

# FSPS Informational Writing Criteria - Grade 4

## Writing to Instruct

### Writing Criteria: D

#### Key Skills and Understanding

**CC.W.4.2** 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 of do something.

**Grade 4**

#### Ideas/Research

Reflects research and planning

Includes facts, definitions, and concrete details from research

Gathers and uses information from multiple sources

Lists/cites sources

#### Organization/Text Features

Includes a title that tells what the procedure is

Includes a compelling lead

Presents steps or tips in sequence

Includes illustrations (labeled visuals) that support the text

Provides a concluding statement or section related to the information presented

#### Language Style

Puts information in his or her own words

Uses strong present-tense verbs

Uses academic vocabulary and precise details

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

Demonstrates sentence fluency

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/wrtng4thsrc.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/>

#### Rubrics:

1. [http://www.doe.k12.de.us/aab/English\\_Language\\_Arts/writing\\_rubrics.shtml](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/0B3dq1uSa1P3KR1RNNDdHMiFsUlk/edit?usp=drive\\_web&pli=1](https://docs.google.com/a/fortsmithschools.org/file/d/0B3dq1uSa1P3KR1RNNDdHMiFsUlk/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