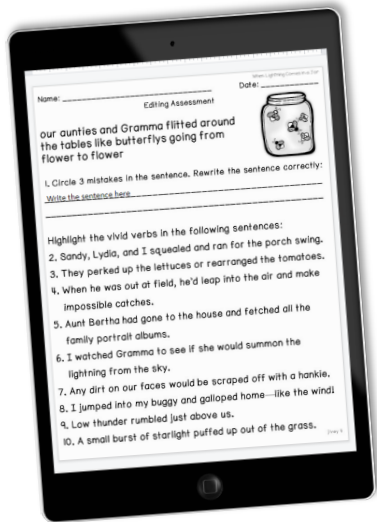
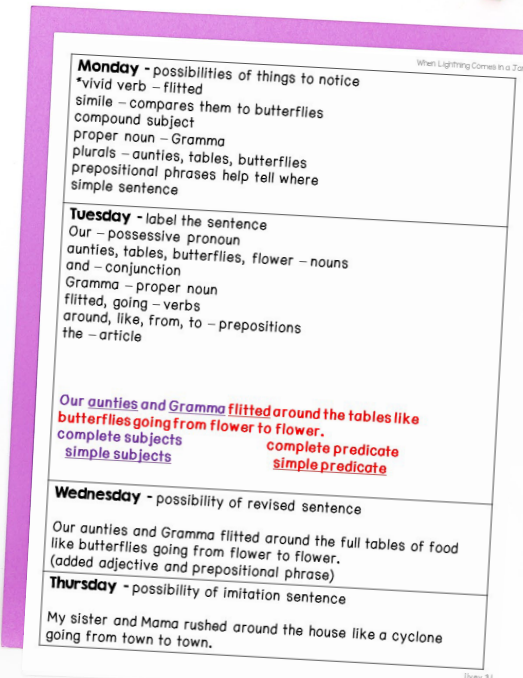
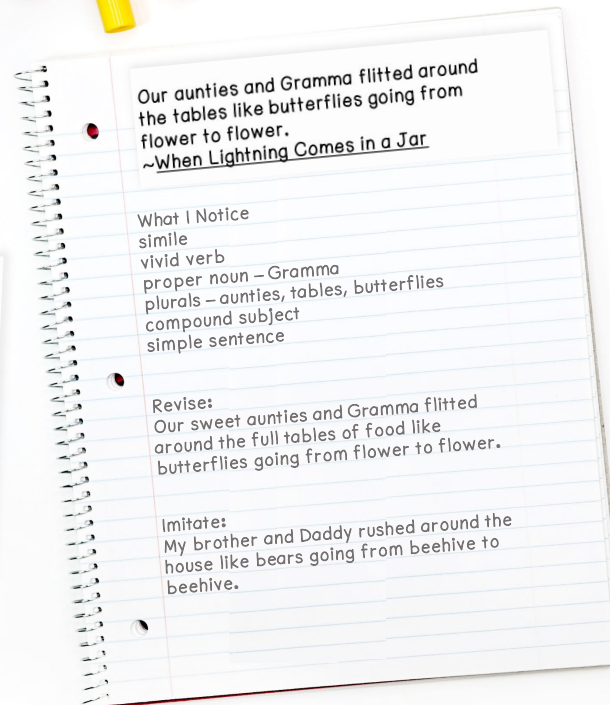


# MENTOR SENTENCES

Teach grammar lessons that  
**STICK**  
in just 15 minutes per day!



Our aunties and Gramma  
flitted around the tables  
like butterflies going from  
flower to flower.  
~When Lightning Comes in a Jar



# THE ROUTINE

## Day 1

What do you **notice** about this sentence? You might see exciting words, figurative language, the type of sentence, or even special parts of speech. Write down what you **notice**!

## Day 2



Rewrite the mentor sentence exactly as it is written, but skip lines in between. Label all of the **parts of speech** that you know in this sentence!

