



SATURDAY HALF-DAY SESSIONS CURRICULUM

AUTUMN 2026



INSTRUCTOR CURRICULUM & LESSON FRAMEWORK

★ IDEAS. STORIES. SKILLS. IMPACT. ★

PHASE I: FOUNDATION

Start strong! Build the mindset and spark the idea.



Three focused sessions to set the stage and ignite your creativity.

★ THE GOAL

A powerful idea and a clear plan to bring your book to life.



SESSION

1

Discover & Choose Your Idea

FIND YOUR IDEA



Explore what excites you and pick a topic you'll love to write about!

FOCUS TODAY

- ✓ Brainstorm ideas you care about
- ✓ Explore your interests
- ✓ Pick one idea for your book
- ✓ Share your idea with the group
- ✓ Think about your reader

WHAT YOU WILL WORK ON



DURING DOWNTIME

(while others use tech)

- Drawing & doodling
- Keep an idea journal
- Read inspiring picture books
- Look at books for ideas
- Talk with a friend

END RESULT



A chosen book idea you're excited to write!

SESSION

2

Plan Your Book

PLAN YOUR BOOK



Turn your idea into a simple plan so you know where your story will go!

FOCUS TODAY

- ✓ Think about your main message
- ✓ List your main topics or chapters
- ✓ Create a super simple outline
- ✓ Decide the first chapter
- ✓ Share your plan for feedback

WHAT YOU WILL WORK ON



DURING DOWNTIME

(while others use tech)

- Read more for inspiration
- Sketch your characters
- Write down chapter ideas
- Play a quick brain game
- Take a short movement break

END RESULT



A simple plan with topics, outline, and first chapter idea!

SESSION

3

Build Your Table of Contents

BUILD YOUR TABLE OF CONTENTS

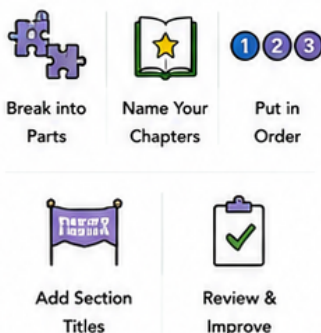


Create a clear Table of Contents that maps out your whole book!

FOCUS TODAY

- ✓ Break your book into parts
- ✓ Name your chapters
- ✓ Put them in order
- ✓ Add fun section titles
- ✓ Review and improve

WHAT YOU WILL WORK ON



DURING DOWNTIME

(while others use tech)

- Read table of contents from real books
- Design fun chapter icons
- Think of cool section names
- Share ideas with a partner
- Stretch & refocus

END RESULT



A complete Table of Contents that's ready to guide your book!



TIPS FOR SUCCESS



Help each other and share ideas.



Focus on progress, not perfection.



Stay on your plan, but be flexible.



Ask for help when you need it!



REMEMBER

Every great book starts ready the small idea.

PHASE II: BUILD A BOOK SYSTEM

Create the plan and the look—so building gets easier!

Two focused sessions to build the framework and visual style for your book.

★ THE GOAL

A strong plan and a clear visual style guide for your book.



SESSION

4

Build the Framework

BUILD THE FRAMEWORK



Create the structure of your book so everything has a home.

FOCUS TODAY

- ✓ Choose your topic and big idea
- ✓ Write your Table of Contents
- ✓ Break chapters into key sections
- ✓ Plan the flow from start to finish
- ✓ Define the purpose of each chapter

WHAT YOU WILL WORK ON



Big Idea & Purpose



Table of Contents



Chapter Outline



Book Flow & Sequence



Chapter Goals



Key Topics & Themes

DURING DOWNTIME (while others use tech)

- ✍️ Brainstorm chapter ideas
- 📖 Read books for structure ideas
- ✍️ Write chapter titles on sticky notes
- 💬 Discuss with a partner or group
- ★ Look at other books for examples

END RESULT



A complete book outline with chapters, sections, and a clear flow!

