



6+1 Traits of Writing

Presented by the
Third Grade Teachers

Third Grade Curriculum Overview

- English Language Arts
 - Readers Workshop
 - Writer's Workshop
 - Words Their Way
 - Text Talk
 - G.U.M. BOOK (Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics)
- Math
 - Everyday Math
 - Exemplars
- Science
 - Animal Adaptations
 - Electricity and Magnets
 - Simple Machines
 - Health and Nutrition
 - Solar System
- Social Studies
 - Massachusetts History
 - Dover History

Third Grade Common Core State Standards

Anchor Standard: Produce clear and coherent writing in which development organization and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

WRITING STRAND

1. Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons.
2. Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.
3. Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, descriptive details and clear event sequences.
 - 3.A. Write poems, descriptions and stories in which figurative languages and the sounds of words are key elements.

LANGUAGE STRAND

2. Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.
 - 2.a. Capitalize Appropriate words in titles
 - 2.b. Use commas in addresses
 - 2.c. Use commas and quotation marks in dialogue.
 - 2.d. Form and use possessives
 - 2.e. Use conventional spelling for high frequency and other studied words and for adding suffixes to base words.
 - 2.f. Use spelling pattern and generalizations

Third Grade Writing Curriculum Pacing Guide

	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June
Genre	Launching Personal Narrative	Personal Narrative	Personal Narrative	How To	Persuasive Opinion	Poetry	MA Famous Person Report	Fiction	Author Study	Open Cycle
Traits	Ideas	Ideas	Organization Sentence Fluency	Word Choice	Organization Voice	Presentation Organization	Voice Word Choice	Voice	All Traits	All Traits
Conventions										

Third Grade Writing Assessments

□ Formal

- ✓ School Wide Writing Prompts

□ Informal (ongoing)

- ✓ Writer's Notebook
- ✓ Cross Curriculum Writing
- ✓ Quick Writes
- ✓ Reader's Response Journals
- ✓ Homework

6+1 Traits of Writing



The 6+1 Trait Writing Model of Instruction & Assessment provides a common language for teachers and students to communicate about the characteristics of writing and establishes a clear vision of what good writing looks like.

6+1 Traits of Writing

- Researched Based- Pioneered by Education Northwest more than 20 years ago.
- 6+1 Traits helps teachers worldwide improve their writing instruction.
- Supports teachers understanding of the qualities of good writing, and their ability to provide effective feedback to students.

6+1 Traits of Writing

The 6+1 Trait Writing analytical model for assessing and teaching writing is made up of 6+1 key qualities that define strong writing in any genre.

- **Ideas** - the main message
- **Organization** - the internal structure of the piece
- **Voice** - the personal tone and flavor of the author's message
- **Word Choice** - the vocabulary a writer chooses to convey meaning
- **Sentence Fluency** - the rhythm and flow of the language
- **Conventions** - the mechanical correctness
- **Presentation** - how the writing and graphics actually look on the page

6+1 Traits of Writing

5-POINT WRITER'S SCORING GUIDE

ORGANIZATION

5	3	1
<p>The organization enhances and showcases the central idea or theme. The order, structure, or presentation of information is compelling and moves the reader through the text.</p> <p>A. An inviting introduction draws the reader in; a satisfying conclusion leaves the reader with a sense of closure and resolution. B. Thoughtful transitions clearly show how ideas connect. C. Details seem to fit where they're placed; sequencing is logical and effective. D. Pacing is well controlled; the writer knows when to slow down and elaborate, and when to pick up the pace and move on. E. The title, if desired, is original and captures the central theme of the piece. F. The choice of structure matches the purpose and audience, with effective paragraph breaks.</p>	<p>The organizational structure is strong enough to move the reader through the text without too much confusion.</p> <p>A. The paper has a recognizable introduction and conclusion. The introduction may not create a strong sense of anticipation; the conclusion may not tie-up all loose ends. B. Transitions sometimes work, at other times, connections between ideas are unclear. C. Sequencing shows some logic, but not under control enough that it consistently supports the development of ideas. The structure may be predictable taking attention away from the content. D. Pacing is fairly well controlled, though the writer sometimes lunges ahead too quickly or spends too much time on details that do not matter. E. A title (if desired) is present, although it may be uninspired or an obvious restatement of the prompt or topic. F. The organization sometimes supports the main point or story line, with an attempt at paragraphing.</p>	<p>The writing lacks a clear sense of direction. Ideas, details, or events seem strung together in a loose or random fashion; there is no identifiable internal structure. The writing reflects more than one of these problems:</p> <p>A. There is no real lead to set-up what follows, no effective conclusion to wrap things up. B. Connections between ideas are confusing or absent. C. Sequence is random and needs lots of work. D. Pacing feels awkward; the writer slows to a crawl when the reader wants to move on, and vice versa. E. No title is present (if requested) or, if present, does not reflect the content. F. Problems with organization make it hard for the reader to understand the main point or story line, with little or no attempt at paragraph breaks.</p>

Third Grade Writing Focus-JANUARY

	January
Genre	Persuasive Opinion
Traits	Voice Organization Conventions

January Persuasive Writing Prompt

There has been some talk about having school on Saturdays. Before the final decision is made, we have been told to ask students their thoughts. Decide how you would feel about this and write a paragraph that supports your opinion.

There has been some talk about having school on Saturdays. Before the final decision is made, we have been told to ask students their thoughts. Decide how you would feel about this and write a paragraph that supports your opinion.

If we had school on saturday
I would move to Green bay.
If there was school on saturday
I would miss my hockey game.
My team would lose are game,
because I am goalie and one
of are player would be goalie
and get hurt. Second of all
I wouldn't be able to relex
for all that hard work we
do. All we would like is a little
relexing time. Finally we would
have less work to do and that
means no homework. If we had
school I would skip school!

TEACHER'S SCORES

Organization	3
Voice	3
Conventions	3

TEACHER'S SCORES

Organization

1

Voice

2

Conventions

1

There has been some talk about having school on Saturdays. Before the final decision is made, we have been told to ask students their thoughts. Decide how you would feel about this and write a paragraph that supports your opinion.

I would love to have school on Sat. because we can get smart. So we can learn because at the beginning of the school. To have fun because school is fun. So when we are in 4th grade we will not be and because 4th grade is very very hard. If school was on Sat. I would be amazed

P.S and I can be with the best teacher in the world with a big heart

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CLASS RECORD

	IDEAS	ORG	VOICE	W.C	S.C.	CONV.	PRES	SMALL GROUP STRATEGIES
Johnny		3	3			4		Transitions Topic Sentence Stronger SAY MORES
Mary		3	3			2		Transitions Run on Sentences
Hank		2	2			1		Run on Sentences Starting Sentences with Capital Letters Paragraph Structure Review Knowing your Audience
Eileen		3	3			3		Topic Sentence Stronger SAY MORES
Laurie		3	4			3		Topic Sentence Stronger SAY MORES
Mike		3	4			3		Transitions Stronger SAY MORES
Scott		2	2			2		Run on Sentences Paragraph Structure Review Audience
Julie		2	2			2		Run on Sentences Paragraph Structure Review Knowing your Audience
Paul		4	4			2		Run on Sentences



- "The best thing about writing is you only need three things: a paper, a pencil and your imagination!"

-Annie
Third Grader
2011



- "If you wish to be a writer, write."

-Epictetus
Greek & Stoic Philosopher
around 93 AD