## Day 3

**Revise** the mentor sentence by making it more descriptive or exciting. Try adding or changing adjectives, verbs, or specific nouns. Remember to keep the meaning of the sentence **the same**!

## Day 4



**Imitate** the mentor sentence by keeping the style and structure the same, but making it your own. You should create a **brand new sentence**!

No boring worksheets or lectures with mentor sentences!

Every day, students will be:

- ✓ diving into discussions about language
- ✓ analyzing and examining syntax, structure, and craft
  - ✓ comparing words and phrases
  - ✓ manipulating parts of sentences
- ✓ and **APPLYING** it all to their own writing.

Mentor Sentences teach **SO MUCH MORE** than grammar!

# SPIRAL LEARNING

I've used a few different resources for mentor sentences, and **this one is the best I've found.** It has everything you need and it's easy to use.

Christine T., 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher

Each week's lesson focuses on one or two grammar and language skills.

The exceptional models used each week as mentor sentences consistently expose students to new and previously learned skills.

The spiral nature of mentor sentences keeps the most important skills that we want them to apply to writing in front of them week after week.

This positively impacts retention, understanding, and student ability.

# INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT

You don't need to be a "grammar guru"  
to implement the mentor sentence routine.

I've done the hard work for every lesson – listing things  
worth noticing about the sentence, researching the parts of  
speech, plus revising and imitating the sentence.

You'll be able to refer to the cheat sheet  
and even use my possibilities as your models!

**Monday** - possibilities of things to notice  
\*vivid verb – flitted  
simile – compares them to butterflies  
compound subject  
proper noun – Gramma  
plurals – aunts, tables, butterflies  
prepositional phrases help tell where  
simple sentence

**Tuesday** - label the sentence  
Our – possessive pronoun  
aunts, tables, butterflies, flower – nouns  
and – conjunction  
Gramma – proper noun  
flitted, going – verbs  
around, like, from, to – prepositions  
the – article

Our aunts and Gramma flitted around the tables like  
butterflies going from flower to flower.  
complete subjects complete predicate  
simple subjects simple predicate

**Wednesday** - possibility of revised sentence

Our aunts and Gramma flitted around the full tables of food  
like butterflies going from flower to flower.  
(added adjective and prepositional phrase)

**Thursday** - possibility of imitation sentence

My sister and Mama rushed around the house like a cyclone  
going from town to town.

