

See the spark as kindergarteners  
learn the power of **writing**

Watch students become  
college- and career-ready **authors**

**Nurture** children throughout  
their academic careers with  
***Step Up to Writing***<sup>®</sup>



# Step Up to *Writing*<sup>®</sup>

Fourth Edition  
Grades K-12

**Cultivate writers of all ages.**

INTUITIVE.  
MOTIVATING.  
EMPOWERING.

*Step Up to Writing*<sup>®</sup> is unparalleled writing instruction designed for learners of all levels and types, from kindergarten through 12th grade. Support the individuality of every learner and grow literacy across the content areas.

# 10 Sections. 13 Grades. All Content Areas.

## Building confident, skilled writers at all levels.

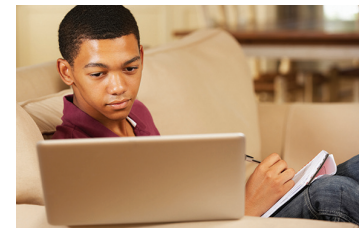
Thoughtful, well-crafted compositions in the three text types and dozens of genres. Increased scores on high-stakes assessments. Proficiency in writing across the content areas. Confident, articulate presenters and persuaders. Effective collaborators. These are the characteristics of students who use **Step Up to Writing**. Help your students unlock the power of the written word with this flexible and comprehensive writing solution. Equally straightforward as a comprehensive or supplemental solution, **Step Up to Writing's** ten sections offer unprecedented breadth and depth of content. Teach these in your own customized sequence or follow and adapt our detailed implementation plans.

### FOUNDATIONAL SKILLS

Introduce writing and continue to incorporate strategies as needed when teaching text types and application.	<b>1</b> Writing to Improve Reading Comprehension	<b>2</b> Foundational Writing Skills	<b>3</b> Vocabulary Acquisition and Use
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### TEXT TYPES AND APPLICATION

Deep instruction on the text types and authentic application of modern skills.	<b>4</b> Informative/ Explanatory Writing	<b>5</b> Opinion/ Argument Writing	<b>6</b> Narrative Writing
<b>7</b> Research Reports	<b>8</b> Speaking and Listening	<b>9</b> Writing for Assessments	<b>10</b> Writing in Content Areas



Classroom-proven reading and listening exercises teach students to **respond to what they read in content areas through writing.**



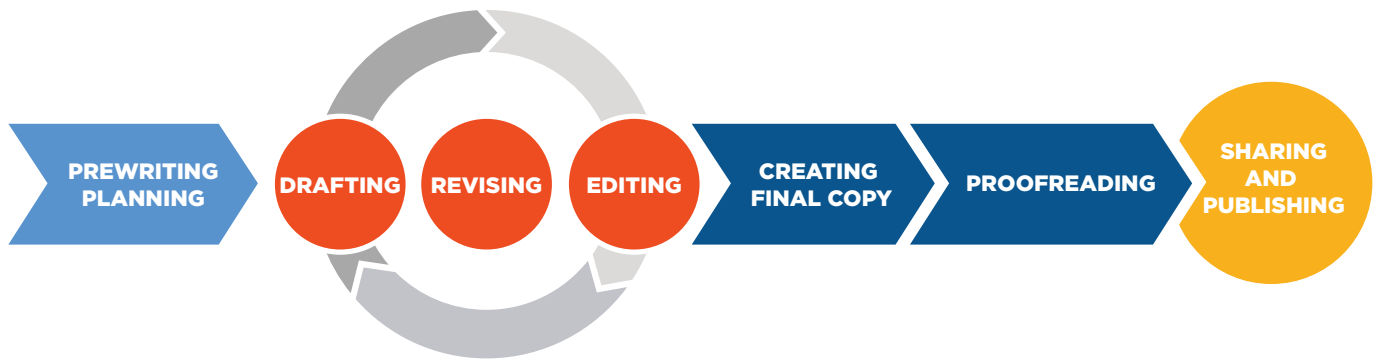
**Collaboration and Discussion** skills are explicitly taught. Students develop new skills in listening, constructive feedback, peer review, group discussions, and presentations.



Students learn to locate information, evaluate sources, and build rich multimedia works. **Step Up to Writing** works through devices and systems **you already have in place.**

# Strategies and Step by Step Instruction for the Complete Writing Process

**Step Up to Writing** helps students understand the importance of each step of the writing process. Beginning writers explicitly learn and practice each phase of the writing process. As students become more advanced writers, they move back and forth between the phases, and the process becomes more fluid and automatic.



