

Grade 2 Informational Writing Prompt

Standards Assessed:

W 2.2: Write informative, explanatory texts in which they introduce a topic, use facts and definitions to develop points, and provide a concluding statement or section.

W 2.8: Recall information from experiences or gather information from provided sources to answer a question.

L2.1f: Produce, expand and rearrange complete simple and compound sentences.

L2.2: Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, spelling and punctuation when writing.

Materials Needed:

Prompt

Paper

[MY Point-in-Time Grade 2 Informational Writing Rubric](#)

Administration Guidelines:

The entire writing process for this prompt (*plan, draft, revise, and edit*) is suggested to be completed within three assessment periods. **The day before the prompt (day 1) is a day to introduce the students to the prompt. Days 2 and 3 will be for the students to write their prompt. Please follow directions below.**

Day Before the Prompt (Day 1):

Say to Students:

Think of a topic that you've studied or that you know a lot about. Tomorrow, you will have time to write an informational (or all-about) text that teaches others interesting and important information and ideas about that topic. If you want to find and use information from a book or another outside source to help with this writing, you may bring that with you tomorrow. Please keep in mind that you'll have only this one period to complete this, so you'll need to plan, draft, revise, and edit in one sitting. Write in a way that shows all that you know about information writing.

Brainstorm with students possible topics that they might write about. Make a list on chart paper. Have students pair up and talk about a couple of the topics on the chart or others that they think of. Have them share with their partners what they know about the topic that they choose. What could they teach others about around this topic? After partners have had a chance to discuss, share out as a whole group some of what they discussed.

Remind students to be prepared tomorrow to write an informational piece. Let them know that they should write about something that they know well and are passionate about.

Note: Allow students to bring in one text or notes about their topic to use. If availability is a concern, allow time for students to choose a text at the library and/or capture their notes within the classroom.

Days 2 and 3 of the Prompt: (post and read at the beginning of both days)

Say to students:

Think of a topic that you've studied or that you know a lot about. The next two days, you will have time to write an informational (or all-about) text that teaches others interesting and important information and ideas about that topic. You may use information from a book or another outside source to help with this writing. Please keep in mind that you'll have only these two days in class to complete this, so you'll need to plan, draft, revise, and edit. Write in a way that shows all that you know about information writing.

Grades K-2

- Introduce the topic you will teach about (topic sentence)
- Include lots of information
- Organize your writing
- Use transition words
- Write an ending

Scoring: Writing will be scored and calibrated using the district [Grade 2 Informational Writing Rubric](#) and identified benchmarks.

Adapted from Calkins, L. (2014). Writing Pathways: Performance Assessments and Learning Progressions, Grades K-8. Portsmouth, NH: Heinemann.