When Lightning Comes in a Jar

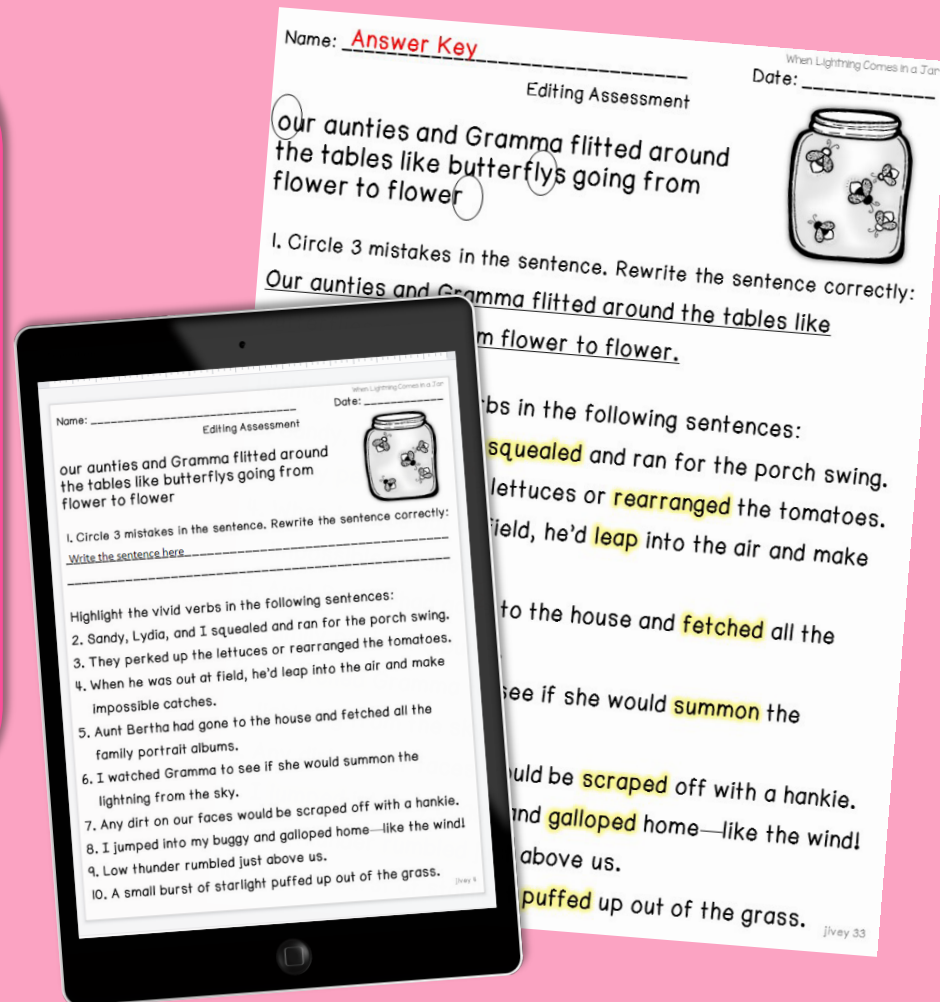
teacher-tested  
in thousands of  
classrooms!



# FORMATIVE ASSESSMENTS

These are the BEST way to teach grammar in a way that is not boring or rote.

**My admin is so impressed** with how students can not only understand the parts of speech, but also **use that knowledge to create new sentences to show their understanding.**



Quizzes provide students an opportunity for editing practice and to show understanding of the focus skill of the week.

Use the formative assessments (included in print and digital) to find out who may need additional support.

# PICTURE BOOKS AS MENTOR TEXTS IN THE UPPER GRADES

Wish I would have bought this sooner!! The weekly picture books are what my students look forward to most. Having a mentor sentence that goes directly with the books **engages them and excites them about writing and learning grammar.**

Victoria L., 4<sup>th</sup> /5<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher

Why use picture books in the upper grades?

 Interest and Engagement

 Expose Students To More Vivid Language

 Teach Multiple Mini-Lessons (Not Just Mentor Sentences!)

 Integrate Content (Science, Social Studies, & Math)

 Immerse Students In More Genres

Don't own all the books? Most of the mentor texts used in the lessons are popular books that can be found in your media center, local library, or even a fellow teacher's classroom!

# MENTOR SENTENCES & THE SCIENCE OF READING

Word Recognition × Language Comprehension = Reading Comprehension

Mentor sentences help students understand the functions of words, as well as see relationships between them.