## Comprehensive Instruction in the Three Types of Writing: Informative/Explanatory, Opinion/Argument, and Narrative

**Step Up to Writing** provides more than 450 strategies (Kindergarten through 12th grade) to explicitly teach the three types of writing students need to master in order to be prepared for college and career. A balance of explicit, systematic instruction and time spent producing works in each of the text types makes clear to students the differences between informative/explanatory, opinion/argument, and narrative writing and hones their skills in each.

STRUCTURE OF THE THREE TYPES OF WRITING							
INFORMATIVE/EXPLANATORY		OPINION/ARGUMENT		NARRATIVE			
				Imaginative Narrative		Nonfiction Narrative	
Introduction	Topic Sentence/ Thesis Statement that previews what is to follow	Introduction	Topic Sentence/ Thesis Statement that makes a claim	Beginning	Context & Point of View • Narrator • Characters • Setting	Beginning	Context & Point of View • Background of the issue/situation • The writer's relationship to the issue/situation
Body	Key/Star Ideas (Big Ideas) • Transitions • Elaboration (e.g., facts, evidence, explanations, examples)	Body	Key/Star Ideas (Reasons for claim) • Transitions • Elaboration (e.g., evidence, explanations, examples)	Middle	Imagined Experiences/ Events Dialogue, pacing, and description Plot • Events • Conflict/problem • Climax	Middle	Real Experiences/ Events in a logical sequence (usually chronological)
Conclusion	Restatement of topic	Conclusion	Conclusion follows from and supports the claim	End	• Solution	End	Resolution and Reflection
No Secrets/Suspense		No Secrets/Suspense		Secrets/Suspense			

Students come to recognize the stoplight as a recurring reminder of the pattern of good writing: when to “go,” when to “slow down,” and when to “stop” and elaborate.



# Support the Individuality of Each and Every Learner, Regardless of Age or Preparation

One size doesn't ever fit all. With this in mind, **Step Up to Writing** provides variation and differentiation based on student needs throughout all 1,100+ strategies that exist across the grade bands (K-2, 3-5, 6-8, and 9-12). Optional Craft and Style callouts within the strategies that teach the three major text types provide opportunities for additional depth and richness.

**These students all need different things. Step Up to Writing provides them all.**

<p><b>GENERAL EDUCATION</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strategies boost student writing to the next level</li> <li>• Solid structure across the types of writing assignments</li> <li>• Revision guidance</li> <li>• Consistent strategies and multiple opportunities for practice</li> </ul>			<p><b>GIFTED &amp; TALENTED</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Focus on organizing information strategically to increase written impact</li> <li>• Writers learn to effectively articulate complex thoughts and content</li> <li>• Students perceive shades of meaning within words</li> </ul>
<p><b>ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oral language development is encouraged</li> <li>• Students develop an academic vocabulary</li> <li>• Students stay actively involved</li> <li>• Relating and organizing information is emphasized</li> </ul>			<p><b>AT-RISK &amp; SPECIAL EDUCATION</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strategies make abstract concepts concrete</li> <li>• Guidance for better reading comprehension</li> <li>• Use of multisensory approaches</li> <li>• Confidence is built incrementally</li> <li>• Organization and planning skills are emphasized</li> </ul>

**Step Up to Writing supports the “how to” behind the 6+1 traits... as well as the popular Writer’s Workshop format.**



Idea Development



Organization



Word Choice



Voice



Sentence Fluency



Conventions



Presentations

# Flexible Implementation Options; Simple and Friendly Materials

Need a comprehensive writing curriculum? Or simply looking for a supplement to current instruction? **Step Up to Writing** is either and both. Find supreme flexibility and incomparable breadth and depth within either of the **TWO** primary implementation options:

- 1 SUPPLEMENTAL**  
**Select strategies** and implement a sequence of your choosing to support core curriculum. The robust bank of resources offers: ~300 strategies per grade band; ~1,100 total across K-12.
  - The Table of Contents is organized by major topics to help you easily find the strategy you want to use
  - The online resource site provides a CCSS and TEKS finder that allows you to locate specific **Step Up to Writing** strategies based on the standards you are teaching
  - Strategies become mini-lesson content in Writer’s Workshop models to target discreet subskills of writing
  
- 2 COMPREHENSIVE CORE PROGRAM**  
**Assessment & Implementation Guides** provide a Year-At-A-Glance view while detailed **Unit Maps** can guarantee complete coverage of Writing standards and significant coverage of Reading, S&L, and Language standards. Teach a single unit or use the year-long sequence.

