

# Mendon Center Elementary

## **Common Core State Standards**

*English Language Arts*

Grades K-2

November 29, 2012

# Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts

- Reading
- Writing
- Speaking and Listening
- Language
- Media and Other Technology

# Reading Instruction

- Phonemic Awareness
- Phonics
- Fluency
- Comprehension
- Vocabulary Instruction

# Gradual Release of Responsibility

- **Teacher modeling and explanation of a strategy**
- **Guided practice where teachers gradually give students more responsibility**
- **Independent practice accompanied by feedback**
- **Application of the strategy in real reading situations**

# Instructional Shifts

## Shift 1

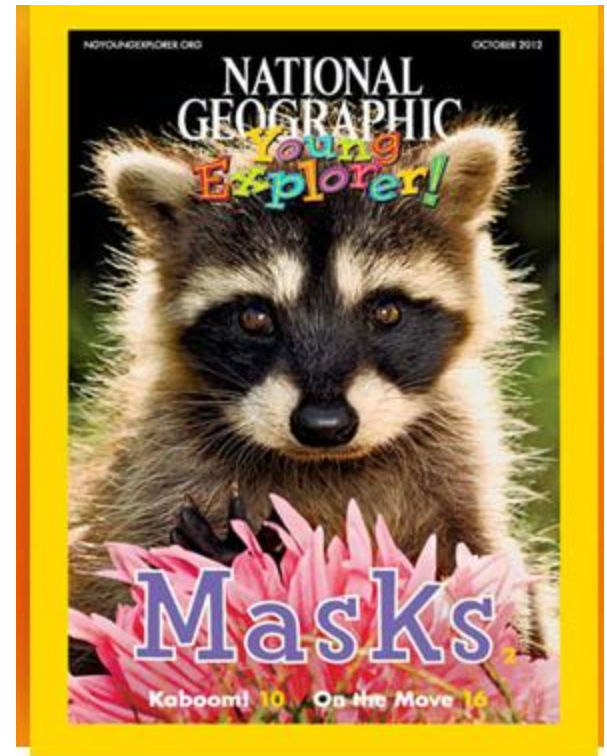
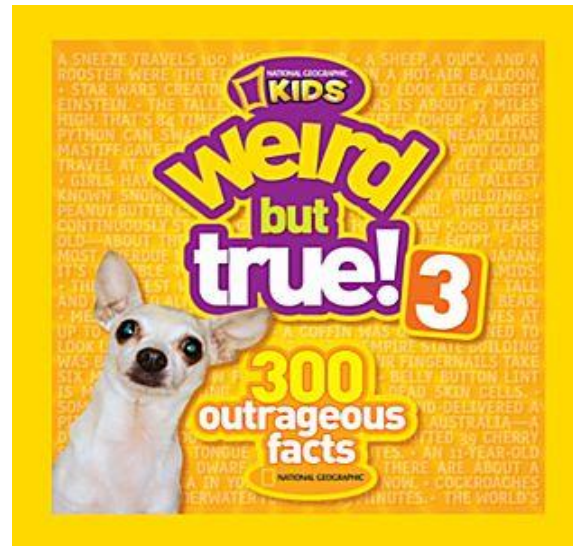
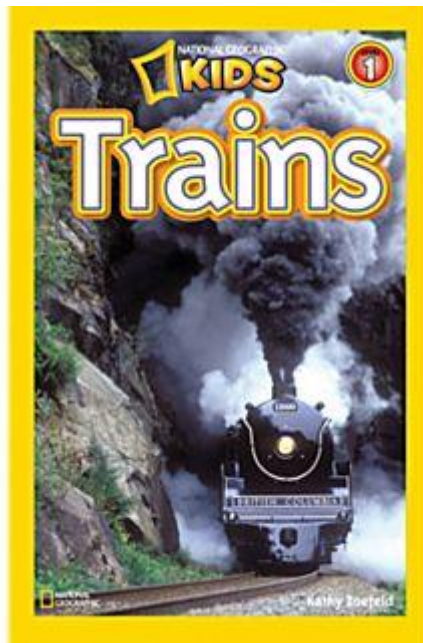
### Balancing Informational and Literary Text

