

FSPS Opinion Writing Criteria - Grade 4

Writing Criteria: E

Key Skills and Understanding

CC.W.4.1 Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.

Opinion Writing: Opinion writing states an opinion and gives valid reasons to support that opinion.

Grade 4

Ideas/Research

Reflects research and planning to support an opinion or position

Includes facts from research to support opinions or positions

Gathers and uses information from multiple sources

Lists/cites sources

Organization/Text Features

Includes a title that reflects the topic or goal

Has a strong introduction that states an opinion or position

Includes reasons for the opinion or position that are supported by facts

Groups related ideas together to support the opinion or position

Provides a concluding statement or section related to the opinion or position

Language Style

Shows a clear, consistent opinion throughout the piece

Writes information in his or her own words

Chooses precise vocabulary in their writing that clarifies their thinking about a topic

Uses linking words and phrases to connect ideas (e.g., for instance, in order to, in addition, etc.)

Demonstrates sentence variety and fluency

Writes with complex sentences to link the parts of writing together

Note. Adapted from *Explorations in Nonfiction Writing: Grade K* (p. 164), by T. Stead and L. Hoyt, 2011, Portsmouth, NH: Heinemann.

Mentor Text

Mentor Text:

1. <http://www.readandwritewithrebecca.com/Mentor-Texts.html>
2. <http://www.nwp.org/cs/public/print/resource/4090>
3. <http://pinterest.com/sguevara1/mentor-text/>
4. <http://www.hallco.org/literacy/index.php?view=article&id=7%3>

Student Exemplars

Student Writing Exemplars:

1. <http://www.monet.k12.ca.us/curriculum/EnglishLA/writing/writing%20samples/samples.html>
2. <http://www.d11.org/Instruction/Literacy.LanguageArts/Pages/k-5-Writing-Resources.aspx>
3. <http://www.mybookeez.com/opinion-writing-first-grade-writing-samples/>

Lesson Resources

Lesson Plans & Resources:

1. <http://www.d11.org/Instruction/Literacy.LanguageArts/Pages/k-5-Writing-Resources.aspx>
2. <http://www.writestepswriting.com/BLOG/tabid/241/EntryId/18/Supplementing-Writing-Lessons-with-Picture-Books.aspx>
3. <http://www.dots-n-spots.com/?p=1782>

Rubrics:

1. <http://www.livebinders.com/play/play?id=371407>
2. <http://www.clackesd.k12.or.us/cie/ccss/rubric/ELARubricOpinionGrade3-5.pdf>
3. <http://wvde.state.wv.us/teach21/InstructionalWritingRubrics.html>
4. http://sfw.z-b.com/media/zb/sfwzb/SFW_G2_MSR_OW_0.pdf
5. <http://www.hallco.org/literacy/index.php?view=article&id=7%3>

Graphic Organizers:

1. <http://images.epals.com/gc/projects/Biographies%20Explorer%20Expedition%20Opinion%20Writing%20Organizer%201-6.pdf>
2. <http://oakdome.com/k5/lesson-plans/word/common-core-opinion-writing-template.php>
3. <http://www.hallco.org/literacy/index.php?view=article&id=7%3>

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