## Easy to implement, easy to renew

Clear, concise teacher support and motivating, friendly student materials are hallmarks of **Step Up to Writing**. Simple materials and configurations resonate with teachers and take the rocket science out of procurement and sustaining the implementation. Each participating teacher needs a Classroom Set which includes:

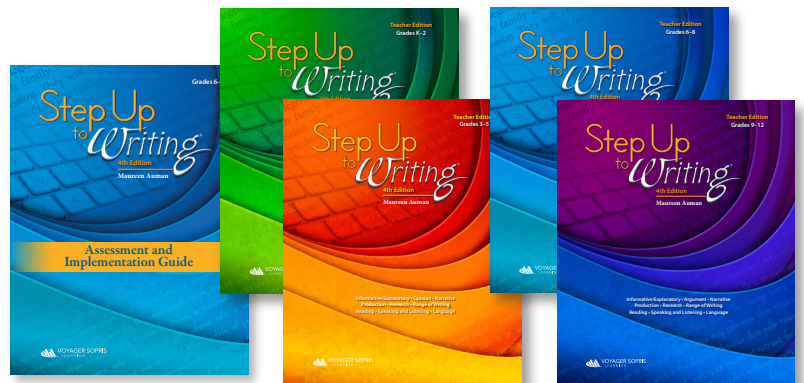
- Teacher Edition (print and eBook)
- The Assessment and Implementation Guide
- Student Handy Pages
- Set of instructional posters
- Online Teacher Resources
  - Just-in-time professional development videos
  - Tools and graphic organizers
  - Assessments, scoring guides, and exemplars
  - Initial training through an integrated learning platform
  - Standards lookup tool for matching instruction to standards
  - Data tracking tool



Student Materials Reinforce Instruction



Professional Development Videos

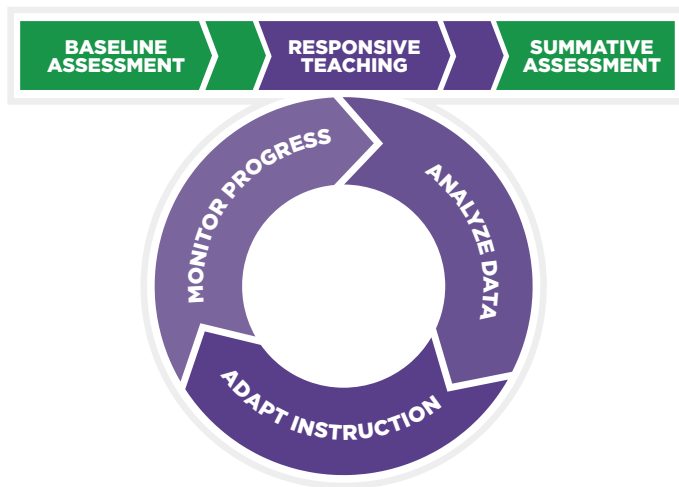


Teacher Materials: in eBooks and in Print

# With *Step Up to Writing*, Your Finger is on the Pulse of How Your Students are Progressing

## Don't break the cycle

*Step Up to Writing* provides rigorous baseline and summative assessments for each grade level and each type of writing. These assessments mirror performance tasks in rigorous high-stakes tests. In each three-part assessment, students read selections of authentic text on the same topic from different sources; answer multiple-choice comprehension questions; and write a short essay based on a prompt.



### Before and After

Baseline and summative assessments measure progress in time and provide data to inform and adjust instruction.

### Responsive Teaching

Data-tracking and progress-monitoring tools identify areas of strength and concern to support teachers in adapting instruction. Recommendations for differentiation appear within **every** strategy.

## High standards, clear expectations for students

*Step Up to Writing* includes scoring guides (rubrics) and exemplars that provide students with clear direction on what they need to do to revise confidently and efficiently and to reach proficient and advanced levels in their writing. Scoring Guides match and reinforce the expectations in rigorous modern learning standards and high-stakes assessments. Specific strategies dedicated to the use of Scoring Guides ensure students understand the criteria against which their work is measured and have the skills to apply the rubrics constructively during peer review activities. Scoring Guides and Checklists:

- Set clear goals
- Save teachers time
- Support teacher-student conferences
- Serve as a tool for peer editing
- Support home-school connection

...while exemplars provide models of good writing.

### Meaningful assessment

As expected, these assessments offer educators an invaluable window into student performance but what do they offer your students?

- **PRACTICE.**  
Students who practice a modality of assessment perform better.
- **FAMILIARITY.**  
Students know what to expect in high-stakes testing environments.
- **CONFIDENCE.**  
Students are calm, cool, and collected when the big day comes.