- Students read a true balance of informational and literary texts

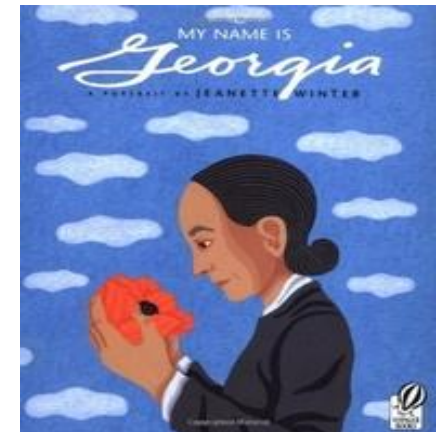
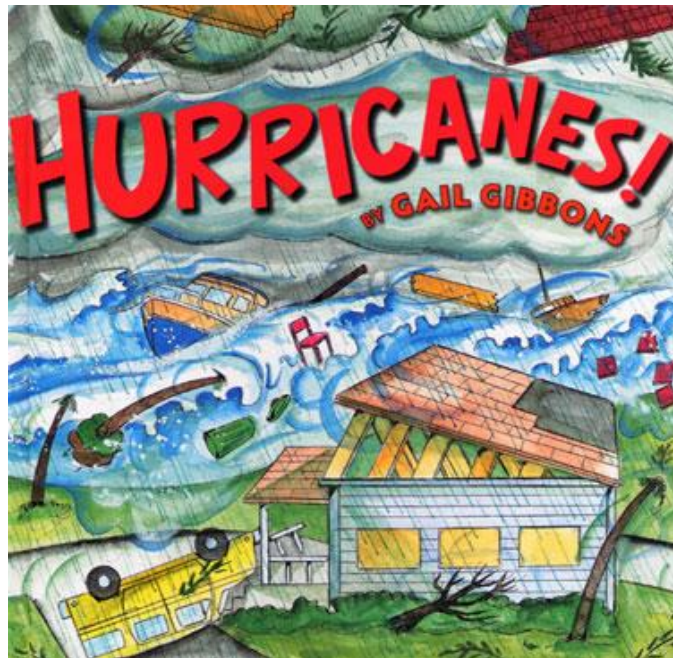
# How can parents help?

Encourage your child to read as much non-fiction as fiction.

- Supply more non-fiction texts
- Read non-fiction texts aloud or with your child
- Point out all of the different ways non-fiction texts are organized and the different features that help readers (subheadings, bold print, captions, maps, charts, tables, graphs, etc...)



Head to  
the  
library  
with your  
child!







