

Making
Learning
Fun!

60

Journal Prompts

for

2nd Grade

NO PREP

Prompt-Plan-Go

© Teacher Features



Text Types and Purposes

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.2.1](#)

Write opinion pieces in which they introduce the topic or book they are writing about, state an opinion, supply reasons that support the opinion, use linking words (e.g., *because*, *and*, *also*) to connect opinion and reasons, and provide a concluding statement or section.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.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.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.2.3](#)

Write narratives in which they recount a well-elaborated event or short sequence of events, include details to describe actions, thoughts, and feelings, use temporal words to signal event order, and provide a sense of closure.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.2.1 Opinion Writing

My Best Friend (pg. 4)

Yum, Yum, Yum! (pg. 5)

The Best Gift (pg. 6)

Pets For All (pg. 7)

Just Right? (pg. 8)

The Best Books (pg. 9)

Friends From Books (pg. 10)

Which Chore? (pg. 11)

What Do You Know? (pg. 12)

Pet Monkey (pg. 13)

Sleepy Time (pg. 14)

Field Trip! (pg. 15)

Fruity Flavor (pg. 16)

Grown Up Fun (pg. 17)

New at the Zoo (pg. 18)

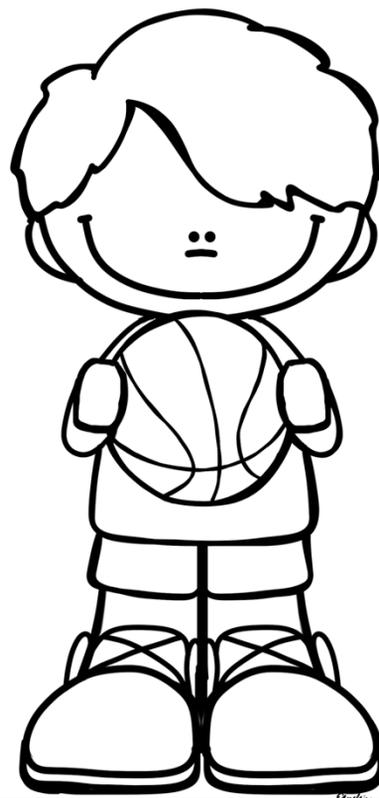
Movie Director (pg. 19)

Pick A Season (pg. 20)

I Scream for Ice Cream (pg. 21)

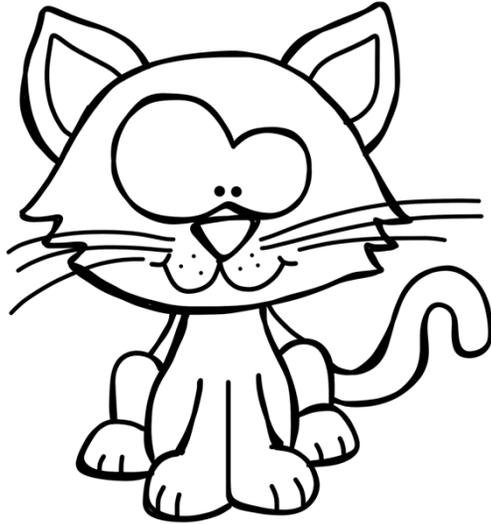
Playground Fun (pg. 22)

Snakes or Spiders? (pg. 23)



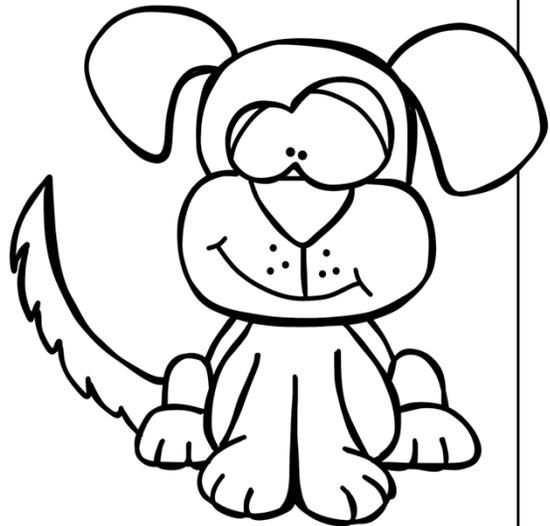
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.2.2 Informative/Explanatory Writing

