**5th Grade – Unit 6**

**Informative/Explanatory Writing**

***Living and Working at the South Pole:***

***How it has changed and how it has stayed the same***

**TEACHER INFORMATION**

**Ideas to Share with Students:**

Throughout this school year, we have been reading a variety of informational articles and nonfiction text. You have become stronger readers and writers of informational text. We have also been conducting short research and learning how to build knowledge through investigation of different aspects of a topic. After reading two passages about living and working at the South Pole, you will write an **informative/explanatory essay** that compares the similarities and differences in the living and working conditions from the past and the present.

Remember that when authors write informative or explanatory reports they aim to teach readers about a topic. You, too, have been learning to write in such a way that you can teach others about the living and working conditions at the South Pole. It is important to ask, “What is the best way to organize my writing from beginning to end to help my readers learn about my topic?”

**Review Directions in the Student Packet:**

Read the following passages about explorers at the South Pole. Take notes to use later while writing your essay. You may look back at the passage and your notes as often as you like.

1. **Read the passage: *“Explorer Wanted: Scout the South Pole.”***
2. **Read the passage: *“A Day at the South Pole.”***

As you read, consider how living and working at the South Pole has changed over time and how it has stayed the same.

**Overview of the Writing Task:**

**Compare the experiences of early explorers and modern-day scientists living and working at the South Pole. Overtime, how have conditions changed and how have they stayed the same?**

**As you write your informative essay, remember to develop the topic with facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples from the texts.**

**Graphic Organizers:**

**Teachers and/or students may select the graphic organizer of their choice for planning this task. Several examples of graphic organizer planners for opinion, informative/explanatory, and narrative story writing have been uploaded into Rubicon.**