March 09, 2012

Dear Mom,

I want a phone when I am 10 years old because I can call grandma and ask her I can come to her house. And now I can bring it to school. Another reason is now I can call my friends instead of walking with their hose your space.

Your Love

March 29, 2012

Dear Mom,

I want a pet for kids because I will be responsible for a pet. And I will feed my pet. Another reason is I won’t let it run away so please will you buy me a pet?

Boy John
Standards for first grade

Text Types and Purposes

• W.1.1. Write opinion pieces in which they introduce the topic or name the book they are writing about, state an opinion, supply a reason for the opinion, and provide some sense of closure.

Production and Distribution of Writing

• W.1.5. With guidance and support from adults, focus on a topic, respond to questions and suggestions from peers, and add details to strengthen writing as needed

Presentation of Knowledge and Ideas

• SL.1.4. Describe people, places, things, and events with relevant details, expressing ideas and feelings clearly.
• SL.1.6. Produce complete sentences when appropriate to task and situation.

Conventions of Standard English

• L.1.2. Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.
  • Use end punctuation for sentences.
  • Use conventional spelling for words with common spelling patterns and for frequently occurring irregular words.
  • Spell untaught words phonetically, drawing on phonemic awareness and spelling conventions.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Topic</strong></td>
<td>I have stated no topic</td>
<td>I have stated my topic</td>
<td>I have stated my opinion about my topic</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reasons</strong></td>
<td>I have not written any reasons for my opinion</td>
<td>I have written one reason for my opinion</td>
<td>I have written several reasons for my opinion</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Linking Words</strong></td>
<td>I have not connected my reasons to my opinion using linking words</td>
<td>I have used a few linking words or phrases but not all reasons are linked to my opinion</td>
<td>I have used linking words to connect my opinion and all of the reasons together.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Conclusion</strong></td>
<td>I have no conclusion</td>
<td>I have written an incomplete conclusion</td>
<td>I have written a complete concluding statement</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Conventions</strong></td>
<td>Illegible handwriting, spacing between words, and/or spelling errors make the piece difficult to understand.</td>
<td>Errors in sentence structure.</td>
<td>Sentence structure is complete.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Little to or no use of capitalization or punctuation.</td>
<td>Errors make the piece difficult to understand.</td>
<td>High frequency words are spelled correctly.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Capitalization and punctuation errors frequent.</td>
<td>Capitalization and punctuation errors are few.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Spelling, capitalization, and punctuation do not interfere with the meaning</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Build Back Ground Knowledge

Read Mentor Texts about Persuasion

• Click Clack Moo by Doreen Cronin,
• Dear Mrs. LaRue: Letters from Obedience School by Mark Teague
• Earrings by Judith Viorst
• I Wanna Iguana by Karen Orloff
• I Wanna New Room by Karen Orloff,
• Don’t Let the Pigeon Stay Up Late by Mo Willems
• Can I Have a Stegosaurus, Mom? Can I? Please!? By Lois G. Grambling
Brainstorm

• As a class brainstorm a list of persuasive topics
• Write ideas down on a poster
• Students write their own lists

Things I want to change...
1. I want a pet
2. I want a TV in my room
3. later bedtime
4. only want to eat junkfood
5. let me change my hair color
6. no more homework
7. everyday is short day
8. get our own laptops at school
9. let me have a maid
10. swimming pool at school
11. serve ice cream in lunchroom
Tell students they will be choosing one of their topics to write an actual persuasive letter to a person/people. Get them excited about writing to their chosen audience.

- principal
- parents
- teacher
- sibling
Plan for Writing

Using a graphic organizer
Choose a graphic organizer you are comfortable with, e.g., webbing, main idea & details, or four square. The examples presented here are the OREO and four square graphic organizers.
Plan Writing

GRAPHIC ORGANIZER CHOICE: OREO

Persuasive Writing OREO

OPINION

REASON 1

REASON 2

REASON 3

OPINION

Name ________________________________

Topic

Opinion

Reason #1

Reason #2

Reason #3

Opinion
Plan Writing
OR GRAPHIC ORGANIZER CHOICE: FOUR SQUARE

- Topic
- Linking word
- Reason 1
- Linking word
- Reason 2
- Linking word
- Reason 3
- Conclusion
Discuss linking words with students. Create a linking word chart for with students. Model the use of these words during lessons. Place chart in a visible place for students to refer to during writing time.