SESSION

5

Visual Style Guide

VISUAL STYLE GUIDE



Design the look and feel of your book so it's fun, clear, and consistent.

FOCUS TODAY

- ✓ Choose your color palette
- ✓ Pick your fonts
- ✓ Define illustration style
- ✓ Set layout and page style
- ✓ Create your style guide examples

WHAT YOU WILL WORK ON



Color Palette



Font Choices



Illustration Style



Page Layout



Style Guide Examples



Design Rules

DURING DOWNTIME (while others use tech)

- 🎨 Collect color inspiration
- Aa Look at fonts you like
- 🖼️ Browse picture styles
- 📖 Flip through books for layout ideas
- 💬 Share what you like and why

END RESULT



A visual style guide that will make your book look amazing and feel consistent!



TIPS FOR SUCCESS



Plan well now, build faster later.



Keep it simple and clear.



Make it YOU—unique and fun!



Ask for feedback and ideas.



REMEMBER

A good plan and style make building your book easier and more exciting!

PHASE III: PROTOTYPE BEFORE PRODUCTION



We test our ideas early so the rest of the book is stronger and easier to create.

★ THE GOAL

A clear plan for Chapter 1 and a stronger book plan.



SESSION

6

Storyboard Chapter 1

STORYBOARD CHAPTER 1

Plan every page before we write or create.

A good plan saves time and makes a better story.



FOCUS TODAY

- ✓ Hook the reader
- ✓ Set the scene
- ✓ Build the moment
- ✓ High point
- ✓ Resolution
- ✓ Lead to next

WHAT YOU WILL WORK ON



Hook the Reader



Set the Scene



Build the Moment



High Point



Resolution



Lead to Next



Plan the Details



Review & Refine

DURING DOWNTIME (while others use tech)

- Sketch characters and settings
- Write possible opening lines
- Brainstorm cool chapter titles
- Act out the scene with a partner
- Give feedback to a classmate

END RESULT



A clear plan for Chapter 1 page by page!

SESSION

7

Build Chapter 1

BUILD CHAPTER 1

Bring your storyboard to life!

Create the first chapter as a prototype.



FOCUS TODAY

- ✓ Write or generate the text
- ✓ Create or generate the illustrations
- ✓ Place text and pictures using our style guide
- ✓ Review the flow, pacing, and clarity
- ✓ Make Chapter 1 the best it can be!

WHAT YOU WILL WORK ON



1

WRITE

Turn your plan into words.

2

CREATE ART

Generate or draw matching images.

3

LAYOUT

Put text and pictures in place.

4

REVIEW

Check for flow, clarity, and errors.

5

POLISH

Improve anything that isn't clear or exciting.

CHECKLIST FOR CHAPTER 1

- ✓ Does it grab the reader?
- ✓ Is the text the right length?
- ✓ Is the story easy to follow?
- ✓ Are there any confusing parts?
- ✓ Do the pictures support the story?
- ✓ Does the ending make you want to read more?
- ✓ Is the page layout clean and consistent?

DURING DOWNTIME (while others use tech)

- Write by hand in your notebook
- Read for inspiration and study good books
- Give and get feedback
- Design characters and settings
- Make a list of fun chapter titles
- Sketch more scenes for future chapters

END RESULT



A complete, polished Chapter 1 that becomes the model for the rest of your book!



TIPS FOR SUCCESS



Help each other and share ideas.



Focus on progress, not perfection.



Stay on your plan, but be flexible.



Ask for help when you need it!



REMEMBER

Every page you build today makes your book real. You've got this!

PHASE III: PROTOTYPE BEFORE PRODUCTION



★ THE GOAL

Turn your prototype into a repeatable system and a stronger book plan.



Sessions 8–9: Build Chapter 2, stress-test your format, and refine the whole book plan.

