**Friday, February 13**  
Opener: conventions of writing (there/their/they're/it's/its); introduction to Gupta Empire and India's Golden Age; persona poems about animals; read aloud; current event; SIRP.  
**Homework: Read. Share adult edit version of animal story by Tuesday, February 17. History Test on Chapters 16-18 could be as soon as Friday, February 20.**

**Thursday, February 12**  
*Guest teacher: Gretta Descamp. I was at an Oregon Writers' Project training.*  
Opener: Word Wizard review; film of *Mystic India;* read aloud; peer editing of imaginative animal stories.  
**Homework: Read. Remember to study for your Asia map quiz tomorrow. Share adult edit version of animal story by Tuesday, February 17.**  
  
  
 **Wednesday, February 11**  
Opener: power verbs; creating mock-up of webpage for King Ashoka and the Mauryan Empire; mini-lesson on self-edit strategies; work time in lab for self-editing of animal stories.  
**Homework: See Tuesday.**  
  
  
  
  
  
  
**Tuesday, February 10**  
Opener: Geography Scramble for countries with largest Buddhist populations; first unification of India/Mauryan Empire--interpreting edicts; mini-lesson on power verbs; work time for animal story in the lab; read aloud; Word Wizard quiz; SIRP.  
**Homework: Draft 1 of animal story due tomorrow. Draft 2 due Thursday for peer editing. Asia map quiz on Friday.**  
  
  
 **Monday, February 9**  
Opener: journal; first unification of India (Ashoka and Mauryan Empire)--jigsaw activity to make "billboards" for the values of this Empire; short work time for animal stories; read aloud; Current Event; SIRP.  
**Homework: Animal Story first draft due on Wednesday, February 11.  Study for Word Wizard quiz tomorrow. Read. Deal with late work.**  
  
  
  
**Friday, February 6**  
Opener: conventions of writing (dialogue); introduction to the first unification of India (Chapter 17.1-17.4 and notes): "Vivacious Valentines,"; read aloud; Current Event; SIRP.  
**Homework: Novel Journal due Monday, February 9. Animal Story first draft due on Wednesday, February 11.  Remember your home reading and any late work. Also, the Word Wizard quiz is on Tuesday, February 10.**  
 **Thursday, February 5**  
Opener: Word Wizard review; narrative openings mini-lesson based on Aesop's Fables (snapshot, character, dialogue/scene, shocking/mysterious); drafting in Writers' Notebooks; Novel Journal; Novel Group; read aloud; Current Event; lab time for drafting animal story and practicing with online Asia map.  
**Homework: See Tuesday. Don't forget Word Wizard on Tuesday, Feb. 10.**  
  
  
  
  
**Wednesday, February 4**  
Opener: Wild Card on imaginative story ideas; prewriting for imaginative story; Buddhism (Chapter 16 plus visual discovery about Siddhartha's life); Venn Diagram to compare Hinduism and Buddhism.  
**Homework: See Tuesday.**  
  
  
  
  
**Tuesday, February 3**  
Opener: geography scramble for countries with highest percentage of Buddhist people; introduction to Siddhartha's life and Buddhism (Chapter 16.1-16.3); Just So stories for comprehension, conflict, and story ideas; mandala work time, when finished; read aloud; Word Wizard; SIRP.  
**Homework: Read. Think of a story idea for imaginative assignment. Finish Asia map and literary essay if not already finished.**  
  
  
  
  
**Monday, February 2**  
Opener: journal; Roald Dahl's "The Boy Who Talked to Animals" for element of fiction and point of view writing exercise; literary essay final edit opportunity; essay reflection; mandalas; read aloud; Current Events; SIRP.  
**Homework: Read. Finish Asia map. If literary essay is not done, finish and print.**

**Friday, February 27**  
Opener: China's neighbors geography scramble; field trip preparation; 10 minutes of Disney's *Jungle Book*; field trip to NWCT J*ungle Book*.  
**Homework: See Thursday.**  
  
  
  
**Thursday, February 26**  
Opener: Word Wizard practice; China geography activity introduction; Novel Journals; Novel Groups; read aloud; Current Event; persona poem work time.  
**Homework: 1/2 of novel for next Thursday. Persona poem draft for Monday. Novel project due Friday, March 13.**  
  
  
  
**Wednesday, February 25**  
Opener: conventions of writing; China Geography challenge; final edits on animal stories, reflection time, and printing; persona poem work time.  
**Homework: See Tuesday.**  
  
  
  
  
**Tuesday, February 24**  
Opener: prepositional phrases; current event in Buddha statue discovered to have mummy inside; history test; read mentor text to learn "Write that I" framework for persona poems; work time in lab for persona poems; read aloud; Word Wizard; Current Event; SIRP.  
**Homework: Return permission slip by Wednesday, February 25. Hand in polished animal story by Wednesday, February 25 (wait for my comments first). Winter Novel Project due Friday, March 13. 1/4 of novel for Thursday, February 26.**  
  
  
  
**Monday, February 23**  
Opener: journal; history test review; studied two more Frank X. Walker persona poems to learn about setting and character development; research time in the lab for persona poems; read aloud; Current Event; SIRP.  
**Homework: Same as Friday.**  
  
  
  
  
**Friday, February 20**  
Opener: Word Wizard review; novel distribution and schedule; Unit 3: India Timeline; research time for persona poems in Computer Lab; read aloud; Current Event; SIRP.  
**Homework: See Thursday. Add Winter Novel Project due Friday, March 13. 1/4 of novel for Thursday, February 26.**  
  
  
  
  
**Thursday, February 19**  
Opener: geography scramble for post-Soviet states; work time for palm leaf books on India's Golden Age and other catch-up work; Current Event; read aloud; Cornell Notes practice with York biography; listened to Frank X. Walker's "This I Believe" essay; read/analyzed three Frank Walker persona poems on York; topic selection time for persona poems in the lab.  
**Homework: Chapter 16-18 history test on Tuesday, February 24. Return permission slip by Wednesday, February 25. Hand in polished animal story by Wednesday, February 25 (wait for my comments first).**  
 **Wednesday, February 18**  
Opener: making adverbs from adjectives by adding -ly; read aloud; Gupta Empire Cornell Notes and "palm leaf books."  
**Homework: See Tuesday.**  
  
  
**Tuesday, February 17**  
Opener: journal; finished Gupta Empire stations; mini-lesson on tone and voice using "Killing Me Softly" versions by Roberta Flack and the Fugees; persona poems to tell the story of Owen and Mzee (hippo and tortoise friends); read aloud; Word Wizard; SIRP.  
**Homework: Read. Share adult edit version of animal story by today. History Test on Chapters 16-18 could be as soon as Friday, February 20.**  
 **Monday, February 16**  
Presidents' Day. No school.