1 Hummingbirds **pollinate** flowers. So do **butterflies**. They fly from flower to flower.

2 Some bats are pollinators, too. They are active at night. That's when sweet cactus flowers bloom.





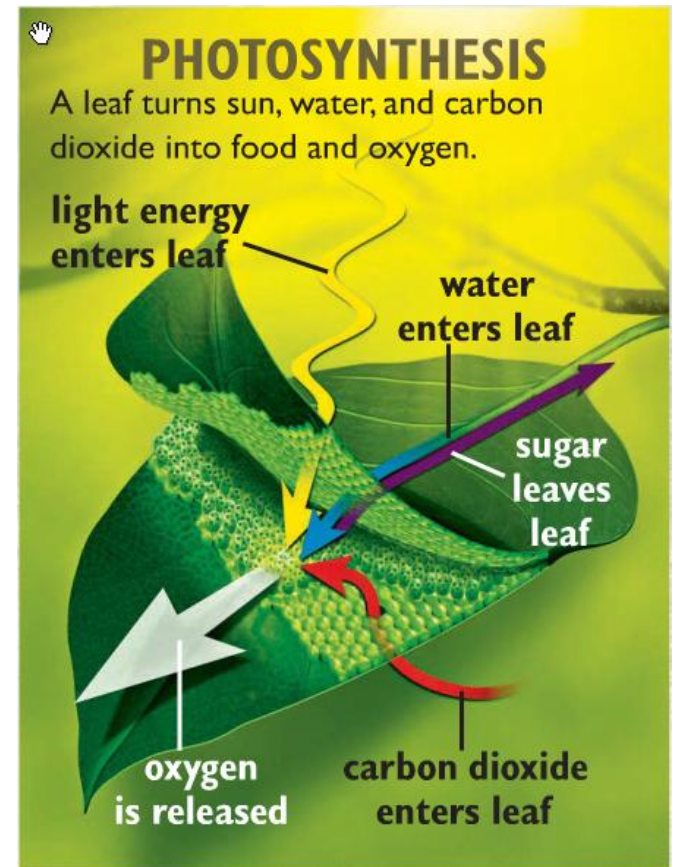
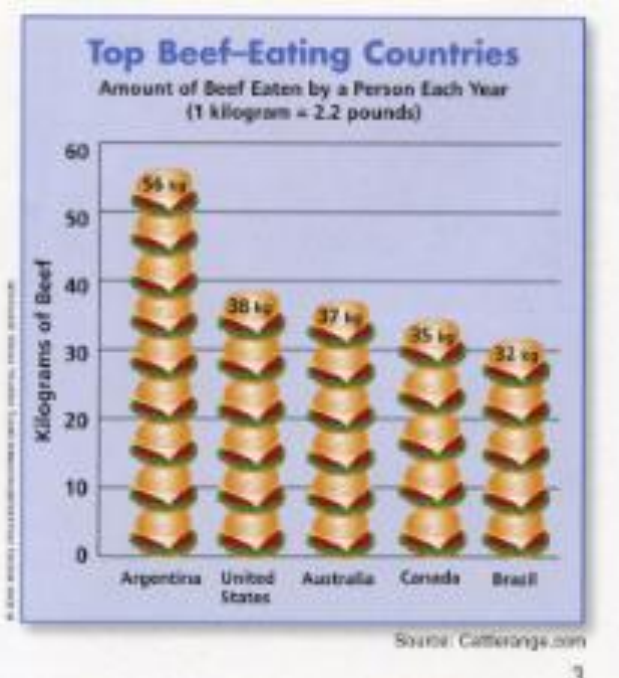
# Nonfiction

## Text Features





# Text Features

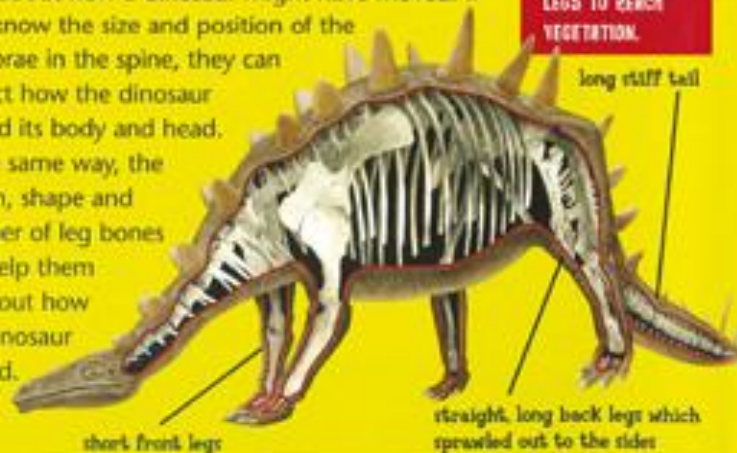




# Running with dinosaurs!

## THE BARE BONES

If palaeontologists work out what a dinosaur's skeleton and muscles looked like, this can give them clues about how a dinosaur might have moved. If they know the size and position of the vertebrae in the spine, they can predict how the dinosaur moved its body and head. In the same way, the length, shape and number of leg bones can help them work out how the dinosaur walked.