Make this poster with students if using OREO graphic organizer.

Make this poster with students if using four square graphic organizer.
 Graphic Organizer: OREO

**I DO**

- Introduce OREO graphic organizer
- Model completing the OREO graphic organizer with one of the ideas from the class list

---

**Things I want to change...**

1. I want a pet
2. I want a TV in my room
3. later bedtime
4. only want to eat junkfood
5. let me change my hair color
6. no more homework
7. everyday is short day
8. get our own laptops at school
9. let me have a maid
10. swimming pool at school
11. serve ice cream in lunchroom

**If I had...**

I think... I want...

**Opinion**

I think the lunchroom should serve ice cream for dessert

**Reason #1**

Because... ice cream is good for your bones

**Reason #2**

I will eat all of my other food first

**Reason #3**

Another reason...

I will be happy so I will work extra hard at school

---

**Opinion**

Help me have a healthy body and serve ice cream

---

**So please...**
or Graphic Organizer: Four Square

**I DO**

- Introduce Four Square graphic organizer
- Model completing the Four Square graphic organizer with one of the ideas from the class list

```
Things I want to change:
1. I want a pet
2. I want a TV in my room
3. later bedtime
4. only want to eat junkfood
5. let me change my hair color
6. no more homework.
7. everyday is short day
8. get our own laptops at school
9. let me have a maid
10. swimming pool at school
11. serve ice cream in lunchroom

I think the lunchroom should serve ice cream for dessert.
```

```
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Linking word <em>because</em></th>
<th>Linking word <em>and</em></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ice cream is good for your bones</td>
<td>I will eat all of my other food first</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
```

```
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I think the lunchroom should serve ice cream for dessert.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
```

```
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Linking word <em>another reason</em></th>
<th>Conclusion</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I will be happy so I will work extra hard at school</td>
<td>So please help me have a healthy body and serve ice cream</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
```
WE DO

• Choose another topic from the list
• Work on a graphic organizer together as a class
or Graphic Organizer Four Square

**WE DO**

- Choose another topic from the list
- Work on a graphic organizer together as a class

**Example:**

**Topic:** We want a swimming pool at school.

**Reason 1:** Our teacher could teach us lessons in the pool.
- Linking word: because

**Reason 2:** We could cool off and learn more if we weren't sweating.
- Linking word: and

**Reason 3:** Swimming around is exercise and will make us healthy and strong.
- Linking word: another reason

**Conclusion:** So please let us have fun learning by getting us wet.

**Things I want to change:**
1. I want a pet
2. I want a TV in my room
3. Later bedtime
4. Only want to eat junk food
5. Let me change my hair color
6. No more homework
7. Everyday is short day
8. Get our own laptops at school
9. Let me have a maid
10. Swimming pool at school
11. Serve ice cream in lunchroom
YOU DO

- Students choose their own topic from their individual list
- Students complete their own graphic organizer
Letter Writing

Using the graphic organizer to write a letter
I DO

• Discuss Letter Parts using an enlarged poster

• Model using the graphic organizer to write a persuasive letter. Model how to use linking words and phrases.
Letter Parts: OREO

WE DO

• Use the class written OREO graphic organizer to write a letter together as a class.

Try to write to an authentic audience, preferably someone who can write back to your class.

This is the same graphic organizer you created together during the “we do.”
or Letter Parts: Four Square

**WE DO**

Use the Four Square graphic organizer to write a letter together as a class.

Try to write to an authentic audience, preferably someone who can write back to your class.

This is the same graphic organizer you created together during the “we do.”
April 6, 2012

Dear Mrs. McGary’s Class,

Thank you for taking the time to write me a letter. I have never thought about building a pool at our school. You have given me many good reasons to consider. Some days it does get hot at school. It would be nice to be able to jump in some water to cool off. Swimming is a great way to get exercise.

