



# Language Arts Instructor's Guides

Sample Language Arts Instructor's Guide.

## Your guide to help your children love to read and write well.

Sonlight's K-6 Language Arts Instructor's Guides have enhanced notes to guide you through each week, plus creative assignments and engaging activity sheets.

Your children may beg you to let them write just one more story!

Your guide will walk you and your children through a year of exciting, creative writing adventures, dictation practice from your children's favorite books to improve their punctuation and spelling, and lots of innovative exercises to strengthen vocabulary and overall ability to write well. They'll get a unified learning experience and you'll have the joy of watching them learn to love expressing themselves through writing.

Activity Sheets captivate your children and make them eager to do assignments.

Week 2—Schedule				
Date:	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4
Spelling/Vocabulary				
Handwriting				
Grammar				
Readers				
3 Days:	chaps. 9-10	chaps. 11-12	chaps. 13-14	chaps. 15-16
By the Great Horn Spoon				
4 Days:	pp. 76-chap. 8	chaps. 9-10	chaps. 11-12	chaps. 13-14
By the Great Horn Spoon				
Vocabulary Development				
Optional:	Exercise 1D	Exercise 1E	Exercise 2A	
Writing				
Activity Sheets	Activity Sheet 2	Discussion 2	Grammar Gems	
Other Notes				

A Reader's Schedule enables you to easily combine student's of different grade levels with one Core. Add reader packs for older or younger children.

Your children learn from examples in the books they read, for example: about similes by reading about "seagulls that flock the air like confetti."

Begin each day with confidence knowing where you are, where you've been and where you're going. Your ready-to-use, 180-day schedule lays it all out for you, whether you choose our four- or five- day plan. Expert guidance every day ensures you won't miss what's important, and gives your family consistency where you want it—with room to flex.

Your children will write daily in a wide variety of genres: from dictation, to brainstorming notes, to imaginative pieces. You'll be thrilled by what they create.

### Student Activity Sheet 2

**Dictation**

A hilltop telegraph had signaled the arrival of a side-wheeler and now it seemed as if all of San Francisco had turned out. The wharf was alive with men, women and children—not to mention dogs, mules and chickens. Seagulls flocked in the air like confetti.

**Grammar Gem**  
*Did you know...* A writer uses a **simile** to make a comparison between two unlike things using *like, as, or resembles*. This helps the reader create a mental picture of the scene.

1. Can you find the simile in the dictation? Write it here: \_\_\_\_\_
2. What two things are compared? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What mental picture does it create? \_\_\_\_\_

Here are a few more examples taken from *By the Great Horn Spoon*:

"Captain Swain says my no-  
 "His finger's clean as a whis-  
 "The two gold ships, linked

**Revision Checklist**

Refer to this list to check your work on your friendly letter. Revise the letter to make corrections if necessary.

- \_\_\_\_\_ The format has all five of the requirements of the friendly letter.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The ideas are clear. It is easy to understand.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The sentences are complete thoughts.
- \_\_\_\_\_ All proper nouns are capitalized. All words are spelled correctly.
- \_\_\_\_\_ All sentence endings have the correct punctuation.
- \_\_\_\_\_ All paragraphs are organized and focused.

It's easy to check your students' work—answers are printed for you within the teaching notes for each day. Makes checking answers a snap, so you can spend more time in quality interaction with your children.

Large print dictation/copywork assignments mean your children are able to read and study assignments on their own. You're free to concentrate on what you need to—a life-saver as you juggle multiple kids or face your daily tasks.

Your children learn to write based on models of excellent writing since all their dictation assignments are selected from Sonlight's award-winning Readers. The opportunity to write based on stories they enjoy reading will capture their attention and aid their comprehension.

Grammar Gems highlight, explain and reinforce new Language Arts concepts and give students a chance to practice their skills in context; i.e., in "real life" situations.

Find the context of any dictation assignment in seconds with Sonlight's handy reference to the actual page numbers of each book.

Weekly notes give you well-thought-out assignments and lots of variety.

**Week 2—Notes**

**Day 1**  
**Instruction:** *By the Great Horn Spoon*, pp. 83  
 A hilltop telegraph had signaled the arrival of a side-wheeler and now it seemed as if all of San Francisco had turned out. The wharf was alive with men, women and children—not to mention dogs, mules and chickens. Seagulls flocked in the air like confetti.  
**Grammar Gem**  
 Occasionally, a Grammar Gem will accompany the dictation. Grammar Gems demonstrate how grammar applies to writing. They provide an opportunity for your child to gain familiarity with new concepts.  
**Follow the directions on Activity Sheet 2**  
**Activity Sheet 2 Answer Key**  
**Simile**  
 1. Seagulls flocked in the air like confetti.  
 2. The seagulls: gathering and confetti flying in the air.  
 3. Answers will vary.  
**Day 2**  
**Writing Strategy: The Five Parts of the Friendly Letter**  
**Heading:** The heading gives your address and the date.  
**Greeting:** The greeting tells who will receive the letter.  
**Body:** The body contains your message. It has a beginning, middle, and end.  
**Closing:** The closing is a sign-off from you.  
**Signature:** The signature gives your name.  
 In chapter two of *By the Great Horn Spoon*, read Jack's letter to his Aunt Arabella and his sister. Can you find all five parts of the friendly letter? What is missing? Does Jack's letter have a beginning, middle, and end? Notice how each paragraph has a main topic. Yesterday you learned about similes in a Grammar Gem. Review the definition as needed. Can you find the simile that Jack used in his letter? Do you think that Aunt Arabella and Jack's sister will understand what Jack is trying to tell them?  
**Appendix D** This includes a Revision Checklist for your child's use on Activity Sheet 2.  
**Address an Envelope**  
 Your name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Your mailing address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, State, Zip code \_\_\_\_\_  
 Recipient's name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Recipient's address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, State, Zip code \_\_\_\_\_  
 First Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

© 2009 by Sonlight Curriculum, Ltd. All rights reserved.

Appendices offer a wealth of extra resources. For example, in K-5 guides, intriguing visuals that beg to tell a story jumpstart your children's creativity. From an image of a ship at sea to a lone rider crossing a desert on horseback, these "story-starter pictures" help children develop imaginative writing.



*Benjie L. of Alberta, Canada, enjoys great books in the great outdoors with his children Beatrice, Camilla, Miguel, and Danielle, who are doing Core 4. "I wish dad could read this book with us," my girls would say as we made our way through our Sonlight Read-Alouds," writes their mom, Edelwina. "And that is actually what happened when one of them packed her favorite Sonlight books on an out-of-town trip last summer! Dad enjoyed it and has, since then, spent time reading aloud to the children, especially to our son. Now we can add Sonlight books to the list of things we can all enjoy as a family." The L family has used Sonlight five of seven years in their homeschool.*