

TABLE OF CONTENTS

HOW THIS MANUAL CAN BE USED	1
THE IMPORTANCE OF COSMIC EDUCATION AND THE FIVE GREAT LESSONS	5
INTRODUCTION	8
READING AND LITERATURE	9
Introduction	9
Some Notes on Reading	11
Background Information	11
Novels	24
Background Information	24
Activity 1: Investigating Types of Novels	41
Activity 2: Tracking the Sequence of Main Events in a Story’s Plot	43
Activity 3: Identifying the Elements of a Plot	46
Activity 4: Using a Language Cube to Make Cause-and-Effect Sentences	48
Activity 5: Creating a Chain of Events	50
Activity 6: Making Inferences While Reading a Story	52
Activity 7: Making Inferences and Predictions Before Reading a Book ..	54
Activity 8: Collecting Information About a Character	56
Poetry	59
Background Information	59
Activity 1: Reading Poetry	61
Folk Tales	63
Background Information	63
Activity 1: Exploring Folk Tales	66
Biography	68
Background Information	68
Activity 1: Identifying Types of Biographies	72
Activity 2: Summarizing Major Events in a Subject’s Life	75
Activity 3: Investigating the Influence of Others on a Subject	77
Activity 4: Exploring How a Biographer Can Interpret a Subject	79

Plays .....	.81
Background Information .....	.81
Activity 1: Reading a Play .....	.85
Activity 2: Exploring Characters Through Their Speech and Behavior ..	.88
Essays .....	.90
Background Information .....	.90
Activity 1: Reading Essays .....	.92
Reference Books .....	.94
Background Information .....	.94
Activity 1: Reading Reference Books .....	.97
Magazines .....	.100
Background Information .....	.100
Activity 1: Reading Magazines .....	.102
Newspapers .....	.104
Background Information .....	.104
Activity 1: Reading Newspapers .....	.107
Activity 2: Investigating Advertising .....	.109
Activity 3: Investigating Bias in Media .....	.111
Activity 4: Summarizing the Nine Genres of Literature .....	.113
CREATIVE WRITING .....	.115
Introduction .....	.115
Writing Creative Stories, Poems, and Plays .....	.118
Background Information .....	.118
Activity 1: Finding Something to Write About .....	.124
Activity 2: Communicating Emotions, Thoughts, and Ideas .....	.126
Activity 3: Keeping the Writing Going .....	.129
THE MECHANICS OF WRITING .....	.130
Introduction .....	.130
Punctuation .....	.131
Background Information .....	.131
Activity 1: Exploring Expanded Uses for Commas .....	.159
Activity 2: Reviewing Basic Punctuation Marks .....	.163
Activity 3: Exploring New Punctuation Marks .....	.166
Activity 4: Writing and Punctuating Formal Business Letters .....	.169
Activity 5: Writing and Punctuating Effective Emails .....	.172

WORD STUDY	174
Introduction	174
Word Families, Graphemes, and Homonyms	175
Background Information	175
Activity 1: Identifying and Using Word Families and Graphemes	178
Activity 2: Identifying and Using Homonyms	180
Acronyms, Abbreviations, and Contractions	182
Background Information	182
Activity 1: Investigating Acronyms and Abbreviations	188
Activity 2: Practicing Using Contractions	190
Basic Etymology	193
Background Information	193
Activity 1: Investigating the Etymology of Words	196
Activity 2: Identifying and Finding Substitutes for Trademarks	199
Hyphenation	201
Background Information	201
Activity 1: Practicing Hyphenation	208
Activity 2: Creating a Style Sheet	211
Crossword Puzzles	213
Background Information	213
Activity 1: Solving Crossword Puzzles	216
Dictionaries	218
Background Information	218
Activity 1: Investigating Base Words	223
Activity 2: Using a Dictionary to Find Syllabication	226
Activity 3: Finding Out How to Pronounce Unfamiliar Words	228
Activity 4: Finding Words with Multiple Meanings	230
SPELLING	232
Introduction	232
Activity 1: Working with Spelling Word Lists	235
Activity 2: Having Spelling Dictation	237
WRITING ESSAYS AND RESEARCH REPORTS	239
Introduction	239
Choosing a Topic and an Approach	241
Background Information	241
Activity 1: Choosing a Suitable Topic and Approach	244

Gathering Information .....	.247
Background Information .....	.247
Activity 1: Assessing Primary and Secondary Sources .....	.252
Activity 2: Making Internet Research Count .....	.254
Organizing Information .....	.257
Background Information .....	.257
Activity 1: Recording the Source of a Fact or Quotation .....	.265
Activity 2: Paraphrasing a Page in One or Two Sentences .....	.268
Activity 3: Paraphrasing a Paragraph .....	.271
Brainstorming, Mapping, and Making an Outline .....	.274
Background Information .....	.274
Activity 1: Making an Outline .....	.280
Writing, Revising, and Presenting .....	.283
Background Information .....	.283
Activity 1: Investigating How a Draft Emerges from an Outline .....	.296
Activity 2: Revising the First Draft .....	.298
Activity 3: Editing the Second Draft .....	.300
Activity 4: Making a Checklist of the Elements Needed for a Final Essay or Research Report .....	.302
Activity 5: Proofreading the Third Draft .....	.304
Activity 6: Presenting Essays and Research Reports .....	.306
 RESOURCES FOR TEACHERS AND STUDENTS .....	.307
Print .....	.307
Magazines for Children .....	.317
Web .....	.319
Audio/Video .....	.322
 GLOSSARY .....	.324