**Title A Packet of Seeds (historical fiction – U.S. westward expansion)**

**(2-3)**

**Essential Questions**

How do we maintain connections with our families when we move far away from them?

How do our names represent something about us, our families or our culture?

**Vocabulary**

* Drowned rustling kernels perched oxen
* Traces snorted weary sod creek
* Snug moaning choir prairie fetch
* Sass hatchet jutted crooned hoed
* creases

**Learner Profile**

*Caring*

How is Annie caring? Find evidence from the text.

Does Mrs. Victoria Johnston embody any of the other Learner Profile attributes?

**Non-fiction Connections**

[www.primarygames.com/science/flowers/flowers.htm](http://www.primarygames.com/science/flowers/flowers.htm) (parts of a seed, parts of a plant)

[www.americanhistory.mrdonn.org/westernexpansion.html](http://www.americanhistory.mrdonn.org/westernexpansion.html)

School House Rock: America Rock – “Elbow Room” (video/song – explains westward expansion)

**Activities**

* Flower Bingo (roses, hollyhocks, morning glories, daisies, larkspur & poppies)
* Preparing garden soil (removing rocks, roots, etc.)
* Plant pumpkin seeds, beans and peas
* Interview family members about flowers that are special from where they come from

**Quotes of Note**

**“Don’t mind the coyotes, Annie. Why, they’re the choir of the prairies,” our neighbor Mrs. Johnston, told me. (No page numbers, page toward beginning with winter scene)**

**“She (Momma) says friends and flowers are a lot alike. No matter how bad your troubles, they gladden your heart.” (No page numbers, page toward middle with woman and girl mixing batter)**