THE STEGOSAURUS MAY HAVE REARED UPON ITS HIND LEGS TO REACH VEGETATION.

Dinosaur experts are known as palaeontologists. By studying dinosaur footprints and comparing them to tracks left by modern animals, they make predictions about how dinosaurs moved.

## TWO LEGS OR FOUR?

Dinosaurs can be classified into two groups: quadrupeds (dinosaurs that walked on four legs) and bipeds (dinosaurs that walked on two legs). However, some quadrupeds used two legs when running so they could move faster.



Some palaeontologists think that the T. rex could have run as fast as 32 kilometres per hour.



Bipedal dinosaurs	Quadrupedal dinosaurs
Acrocanthosaurus	Ankylosaurus
Ceratops	Brachiosaurus
Compsognathus	Diplodocus
Giganotosaurus	Plateosaurus
Megaraptor	Selimosaurus
Oviraptor	Stegosaurus
Tyrannosaurus rex	Triceratops
Velociraptor	

# Instructional Shifts

## Shift 2

### Knowledge in the Disciplines

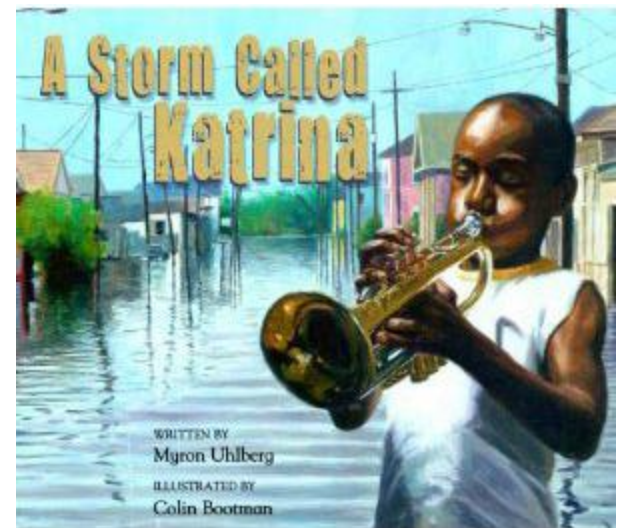
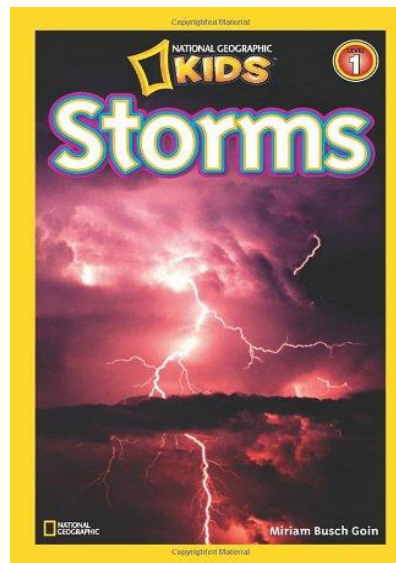
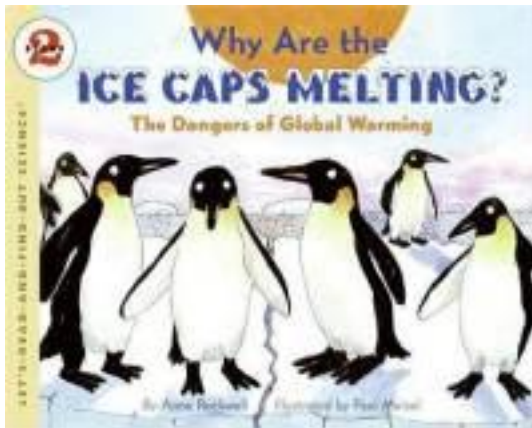
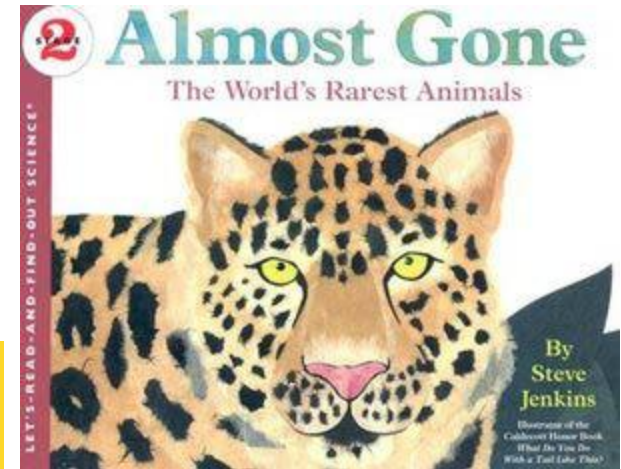
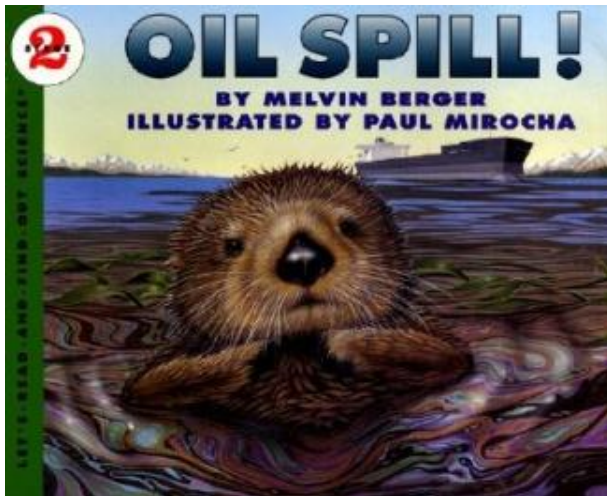
- Students build knowledge about the world through TEXT rather than the teacher or activities