Unfortunately, I cannot promise to build a swimming pool at North Park. We may not be able to build a swimming pool but you have given me an idea. Maybe your class could have a water party at the end of the year. You could play water games to cool off and get exercise.

Sincerely,
Principal
YOU DO

- Students use OREO graphic organizer to write a persuasive letter

March 27, 2012
Dear mom,

I want a phone when I am 10 years old because I can call grandma and ask if I can come to her house and play. I can bring it to school. Another reason is now I can call my friends instead of walking +9 and your safe.

Xo, John

March 29, 2012
Dear mom,

I want a pet for hils because I will be responsible for a pet. And I will feed my pet. Another reason is now I can walk it + it run away. So please will you buy me a pet? +

Your friend, + red head
Editing
Before teaching these 4 editing lessons, write a persuasive letter that contains the 1-3 errors in the following categories:

- Sentences that don’t make sense
- Sentences with no punctuation
- Misspelled high-frequency words
- Misspelled words

April 10, 2012
Dear Principal Hobbs,

I wnt a lptp at wrk because if I lptp I wud be able to wrk frm home and I be able to take it to metngs another reason is I wud be able to take it to to classrooms to wrk wth students.

Sincerely,

Ms. Bonnemort
Rereading

• Teacher models rereading his/her letter.

• Teacher thinks aloud, “that didn’t make sense.”

• Teacher edits the writing to make it easier to understand.

• Students read their letters aloud to a partner and make changes when it doesn’t make sense.

You may want to teach this lesson multiple times throughout the unit.
Punctuation

- Model how to add punctuation to tell readers to stop. Model how to begin sentences with capital letters.

- Using the document camera, project a few pages of student work. Have the class help decide where to add periods and capital letters.

- Students read through their writing with a partner to add punctuation.
Model how to use the word wall to spell words correctly.

Instruct students to cross out the incorrectly spelled word and write the correctly spelled word on the top.

Using the document camera, project a few pages of student work. Have the class help locate incorrect sight words.

Students read their writing to edit sight words.
Hearing and Recording More Sounds

• Model how to stretch the word and record more sounds.

• Instruct students to cross out the word and write the “stretched out” word on the top. *the words do not need to be spelled correctly. Expect dominant sounds and known word parts

• Using the document camera, project a few pages of student work. Have the class help locate words that can be “stretched out.”

• Students read through their writing to stretch out words and record more sounds.
As you teach each editing mini-lesson, track the expectations on an anchor chart. Students can also use an editing checklist of their own.
Practice speeches

- Students practice individually
- Students practice in pairs or small groups
- Final speech in front of class

INCORPORATE TECHNOLOGY
- Use flip cam to record speeches
- Make a class video combining all the speeches
Perform Speeches

- Students preform speeches in small groups or for entire class.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name _______________________________</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Persuasive Speech</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I spoke or read at a good speed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I made my voice sound interesting.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I spoke or read smoothly.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- (Emojis for each statement)
Student Samples
Dear Principal Hobbs,

Can we please have PE every day? First, if every day was PE, we would learn better because we would be less tired. Second, we would play more on the computers at home. Last, we can get strong. I hope you think about it.

Love,
Dear Principal Hobbs,

Can we please have more books? First, I really like to read. Second, everyone will learn more. Last books are really exciting. I hope you will think about it.

Love
Dear Principal Hobbs,

Can we please have a lock on the bathroom doors? First, people wouldn't know I'm in the bathroom! Second, I wouldn't have to hold the door shut. Last, no one could come in. I hope you think about it.

Love the best, First Grade
Dear Principal Hobbs

Can we please have no homework? First, it will give us energy. Second, we can read more.

Last, we can get sleep.

I hope you will think about it. Love
Dear Principal Hobbs,

Can we please have a whole school day of recess. First, it would give us energy. Second, it would make us strong. Last, we could make new friends.

Love,
Sources

• wiki space for first grade teachers at Chets Creek Elementary School in Jacksonville, FL
  http://firstgradecce.wikispaces.com/Writing+-+Persuasive