

Deconstruction and Revision: Verbs

Content Objective	I can identify the verbs in explanations. (W.3.1.b)
Language Objective	I can revise my explanation to include present tense action verbs. (L.1.1.d, W.2.1.a, W.3.1.b, W.2)
Vocabulary	 verb: a word that expresses a physical action, mental action, or state of being explanation: a genre of writing whose purpose is to explain a phenomenon in sequence precise: exact; specific imperative verb: verb that gives directions tense: the form of a verb that specifies time present tense: happening now action verb: a verb that expresses action
Materials and Preparation	 Explanation Verbs slides children's writing folders, including phenomenon statements and explanation steps writing tools <i>From Sheep to Sweater</i>, Robin Nelson, copies available for children's use Explanation Observation Tools, from Day 1
Opening 1 minute	Today you will learn about verbs, and then you'll revise the verbs in your explanation.
Deconstruction 19 minutes slide 2	We have learned about a lot of different kinds of verbs in Writing this year. Remember, verbs are words that show a mental action, physical action, or state of being. Procedures use precise imperative verbs to begin the steps. These

	verbs give directions.
slide 3	Personal recounts use verbs that relate to the topic and develop the characters. Because personal recounts tell something that already happened, they use verbs in the past tense .
slide 4	The verbs in explanations are different from those in procedures and personal recounts.
	Let's read this page from From Sheep to Sweater. What do you notice about the verbs?
slide 5	Explanations use present tense action verbs.
	They are in the present tense because they are used to explain how something works or happens all the time.
	They are action verbs that explain the actions of how something works or happens.
slide 6	We're going to practice changing verbs in sentences to make them present tense action verbs. Let's read this sentence together.
	The verb is not in the present tense. What can you change to make it a present tense verb?
	After harvesting children's ideas, click the animation to bring in the second sentence. Read the second sentence.
	The -ed makes the word "washed" in the past tense. You can take off the -ed to change the word "wash," which is in the present tense!
	The first sentence tells what people did. The second sentence explains how something works.
slide 7	Let's try another one. Read this sentence.
	The verb is not an action verb and the sentence does not show an action. How can you change the sentence to include an action verb?
	After harvesting children's ideas, click the animation to bring in the second sentence. Read the second sentence.
	Instead of using "is" in a sentence that describes the yarn, you can

	use the word "due" to show an action
	use the word "dye" to show an action.
	The first sentence describes the yarn.
	The second sentence explains how something works.
Revision 9 minutes	Now it's your turn to go back and revise. Begin by underlining all of the verbs in your explanation.
slide 8	Then check each verb. Is it in the present tense? Is it an action verb? If not, change the verb to be a present tense action verb.
Closing 1 minute	Today you learned about the verbs in explanations and revised your work. Tomorrow you will continue learning about the language of explanations.
Standards	 W.3.1.b Use a combination of drawing and writing to communicate a topic with details. W.2 Develop, strengthen, and produce polished writing by using a collaborative process that includes the age-appropriate use of technology. W.2.1.a With guidance and support from adults, focus on a topic, respond to questions and suggestions from peers, and add details to strengthen writing as needed. L.1.1.d Use verbs to convey a sense of past, present, and future (e.g., <i>Yesterday I walked home; Today I walk home; Tomorrow I will walk home</i>).
Ongoing assessment	After the lesson, review children's work using the Explanation Observation Tool, focusing on Verbs.

Notes

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