# How can parents help?

Help your child to learn about the world through reading.

- Provide series of texts on topics of interest
- Find books that EXPLAIN
- Discuss the big ideas behind what is written

# Learning about Our World





# Instructional Shifts

## Shift 3

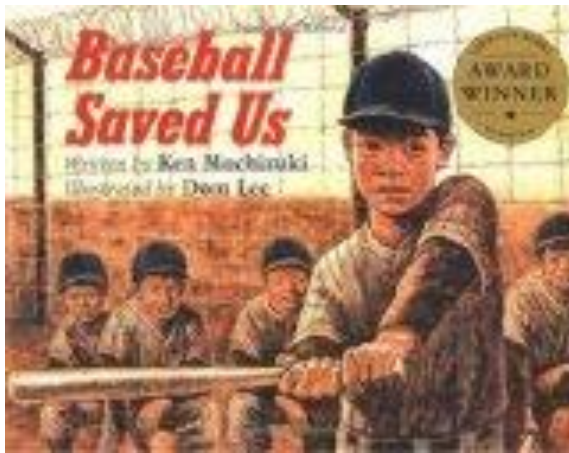
### Staircase of Complexity

- Students read the central, grade appropriate text around which instruction is centered
- Teachers provide time, space, and support for close reading

# How can parents help?

Encourage your child to read more complex material carefully.

- Provide more challenging texts AND provide texts your child wants to read and can read comfortably
- Know what is grade level appropriate
- Read challenging texts *with* your child
- Show your child that challenging reading is *worth* unpacking



## Baseball Saved Us

One day, my dad looked out at the endless desert and decided then and there to build a baseball field.

He said people needed something to do in Camp. We weren't in a camp that was fun, like summer camp. Ours was in the middle of nowhere, and were behind a barbed wire fence. Soldiers with guns made sure we stayed there, and the man in the tower saw everything we did, no matter where we were.

As Dad began walking over dry, cracked dirt, I asked him again why we were here.

