Creating a Unit Plan

...is like building a puzzle.

Backwards Planning

• Begin with what students need to learn and learn how to do.
• Identify the assessment/evaluation tools to provide evidence that they (and YOU!) and meeting these goals.
• Figure out what activities and sequences of activities will move them toward those goals.

Key Planning Questions

• What do my students know and know how to do?
• What do they need to learn next?

• THE ANSWERS TO THESE QUESTIONS SHOULD DETERMINE YOUR UNIT OBJECTIVES!
### Key Planning Questions

Which standards should I focus on in this unit?
Are these standards linked to my unit objectives?
How should I revise the objectives to link to the standard(s) more directly?

*Use the Unit Plan Think Sheet (on Web site).*

### A Whole Composed of Multiple Pieces

- Reading Skills
- Writing Skills
- Unit Specific Content
- Classroom Management
- Speaking/Listening Skills

### English-Language Arts Content Standards

**READING**
- Word analysis
- Reading comprehension
- Literary response and analysis

**WRITING**
- Writing strategies
- Writing applications (genres and their characteristics)
English-Language Arts Content Standards

• WRITTEN AND ORAL ENGLISH LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS
  - Grammar
  - Mechanics of writing
  - Manuscript form

• LISTENING AND SPEAKING
  - Listening and speaking strategies
  - Speaking applications (genres and their characteristics)

GIVE IT A TRY!

• With a partner, brainstorm specific things you might specifically TEACH during the unit you are planning. List at least two in each of the following categories:
  - Reading
  - Writing
  - Language
  - Speaking/ listening
  - Specific content

Two Brains Are Richer than One!

• Take Notes!
• Give each other feedback and suggestions!
• What were some of the best ideas you heard?
Where Can You Find Strategy Ideas?

- Assignment Template
- Milner and Milner
- Course Website
- Class notes/handouts
- Internet
  - www.NCTE.org
  - www.learner.org
- Other?