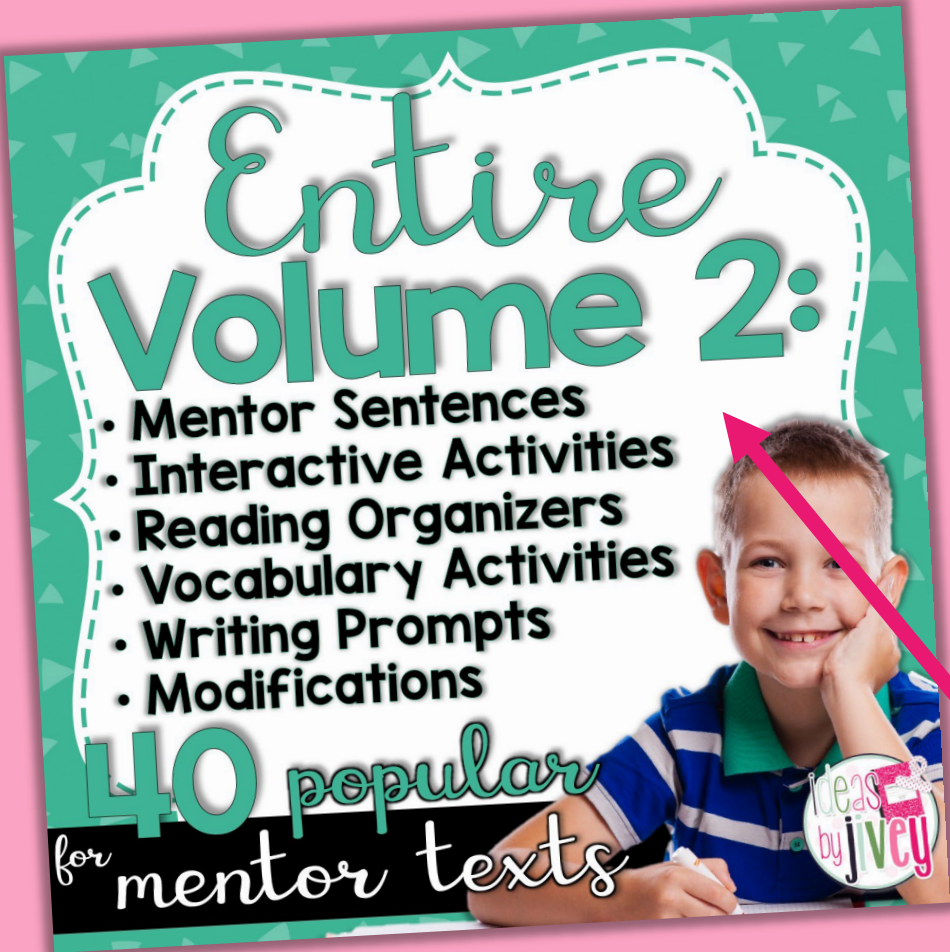
The books chosen for mentor sentence lessons expose students to a variety of genres, word choice, and craft.

Background Knowledge  
Vocabulary Knowledge  
Language Structures (Syntax)  
Verbal Reasoning (Semantics)  
Literacy Knowledge

Mentor sentences help students understand how words are organized in logical and meaningful sentences.

Mentor sentences help students develop a knowledge of language, and even allow them to alter the meanings of words and phrases.

# BUY THE BUNDLE & SAVE!



The ENTIRE Volume 2 Curriculum bundle includes

✓ all 40 weeks of the mentor sentence lessons

AND-- for every book, you'll also get:

✓ interactive grammar activities

✓ reading organizers perfect for gradual release lessons

✓ contextual vocabulary activities

✓ themed writing prompts

PLUS, 5 BONUS WEEKS OF NEW UNITS!

*check it out!*

45  
WEEKS!



# FABULOUS FEEDBACK

JUST A FEW FROM OVER 10,000 ★★★★★ REVIEWS!

This resource has been very helpful in **modeling good sentence writing**. It has been beneficial in expanding our lessons on parts of speech and punctuation by **connecting to real text**. My students look forward to getting to write their own sentences modeling after the mentor sentence and have a lot of fun with it.

Jodi W., 3<sup>rd</sup> / 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher

This makes mentor sentences **approachable** for students and teachers alike. This is a great way to **reinforce grammar skills** and open a **dialogue about sentence structure**.

Katherine D., 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher

My students **love** using the mentor sentences. I've seen my students **using the imitations for their own writing**. Ah... success.

Robin K., 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher

I have been using Mentor Sentences for at least two years now. Each year, I have **fun** teaching with these mentor texts and activities. Also, students become **easily engaged** and **build stronger grammar skills**. They retain the information longer than they every did with other grammar lessons I would use which taught isolated skills out of context.

Lori P., 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher