

FSPS Informational Writing Criteria - Grade 6

Writing to Inform

Writing Criteria: C

Key Skills and Understanding

CC.W.6.2 Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.

Informational/Explanatory - Inform: Writing to inform uses facts to explain a topic.

Grade 6

Ideas/Research

Reflects research and planning

Includes facts and details from research

Gathers and incorporates information from multiple sources

Develops the topic with facts, definitions, details, quotations, or other information and examples

Cites and uses credible and varied sources

Organization/Text Features

Includes a title that tells what the piece is about

Organizes ideas and information into purposeful, coherent paragraphs

Includes an elaborated introduction with a clear thesis that has a structured body

Provides a strong concluding statement or section that sums up the piece

Uses strategies such as definition, classification, comparison/contrast, and cause/effect

Uses formatting (e.g., headings) graphics (e.g., charts, tables,) and multimedia

Language Style

Puts information in his or her own words

Uses purposeful and varied sentence structures

Uses precise language and domain-specific vocabulary

Uses sequence and/or linking words and phrases

Uses transitions to clarify the relationships among ideas and concepts

Establishes and maintains a formal style

Note. Adapted from *Explorations in Nonfiction Writing: Grade K* (p. 4), by T. Stead and L. Hoyt, 2011, Portsmouth, NH: Heinemann.

Mentor Text

Mentor Text:

1. http://www.lausd.net/Corona_EL/Mentor_Text.html
2. <http://writingfix.com/genres/informative.htm#demo>

Student Exemplars

Student Writing Exemplars:

1. http://www.corestandards.org/assets/Appendix_C.pdf
2. <http://www.nancyfetzer.com/pdf/writing/AtaGlance7-12.pdf>

Lesson Resources

Lesson Plans & Resources:

1. <http://www.livebinders.com/play/play?id=664691>
2. <http://gadoe.georgiastandards.org/elaframework.aspx>

Rubrics:

1. http://www.readwritethink.org/files/resources/lesson_images/lesson856/rubric.pdf
2. http://www.doe.k12.de.us/aab/English_Language_Arts/writing_rubrics.shtml
3. <http://www.whsd.k12.pa.us/userfiles/1650/Classes/16431/KidFriendlyInformationalRubric.pdf>

Graphic Organizers:

1. <http://www.whsd.k12.pa.us/userfiles/1650/Classes/16431/KidFriendlyInformationalRubric.pdf>

Professional Text:

1. Houston, G. (2004). *How Writing Works*. Boston, MA: Pearson Education, Inc.
2. Owocki, G. (2013). *The Common Core Writing Book*. Portsmouth, NH: Heinemann
3. Stead, T. & Hoyt, Linda. (2011). *Explorations in Nonfiction Writing*. Portsmouth, NH: Heinemann