"Because," he said, "America is at war with Japan, and the government thinks that Japanese Americans can't be trusted. But it's wrong that we're in here. We're Americans too!" Then he made a mark in the dirt and mumbled something about where the infield bases should be.

Japanese people must have been in some kind of Prison when Japan was at war with America.

I wonder what the importance of the baseball field is. Maybe it will be the only good thing there.

I wonder how baseball saved these people ("us")

I wonder if it's a boy or girl speaking

- dry flat land

- why is this capitaliz? It must be a specific

sounds like a prison

he/she feels it's unfair

Dad sounds frustrated too

# Instructional Shifts

## Shift 4

### Text-based Answers

- Students engage in rich and rigorous evidence based conversations about text.

# How can parents help?

Help your child to discuss their reading using evidence.

- Talk about texts
- Expect evidence in everyday discussions and/or disagreements
- Read aloud or read the same book silently with your child and discuss with evidence

# Evidence Based Language

- For example...
- For instance...
- Because...
- Based on what I read...
- The author stated...
- According to the text...
- On page \_\_\_\_, it said...
- From the reading I know that...



# Instructional Shifts

## Shift 5

### Writing from Sources

- Students' writing emphasizes the use of evidence from sources to inform or make an argument

# How can parents help?

Encourage your child to make arguments in writing using evidence.

- Encourage writing at home
- Encourage your child to be a “collector” of evidence
- Write “books” together and include evidence/details

# Response to Literature

## Bear Feels Scared

by Karma Wilson and Jane Chapman



Main Character Bear

List three character traits of the main character from the story:

1. nervous
2. happy
3. grateful

Pick a trait: grateful

# Evidence Based Response

In the story

Bear was grateful

because his friends

brought him home to his

lair. Bear was really

happy to be home

with his friends.

# Instructional Shifts

## Shift 6

### Academic Vocabulary

- Students constantly build the transferable vocabulary they need to access grade level complex texts
- Students read content that is spiraled through increasingly complex texts

# How can parents help?

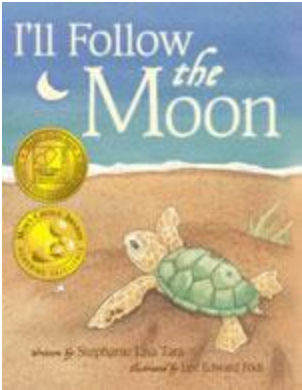
Help your child learn words they can use later in life.

- Read often with your child
- Read multiple books about the same topic
- Let your child see you reading
- Talk to your child

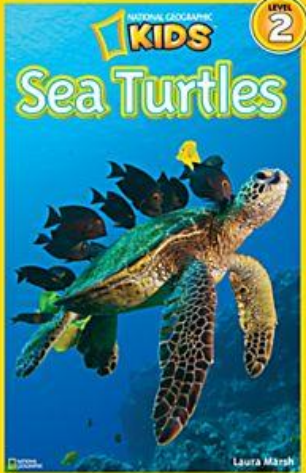


# Same topic, Increasing Complexity

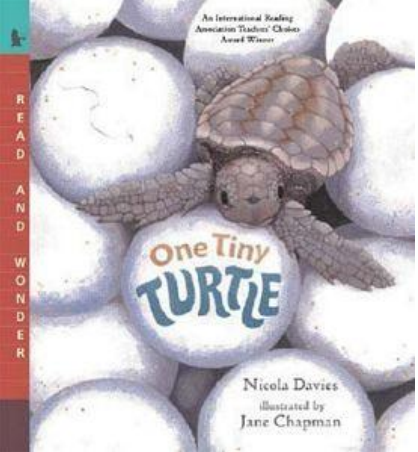
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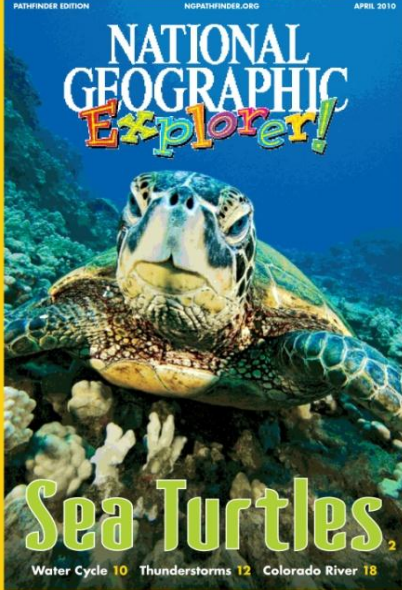
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## Saving Sea Turtles

