Georgia Performance Standards Framework for ELA Unit 5 – 6th Grade

**Topic:** Using Prepositional Phrases  
**Instructional Unit:** Unit 5 Standards Revisit, Review  
**Contributed By:** Patricia Martin, James Timothy Hixson, Lakeisha Griffith, Heather Hill, Linda Green, Shelly Jo Foster

**Tasks:**

**Procedure**

1. Class anchor chart “What the chicken can do to the fence!”
   - walk **beyond** the fence
   - walk **to** the fence
   - walk **around** the fence
2. Students create own anchor chart for writer’s notebook or language arts composition book.
3. The teacher will read aloud the picture book *Heckedy Peg* by Audrey Wood. During the reading, the teacher will stop periodically pointing out prepositional phrase usage.
   - *Heckedy Peg gathered up the food and loaded it in her cart. Without looking back, she pulled the cart down the road, over the wood, through the town, across the field, and deep into the wood to her hut.*
   - *She chased the witch around the hut, out of the woods, across the field, through the town, and onto the bridge.*
4. The class will discuss how the author used prepositional phrases within the text.
5. The teacher will divide the students into groups. The teacher will have a copy of the text of *A Sweet Smell of Roses* by Angela Johnson for each group. In the groups, the students will find prepositional phrases and explain their role in the movement of the story. (The author uses prepositional phrases in the beginning to move the girls to the march and in the end to take the girls back home.)
   - *After a night of soft rain there is a sweet smell of roses as my sister, Minnie, and I slip past Mama’s door out of the house down Charlotte Street.*
   - *Past the early-morning milkman, over the cobbled bridge, and through the curb market... to where everybody waits to march.*
   - *When it’s time to go, we skip back hand in hand. Minnie and me. Singing freedom songs along the streets.*
Georgia Performance Standards Framework for ELA Unit 5 – 6th Grade

Through the curb market, over the cobbled bridge, and past the mailman...
...to our house on Charlotte Street.

Then there is Mama,
worried face,
waiting there for us.

She smiles after a while,
hugging us,
themakes our hands.
and as we tell her about the march,
the curtains float apart,
and there is a sweet smell of roses through our house

6. Students write a movement poem using prepositional phrases.
   - Some students will not need a formula for their poems, but some will (differentiation).
   - Example
     SIX NOISY STUDENTS WALKED
     out the door
     on the yellow line
     down the corridor
     around the corner
     into the gym
     for the pep rally.
   - Example
     MY PARENTS TRAVELED
     in the heat of the summer
     aboard their Winnebago
     by way of Alabama
     over the Mississippi River
     around the highways of Dallas, Texas
     through the Grand Canyon
     to Arizona.
   - Structure (if needed)
     FIRST LINE IN ALL CAPITAL LETTERS
     FIRST LINE IS A SUBJECT AND PREDICATE
     Each line is a prepositional phrase
     Begin each line with a preposition
     Have at least seven lines in your poem

7. This activity has been used as a cross curricular activity in a 7th grade social studies class.
   - I am going
     on vacation
     within Africa
     near the Sahara Desert
     beyond the Congo Basin
     by the great Zimbabwe
Georgia Performance Standards Framework for ELA Unit 5 – 6th Grade

among the Bantu people
with my sister
by Kelsey Brown, Huntington Middle School

8. Assessment- Text passage for students identify prepositional phrases and explain how used by the author. (The students do not have to identify all the prepositional phrases in the text. They should be able to explain the ones identified.)

9. Class presentation of poems.

Standards Addressed
ELA6C1 The student demonstrates understanding and control of the rules of the English language, realizing that usage involves the appropriate application of conventions and grammar in both written and spoken formats.

Circumstances of the Assignment/Notes to the Teacher:

Materials Needed
1. Copy of picture book Heckedy Peg by Audrey Wood
2. Copy of picture book A Sweet Smell of Roses by Angela Johnson
3. Copies of the text from the picture book A Sweet Smell of Roses by Angela Johnson
4. Two other great picture book for prepositional phrases is My Freedom Trip: A Child’s Escape from North Korea by Frances Park and Ginger Park and The Cats in Krasinski Square by Karen Hesse