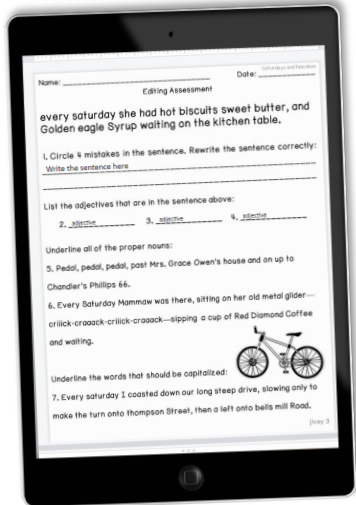
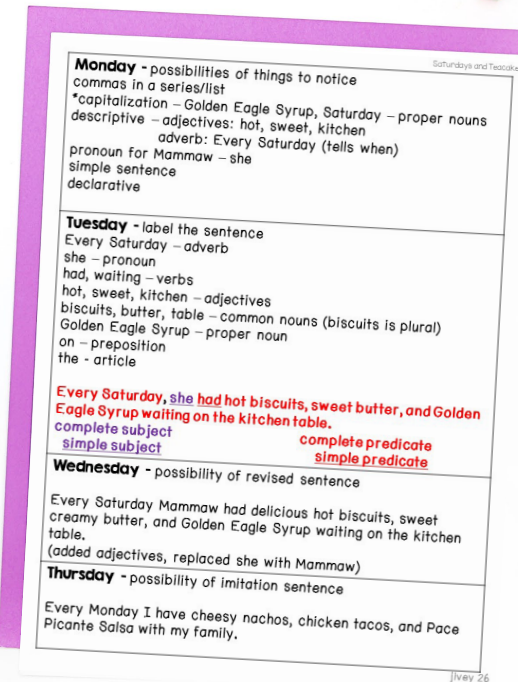
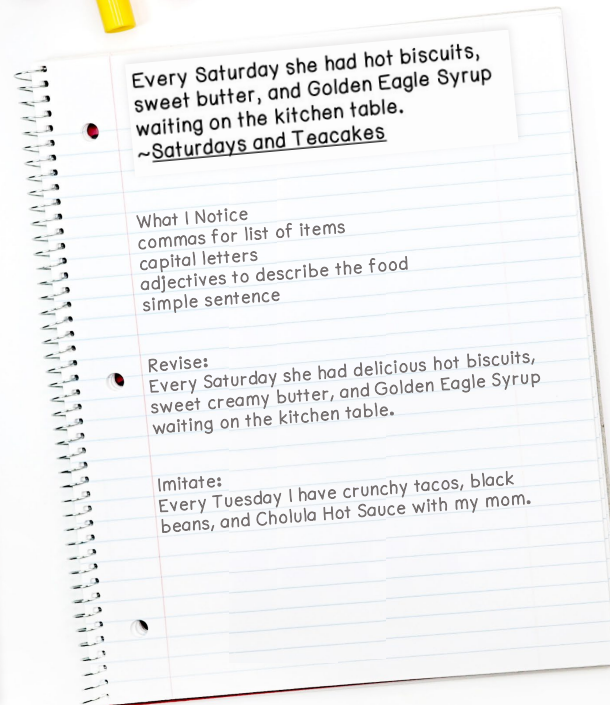


# MENTOR SENTENCES

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



Every Saturday she had hot  
biscuits, sweet butter, and  
Golden Eagle Syrup waiting  
on the kitchen table.  
~Saturdays and Teacakes



# 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!

### Saturdays and Teacakes

**Monday** - possibilities of things to notice  
commas in a series/list  
\*capitalization – Golden Eagle Syrup, Saturday – proper nouns  
descriptive – adjectives: hot, sweet, kitchen  
adverb: Every Saturday (tells when)  
pronoun for Mammaw – she  
simple sentence  
declarative

teacher-tested  
in thousands of  
classrooms!

**Tuesday** - label the sentence  
Every Saturday – adverb  
she – pronoun  
had, waiting – verbs  
hot, sweet, kitchen – adjectives  
biscuits, butter, table – common nouns (biscuits is plural)  
Golden Eagle Syrup – proper noun  
on – preposition  
the - article

Every Saturday, she had hot biscuits, sweet butter, and Golden Eagle Syrup waiting on the kitchen table.

complete subject	complete predicate
simple subject	simple predicate

**Wednesday** - possibility of revised sentence

Every Saturday Mammaw had delicious hot biscuits, sweet creamy butter, and Golden Eagle Syrup waiting on the kitchen table.  
(added adjectives, replaced she with Mammaw)

**Thursday** - possibility of imitation sentence

Every Monday I have cheesy nachos, chicken tacos, and Pace Picante Salsa with my family.



# 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.**

Name: Answer Key Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Saturdays and Teacakes

Editing Assessment

every saturday she had hot biscuits sweet butter, and Golden eagle Syrup waiting on the kitchen table.

1. Circle 4 mistakes in the sentence. Rewrite the sentence correctly:  
Every Saturday she had hot biscuits, sweet butter, and Golden Eagle Syrup waiting on the kitchen table.

