FSPS Informational Writing Criteria - Grade 3
Writing to Instruct

Writing Criteria: D

Key Skills and Understanding
CC.W.3.2 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 - Instruct: Writing to instruct explains how to make or do something.

Grade 3

Ideas/Research

Reflects research and planning

Includes facts, definitions, and details from research

Summarizes information from multiple sources

Lists/cites sources

Organization/Text Features

Includes a title that tells what the procedure is

Provides a list of materials

Presents numbered steps listed in sequence

Includes illustrations (labeled diagrams) that match the text

Includes a concluding statement or section

Language Style

Puts information in his or her own words

Uses strong present-tense verbs

Uses precise vocabulary

Uses linking words such *as when, if, first, next, then,* and *finally* to connect ideas

Demonstrates sentence fluency and uses a variety of sentence lengths

Note. Adapted from *Explorations in Nonfiction Writing: Grade K* (p. 54), by T. Stead and L. Hoyt, 2011, Portsmouth, NH: Heinemann.

Mentor Text

Mentor Text:
1. http://www.readandwritewithrebecca.com/Mentor-Texts.html

Student Exemplars

Student Writing Exemplars:
1. http://vabhighlandoaks.dadeschools.net/write.html
2. http://readingandwritingproject.com/resources/common-core-standards/student-samples.html
3. http://www.wssu.k12.vt.us/teachers/docs/wrtng4thrsrc.pdf

Lesson Resources

Lesson Plans & Resources:
1. http://www.d11.org/Instruction/Literacy.LanguageArts/Pages/k-5-Writing-Resources.aspx
2. http://pinterest.com/sheleeb/teaching-ela-writing-how-to/
3. http://melissa-wade.blogspot.com/2012/04/how-to-writing-1st-day.html

Rubrics:
1. http://www.doe.k12.de.us/aab/English_Language_Arts/writing_rubrics.shtml
2. http://www.readwritethink.org/classroom-resources/lesson-plans/writing-motivating-students-write-871.html?tab=1#tabs

Graphic Organizers:
1. https://docs.google.com/a/fortsmithschools.org/file/d/0B3dq1uSa1P3KR1RNNDdHMjFsUlk/edit?usp=drive_web&pli=1
2. http://www.eduplace.com/graphicorganizer/

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