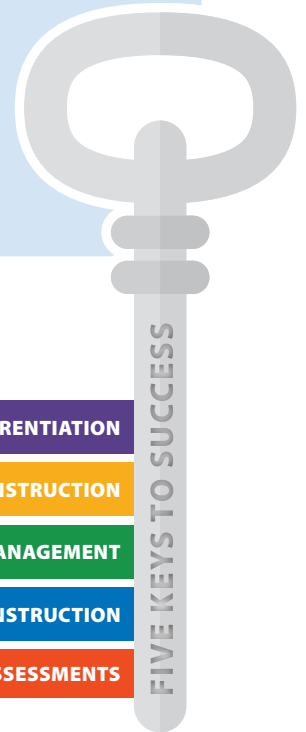




# Implementation Options Adapt to Specific Needs

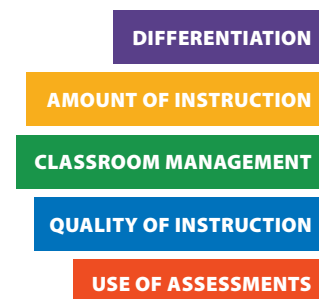
**Step Up to Writing** can be implemented in a single classroom, or across a school or district. The broader the implementation, the more powerful the strategies become, supporting vertical alignment across grade levels, horizontal alignment across content areas, and a common language of writing instruction.

HIGHEST BENEFIT	HIGHER BENEFIT	HIGH BENEFIT
DISTRICT	SCHOOL	CLASSROOM
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Common expectations and language for writing instruction across all ELA and content area classrooms within a district</li> <li>• Unhindered movement from grade to grade and school to school with no ramp-up time</li> <li>• Clear strategies for all students across the district</li> <li>• Clear methods and supports for teachers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Common expectations and language for writing instruction across all ELA and content area classrooms within a school</li> <li>• Unhindered movement from grade to grade within a school with no ramp-up time</li> <li>• Clear strategies for all students across the site</li> <li>• Clear methods and supports for teachers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clear strategies for all students in a class</li> <li>• Clear methods for teachers</li> </ul>



## Our goal: utilize your skills as an educator to help students become better writers

Service does not come in a box; it must be built to meet the specific needs of districts, schools, administrators, and teachers. Firmly grounded in research, the Voyager Sopris Learning® approach stems from 30+ years of partnering with school districts and is built around the “**Five Keys to Success,**” which form the foundation for a personalized strategy for planning, training, and ongoing support.



### Achieving results with unequaled training and support

Our team specializes in partnering with schools and districts to build custom **Step Up to Writing** implementation support plans—including planning, training, and ongoing support—to ensure all stakeholders are prepared to implement and sustain implementation. This is the model we use:



Visit [www.voyagersopris.com/stepuptowriting](http://www.voyagersopris.com/stepuptowriting) to review training options and a comprehensive menu of services

# Study after Study Demonstrates the Effectiveness of *Step Up to Writing*

## DRASTIC IMPROVEMENT in Writing

"Comparisons of baseline data to outcome data suggested that using a graphic organizer and a checklist improved students' ability to write an article summary. My target students improved their average score from a 4.8 to a 9.5. The class average improved from 6.8 to 9.8 out of a total of 12 points."

Nguyen, S. (2009). *Graphic organizer and checklist: Strategies to improve summarization skills*. (Master's thesis). Retrieved from ProQuest. (1471124)

"All students showed significant growth in expository reading comprehension and writing, which was of comparable magnitude for both native English speakers and English language learners."

Smith, K. A. (2008). *Reading writers and writing readers: The impact of the Step Up to Writing literacy program on diverse 6th grade students*. University of California, Irvine, and University of California, Los Angeles. (3334588)

## SIGNIFICANT GROWTH in Expository Reading Comprehension and Writing

## Improvements in QUALITY OF STRUCTURE and CONTENT OF WRITING

"Improvement in organization was demonstrated through increase in use of transition words and appropriate order of sentence structures; improvement in content quality was demonstrated through increase in details and explanation/example sentences, as well as the strength of support."

Velasco, R. (2009). *Step Up to Writing, step into summaries: Improving the organization of student summary writing with the use of outlines*. (Master's thesis). (1471136)



## Do you have six minutes to get inspired?

Watch our video about the widespread success Corona-Norco Unified School District (Riverside County, CA) has experienced in the last 10 years since implementing *Step Up to Writing*® district-wide. Students have consistently made impressive gains on the California State Test, with writing being one of CNUSD students' strongest areas.

Visit [www.voyagersopris.com/success-stories/corona-norco-usd](http://www.voyagersopris.com/success-stories/corona-norco-usd) to hear the whole story.

# Step Up to Writing® Fourth Edition

Try a sample of *Step Up to Writing* today!

Visit [go.voyagersopris.com/step-up-to-writing-samples](http://go.voyagersopris.com/step-up-to-writing-samples) for a free download that includes teacher and student sample materials from each grade band: K-2, 3-5, 6-8, and 9-12.

Check pricing online or call 800.547.6747 with questions.