List the adjectives that are in the sentence above:  
2. hot 3. sweet 4. \_\_\_\_\_

Underline all of the proper nouns:  
5. Pedal, pedal, pedal, past Mrs. Grace Owen's house Chandler's Phillips 66.

6. Every Saturday Mammaw was there, sitting on criiick-craaack-criiick-craaack—sipping a cup of and waiting.

Underline the words that should be capitalized:  
7. Every saturday I coasted down our long steep drive, slowing only to make the turn onto thompson Street, then

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Saturdays and Teacakes

Editing Assessment

every saturday she had hot biscuits sweet butter, and Golden eagle Syrup waiting on the kitchen table.

1. Circle 4 mistakes in the sentence. Rewrite the sentence correctly:  
Write the sentence here \_\_\_\_\_

List the adjectives that are in the sentence above:  
2. adjective 3. adjective 4. adjective

Underline all of the proper nouns:  
5. Pedal, pedal, pedal, past Mrs. Grace Owen's house and on up to Chandler's Phillips 66.

6. Every Saturday Mammaw was there, sitting on her old metal glider—criiick-craaack-criiick-craaack—sipping a cup of Red Diamond Coffee and waiting.

Underline the words that should be capitalized:  
7. Every saturday I coasted down our long steep drive, slowing only to make the turn onto thompson Street, then a left onto bells mill Road.

Page 3

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

## Volume 1, Unit 1 Book List

First Day Jitters By Julie Danneberg

Enemy Pie By Derek Munson

Saturdays and Teacakes By Lester Laminack

My Rotten Redheaded Older Brother By Patricia Polacco

Fireflies! By Julie Brinckloe

Come On, Rain! By Karen Hesse

The Man Who Walked Between The Towers  
By Mordicai Gerstein

Verdi By Janell Cannon

Stellaluna By Janell Cannon

I Need My Monster By Amanda Noll

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.

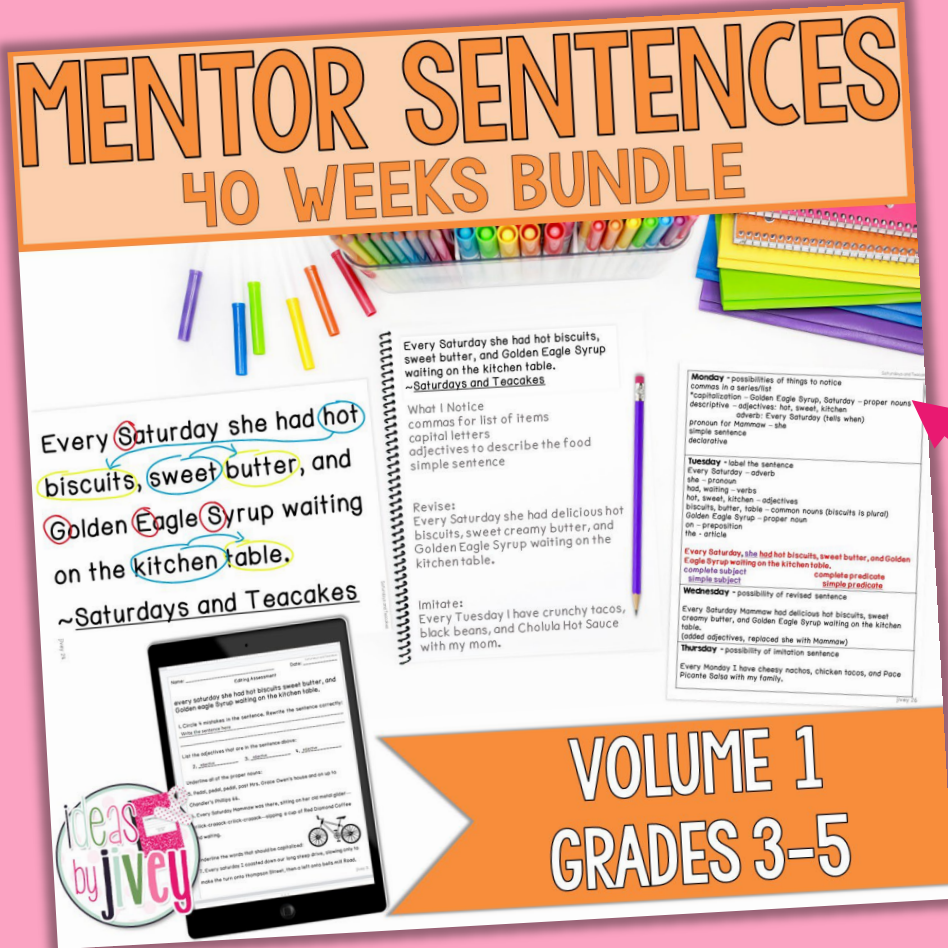
The books chosen for mentor sentence lessons expose students to a variety of genres, word choice, and craft.

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 bundle includes 40 weeks of mentor sentence lessons -- more than a year at your fingertips!

check  
it out!

I've tried different mentor sentence products and this one has been my favorite. I like the **spiral review** feel and that **skills build over time**. Other products seemed jumbled, but **this one followed a progression that made sense** for my class.



# 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