

Writing Assignment

Lesson Title:

Why Is It Important and Why Does It Matter?

Grade Level Range:

- Grades 3-5
 - 4th Grade

ELA Writing Standard:

W.4.1 Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons and information.

Children's Book:

Daywalt, D. (2013). *The day the crayons quit*. Penguin Young Readers Group.

Activity Description:

- As we read *The Day the Crayons Quit*, students will be listening for words or phrases that the characters use to persuade the listener. Then, as a class, students can either brainstorm a privilege that is important that they agree upon or they can individually brainstorm a privilege that is important to them. Once the privilege has been selected, either by each child individually or the class as a whole, then the students will list at least three reasons as to why they should be allowed that privilege. Students will then conduct research to gather facts or examples to support their reasons. Students will need to consider the audience to whom they are writing in order to effectively appeal to the audience. This can also be elevated by having students consider counterarguments and opposing viewpoints, and including that in their writing.

Two Differentiating Ideas:

- Gearing Up (i.e. fast finishers)
 - Students can consider possible opposing viewpoints and those reasonings, and how they would counter argue those.
- Gearing Down (i.e. ESL students)
 - Students can work in small groups to generate ideas and conduct research.

Activity's Source:

Persuasive writing. Reading Rockets.

<https://www.readingrockets.org/classroom/classroom-strategies/persuasive-writing>