SESSION

8

Build Chapter 2 & Stress-Test the Format

Use what worked in Chapter 1, build Chapter 2, and test whether your format really works.



FOCUS TODAY

- ✓ Build Chapter 2 using your Chapter 1 system
- ✓ Reuse the best parts of Chapter 1
- ✓ Check formatting and page rhythm
- ✓ Review cadence, flow, and direction
- ✓ Create a standard chapter template

WHAT YOU WILL WORK ON



1 Build Chapter 2



2 Keep What Works



3 Check Format



4 Check Cadence & Flow



5 Make a Reusable Template

DURING DOWNTIME (while others use tech)



Sketch missing illustrations



Proofread Chapter 1



Compare pages side by side



Read a mentor book for ideas



Jot down improvements

END RESULT



A stronger Chapter 2 draft and a repeatable chapter template.

SESSION

9

Reconsider the TOC & Rewrite the Book Plan

Step back from the first two chapters, rethink the whole book, and improve the Table of Contents.



FOCUS TODAY

- ✓ Review what Chapters 1 and 2 reveal
- ✓ Reconsider the book's direction
- ✓ Tighten the pacing and structure
- ✓ Revise the Table of Contents
- ✓ Decide what comes next

WHAT YOU WILL WORK ON



1 Review the Big Picture



2 Reorder or Combine Chapters



3 Clarify Middle & Ending



4 Revise the TOC



5 Plan the Next Chapters

DURING DOWNTIME (while others use tech)



Lay out chapter cards by hand



Brainstorm better section titles



Share ideas with a partner



Draw tiny page thumbnails



Take a quick stretch break

END RESULT



An updated Table of Contents and a clearer roadmap for the rest of the book.



TIPS FOR SUCCESS



Build from what already works



Notice patterns, not just pages



Let your format serve your story



Revise the plan when the book changes



A better TOC makes the whole book stronger

PHASE IV: BUILD



Time to bring your book to life!

Four focused sessions to write, create, and assemble your chapters.



THE GOAL

A complete first draft of your book.



SESSION

10

Build More Chapters

PRODUCTION SPRINT I



Keep creating! Add more chapters using your plan and style.

FOCUS TODAY

- ✓ Write your chapters
- ✓ Create or choose illustrations
- ✓ Follow your style guide
- ✓ Keep your story flowing

WHAT YOU WILL WORK ON



Writing



Illustrations



Dialogue & Text



Fact Pages / Research

DURING DOWNTIME (while others use tech)

- Outline next chapter
- Draw by hand
- Improve prompts
- Read for ideas
- Edit & proofread

END RESULT



More chapters written and illustrated!

SESSION

11

Keep the Story Moving

PRODUCTION SPRINT II



Add detail, action, and heart to your middle chapters.

FOCUS TODAY

- ✓ Develop the middle
- ✓ Strengthen scenes
- ✓ Stay consistent
- ✓ Ask: What happens next?

WHAT YOU WILL WORK ON



Characters



Settings & World



Information Pages



Art & Design

DURING DOWNTIME (while others use tech)

- Storyboard future chapters
- Design page layouts
- Create maps / diagrams
- Peer review
- Plan exciting events

END RESULT



Stronger middle chapters with more detail!

SESSION

12

Climax & Key Moments

PRODUCTION SPRINT III



Build toward the most exciting or important parts of your book.

FOCUS TODAY

- ✓ Write the key chapters
- ✓ Build tension or key ideas
- ✓ Create powerful visuals
- ✓ Lead to your ending

WHAT YOU WILL WORK ON



Big Moments



Challenges



Emotions & Lessons



Transitions

DURING DOWNTIME (while others use tech)

- Write quotes or captions
- Draw scenes
- Research facts
- Edit earlier chapters

END RESULT



A powerful climax and a clear path to the ending!

SESSION

13

Finish Your First Draft

FINAL BUILD PUSH



Put the final pieces together and complete your manuscript!