On any given day, Dr. Terry Norton might see six or more patients. But Dr. Norton's patients aren't the kind that most doctors see. His patients are sea turtles. And his "doctor's office" is at the Georgia Sea Turtle Center (GSTC) on Jekyll Island, Georgia.

One of the most recent patients to arrive at the GSTC is Pumpkin, a loggerhead sea turtle named for the Florida crew where she was found. When Pumpkin arrived, she was not showing many signs of life. She had lost a lot of weight because she couldn't open her mouth to eat like a healthy turtle can. Dr. Norton and his team went to work on Pumpkin. They are feeding her a special diet and they are giving her physical therapy so she can learn how to move her mouth again.

Workers at the GSTC work hard to rescue and return sea turtles to their natural habitat. Another goal of the center is to teach people about these "graceful, swimming dinosaurs" and the dangers they face in the wild. Many turtles have come to the center because they were struck by boats, caught up in fishing lines, or harmed by trash thrown into the sea.

Last year, Dr. Norton and his coworkers had a big celebration when they returned a loggerhead sea turtle to the wild. That turtle, Dylan, had been rescued as a hatchling in 1998. She ended up spending many years at the Georgia Aquarium in Atlanta, where she was very popular with aquarium visitors. But Dylan was outgrowing her tank at the aquarium, so the people who run the aquarium moved her to the turtle center so workers there could prepare her to be returned to her natural habitat.

At the aquarium, Dylan had been fed by hand for many years, so the GSTC team had to teach her how to capture prey. They taught her other skills she would need to survive in the wild too. Then, last June, a crowd of people gathered on the shores of Jekyll Island to send Dylan back to the sea. A tracking device attached to her shell has tracked her movements ever since. Last month, Dylan was tracked in the Gulf of Mexico, about 250 miles west of the southernmost tip of Florida's mainland.

**THINK ABOUT THE NEWS**

Dr. Norton and his team work with sea turtles. If you could work to help a species survive, with what species would you most like to work? Why?

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### Science & Nature

#### Saving the World's Most Endangered Sea Turtle

Stranded on Cape Cod beaches, these Kemp's ridley turtles are getting a helping hand from volunteers and researchers

By Amy Sutherland  
Photographs by Herb Swanson  
Smithsonian magazine, May 2010



When some turtles swim south in the fall, scores of them get trapped by Cape Cod, where many die of hypothermia.

Herb Swanson

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Cape Cod Bay churns as a frigid gust flicks froth into the air and the surf claws at the beach. I find a tangle of black seaweed on the sand, lift a handful of the wet mess and glimpse the lines of a shell. I grab more seaweed and uncover what I've been searching for: a Kemp's ridley turtle, a member of the world's most endangered species of sea turtle.

It's a long way from the beach in Mexico where the turtles almost certainly hatched. It's so still I doubt it's alive. I pull off my gloves, lift the animal by its foot-wide shell and trot down the beach, holding it in front of me like a priceless porcelain vase. The turtle slowly raises its plum-size head and pops open its small eyes. One flipper flutters, then another. The turtle begins to paddle in the air, as if swimming. I sprint to my car.

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# Some Final Curriculum Highlights...

