

# Fun with Roses

## Standards

ELACC5RL1: Quote accurately from a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.

ELACC5RL2: Determine a theme of a story, drama, or poem from details in the text, including how characters in a story or drama respond to challenges or how the speaker in a poem reflects upon a topic; summarize the text.

ELACC5W2: Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.

- a. Introduce a topic clearly, provide a general observation and focus, and group related information logically; include formatting (e.g., headings), illustrations, and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension.
- b. Develop the topic with facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples related to the topic.
- c. Link ideas within and across categories of information using words, phrases, and clauses (e.g., in contrast, especially).
- d. Use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to inform about or explain the topic.
- e. Provide a concluding statement or section related to the information or explanation presented.

ELACC5W4: Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development and organization are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

ELACC5W5: With guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, and editing.

ELACC5W6: With some guidance and support from adults, use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing as well as to interact and collaborate with others; demonstrate sufficient command of keyboarding skills to type a minimum of two pages in a single sitting.

ELACC5W7: Conduct short research projects that use several sources to build knowledge through investigation of different aspects of a topic.

ELACC5W8: Recall relevant information from experiences or gather relevant information from print and digital sources; summarize or paraphrase information in notes and finished work, and provide a list of sources.

ELACC5W9: Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.

- b. Apply grade 5 Reading Standards to informational texts (e.g., Explain how an author uses reasons and evidence to support particular points in a text, identifying which reasons and evidence supports which point[s])

## Overview

Below are some ideas to research roses in your classroom and work on writing skills!

## Language Arts

### Introduce students to “rose code.”

During Victorian times, flowers were used to communicate subtle messages. People could share sentiments and feelings without words. Although the rose was generally a symbol of love and beauty, their colors were associated with different meanings.

- Have students to define any words from the chart that are unfamiliar to them, then ask each student to write story in which roses are used to pass along a message.
- As an extension, cut pictures of flowers from magazines and seed catalogs to create colorful coded messages.
- Try creating an entirely new code for flowers! (This will help kids hone their flower recognition skills, too.)

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| Red             | love, respect, gratitude               |
| Deep pink       | gratitude, appreciation                |
| Light pink      | admiration, sympathy                   |
| White           | reverence, humility, innocence, purity |
| Yellow          | joy, gladness, sociability, friendship |
| Coral or Orange | enthusiasm, desire                     |
| Red and Yellow  | gaiety, joviality                      |
| Red and White   | unity                                  |
| Burgundy        | unselfconscious beauty                 |

### **Learn about roses as cultural symbols.**

Roses are the national floral emblem for the United States, as well as the official state flower of Georgia, Iowa, New York, North Dakota, and the District of Columbia. Discuss with your class the importance of symbols in government and culture.

### **Research the healing qualities of roses.**

Like many plants, roses are purported to have healing qualities -- so much so that by the 19th century, an Apothecary's Rose (*Rosa gallica officinalis*) was planted outside almost every druggist's shop. For centuries, rose petals have been used in concoctions to cure hangovers, wrinkles, bad digestion, sore throats, and many other ills.

<http://www.kidsgardening.org/activity/reading-writing-and-roses>