



### **Grade 3 Unit 4: Baby Literary Essay**

This unit bridges the writing about reading students do in grade 2 with the literary essays they will write in grade 4. Students will use what they know about being critical readers and opinion writers to make and support a claim about characters and theme. The work of this unit will help students gather and organize evidence that matches the claim and that can be found across the text.

#### **Skills and Strategies Taught in This Unit:**

- Formulate strong opinions about texts
- Share and support opinions with others
- Make claims and identify evidence to support claims
- Organize arguments to help readers understand
- Make inferences about character traits and motivation
- Interpret the theme of texts; using text and life evidence
- Write opinion pieces with a claim and evidence that supports the claim

Support your child by talking about your favorite picture book(s) that you know well and have read together. Discuss the character's traits and motivations in order to develop opinions about them. You could even have these discussions around characters in favorite movies or TV shows, and or current events. Ask your child to find reasons to support their opinions and claims.