- Reading workshop
- Writing workshop
- Required writing units (grades K-5)
- Content area literacy
- Ongoing assessment

# Writing Workshop

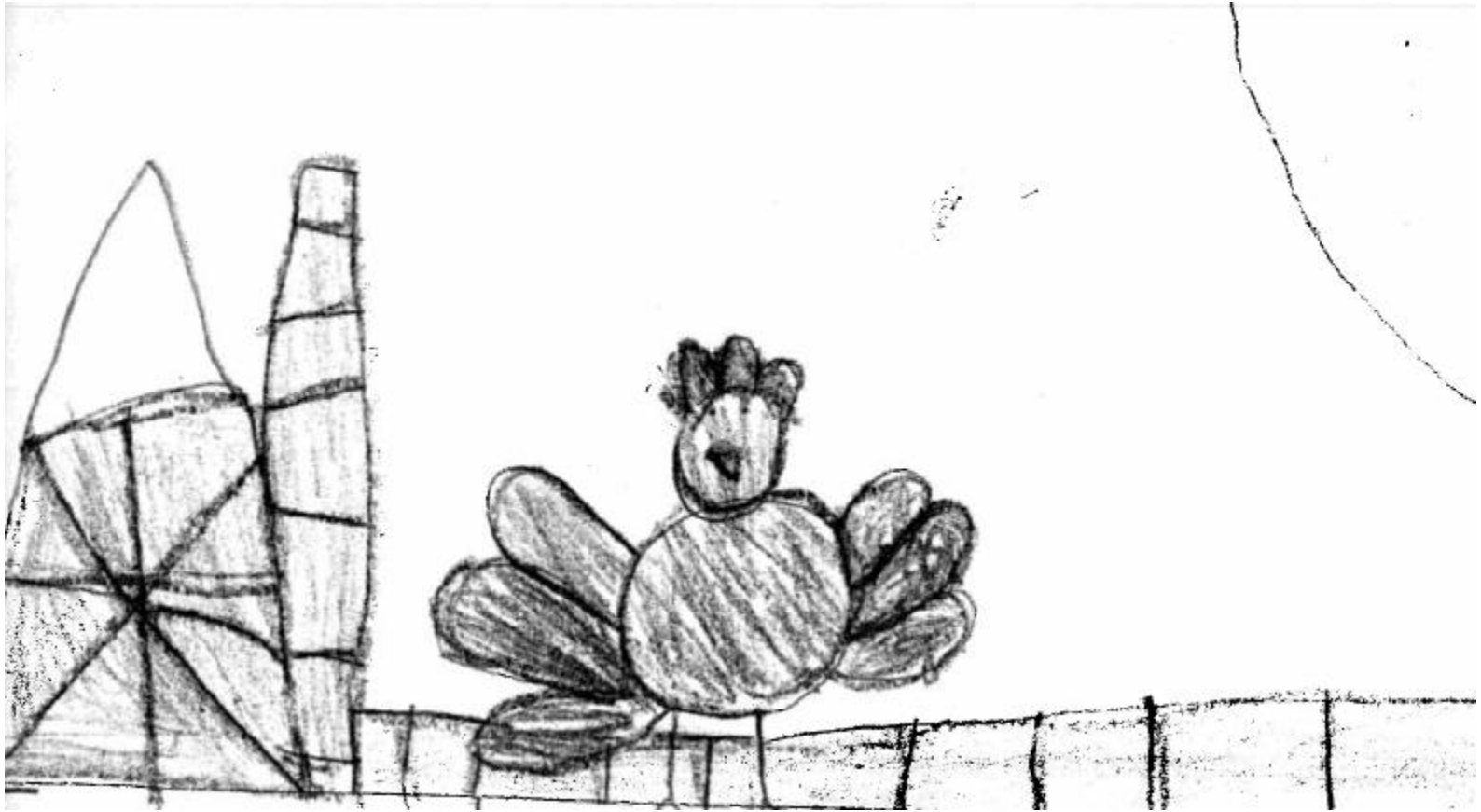
Turkeys have colorful feathers.

Feathers and they are brown.

My turkey is sad. It is

Thanksgiving today.

# Poor Turkey.....



Remember....  
“We’re All In This Together!”

