

UNIT DESIGN
Personal Narrative Unit of Study

*Ideas for Nurturing a Topic
Over time, students will. . .*

- Carefully reread their writing, asking themselves why their topic is important to them and then
- Write about why their topic matters to them
- Find the focus for their writing and write small in terms of time
- Slow down time to convey what matters to the reader
- See the movie in their mind, asking where the story begins
- Not only write about what happens, but their response and internal thoughts about their small moment narrative
- Ask other possible questions to push thinking
 - What does this writing tell me about myself?
 - What does this writing tell me about the world?
 - Can I dig deeper and find a theme in my writing?
- Try possible ways to layer onto their writing
 - interview someone who was a part of a memory
 - Go to the special place in their writing
 - Look at photographs and other artifacts to jog memories
- Talk with fellow writers about their ideas and write from their responses

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Ideas for Choosing a Topic
Over time, students will. . .

- Carefully reread entries and ask themselves,
 - Which WNB entry is really important to me?
 - Which entry can I say more about?
 - Which entry do I want to spend more time working on for our personal narrative publication?