FOCUS TODAY

- ✓ Finish remaining chapters
- ✓ Check your flow
- ✓ Fill any gaps
- ✓ You did it—first draft done!

WHAT YOU WILL WORK ON



Wrap Up Loose Ends



Author Bio & Extras



Title Page, Dedication, etc.



Celebrate Small Wins!

DURING DOWNTIME (while others use tech)

- Make a cover sketch
- Create table of contents
- Read your book aloud
- Leave kind feedback

END RESULT



A complete first draft—You're amazing!



TIPS FOR SUCCESS



Help each other and share ideas.



Focus on progress, not perfection.



Stay on your plan, but be flexible.



Ask for help when you need it!



REMEMBER

Every chapter you build today makes your book real. You've got this!

PHASE V: PUBLISH & LAUNCH

Polish your book, prepare it for the world, and celebrate your creation!

SESSION

14

Polish Your Whole Book

WHOLE-BOOK EDIT



We make sure every page works together so readers have the best experience.

WHAT WE DO

- ✓ Read the whole book from start to finish
- ✓ Check story flow or information flow
- ✓ Improve clarity, pacing, and transitions
- ✓ Fix grammar, spelling, and punctuation
- ✓ Check image quality, consistency, and placement
- ✓ Verify page numbers, headers, and details

WHAT TO CHECK

 Flow & Pacing	 Grammar & Spelling	 Images & Consistency
 Transitions	 Chapters & Headings	 Facts & Accuracy
 Page Order & Numbers	 Style Guide Match	 Overall Reader Experience

DURING DOWNTIME (while others use tech)

-  Proofread pages printed out
-  Brainstorm better titles or subtitles
-  Give peer feedback
-  Read great books for inspiration
-  Prepare your author bio or dedication



END RESULT A polished, complete book that is ready for publishing!



SESSION

15

Get Your Book Ready to Publish

KINDLE PREPARATION



We prepare everything so your book can live on Kindle, in paperback, or both!

WHAT WE DO

- ✓ Format your book correctly
- ✓ Design your cover (front, back, spine)
- ✓ Export final PDF or file
- ✓ Write your book description
- ✓ Choose keywords and categories
- ✓ Set pricing and territories
- ✓ Review before publishing

KINDLE & PAPERBACK CHECKLIST

 Trim Size & Margins	 Cover Size & Design	 Image Resolution
 Fonts & Formatting	 Table of Contents	 Copyright & Legal Pages
 Metadata & Keywords	 Categories & Age Range	 Pricing & Distribution

DURING DOWNTIME (while others use tech)

-  Sketch or refine your cover
-  Write author bio or back cover text
-  Research keywords and categories
-  Read and learn about other great books
-  Make a final checklist for yourself



END RESULT A publication-ready file and all metadata—ready to upload!



SESSION

16

Launch, Share, Celebrate!

LAUNCH DAY



You did it—your book is real! Now we share our work with the world and celebrate each creator.

WHAT WE DO

- ✓ Share your book with the group
- ✓ Present your favorite part
- ✓ Get feedback and celebrate
- ✓ Upload to Kindle (if ready)
- ✓ Plan what to create next
- ✓ Take a group photo and celebrate!

WAYS TO LAUNCH

 Book Showcase & Presentations	 Share with Family & Friends	 Upload to Kindle (if ready)
 Create a Book Trailer or Video	 Make a Theme Song (Suno)	 Plan Your Next Adventure!

DURING DOWNTIME (while others use tech)

-  Take photos and record presentations
-  Make bookmarks or thank-you cards
-  Write reviews for each other
-  Help decorate for celebration
-  Write goals for your next book!



END RESULT Your book is launched and you're ready for the next one!



REMEMBER



You are the author. AI is your helper.



Plan smart, create with heart, finish strong!



Don't aim for perfect—aim for progress.



We grow together, learn together, celebrate together.



A book today. A better world tomorrow.