

FSPS Informational Writing Criteria - Grade 6

Writing to Instruct

Writing Criteria: D	
<p><i>Key Skills and Understanding</i></p> <p>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.</p> <p>Informational/Explanatory - Instruct: Writing to instruct explains how to make or do something.</p> <p>Grade 6</p>	
Ideas/Research	
Reflects research and planning	
Includes facts, definitions and concrete details from research	
Gathers and uses information from several sources	
Uses text support from the resources with accuracy	
Lists/cites sources	
Organization/Text Features	
Includes a title that tells what the procedure is	
Includes an elaborated introduction with a clear thesis that has a structured body	
Organizes ideas and information into purposeful, coherent paragraphs	
Clearly uses strategies such as definition, classification, comparison/contrast, and cause/effect	
Provides a strong concluding statement or section that follows the information presented	
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 appropriate transitions to clarify the relationships among ideas and concepts	
Uses precise, powerful verbs	
<p><small>Note. Adapted from <i>Explorations in Nonfiction Writing: Grade K</i> (p. 54), by T. Stead and L. Hoyt, 2011, Portsmouth, NH: Heinemann.</small></p>	

Mentor Text

Mentor Text:

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

Student Exemplars

Student Writing Exemplars:

1. <http://readingandwritingproject.com/resources/student-writing/middle-school.html>

Lesson Resources

Lesson Plans & Resources:

1. <http://pinterest.com/sheleeb/teaching-ela-writing-how-to/>
2. <http://pinterest.com/bwkcook5/6th-grade-reading-writing/>

Rubrics:

1. http://www.doe.k12.de.us/aab/English_Language_Arts/writing_rubrics.shtml

Graphic Organizers:

1. <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