Take Your Time (pg. 24)
Say How to Play (pg. 25)
Love Your Pet (pg. 26)
Writing and Drawing (pg. 27)
Keep It Clean (pg. 28)
Brusha Brusha (pg. 29)
Sunshine & Sand (pg. 30)
Substitute Teacher (pg. 31)
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What Do You Know? (pg. 35)
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New Neighbors (pg. 40)
Rainy Days (pg. 41)
Scary Storm? (pg. 42)
Making Friends (pg. 43)



CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.2.2 Narratives

Community Worker (pg. 44)
Dressy (pg. 45)
Amazing Artist (pg. 46)
First Time! (pg. 47)
Out of Time (pg. 48)
Oops! (pg. 49)
I'm A Mouse (pg. 50)
Kindness Matters (pg. 51)
Embarrassed (pg. 52)
Surprise (pg. 53)
You Shrunk! (pg. 54)
A Million Dollars! (pg. 55)
Fly Like A Bird (pg. 56)
Run the School (pg. 57)
Science Smartie (pg. 58)
Elephant Trouble (pg. 59)
Giraffe Views (pg. 60)
Message in a Bottle (pg. 61)
Sleepover (pg. 62)
World Traveler (pg. 63)



Name _____

My Best Friend

Prompt: Would you rather have a best friend who is loud or quiet?

Plan:

State your opinion.

Give reasons why you feel this way:

1.

2.

3.



DO: Express your opinion and be sure to have a strong closing statement.
Use linking words like: *because, and, also.*

Name _____

Yum, Yum, Yum!

Prompt: You get to plan the best dinner ever.

Plan:

Why I chose this
Vegetable:

Why I chose this Fruit:

Why I chose this Main Dish:

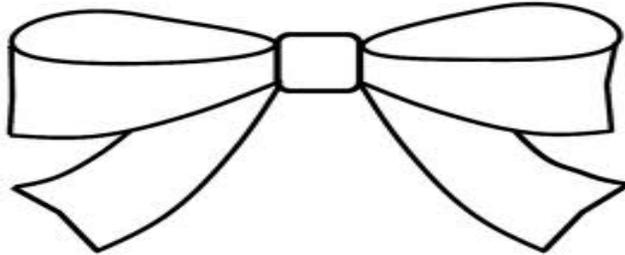
D0: Explain your choices for the best dinner.
Use linking words like: *because, and, also.*

Name _____

The Best Gift

Prompt: What is the best gift for a second grader?

Plan:



What is it?

Give 3 reasons why it is the best gift.

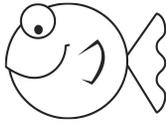
1.

2.

3.

DO: Use your plan to write about the best gift.
Use linking words like: *because, and, also.*

Name _____



Pets For All?



Prompt: Do you think every kid should have a pet?

Plan: Check one. Give 3 reasons for your choice.

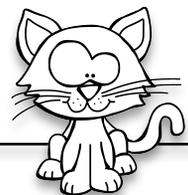
Yes- every kid should have a pet.

No- I don't think every kid should have a pet.

1.

2.

3.



DO: State your opinion and give reasons.
Restate your opinion in the concluding statement

Name _____

Just Right?

Prompt: In your opinion, should the school day be longer, shorter or is it just the right length?

Plan: Give 3 reasons for your choice.

I think the school day is

List 3 reasons to support your opinion.

1.

2.

3.



DO: Give reasons to support your opinion and repeat your opinion in a strong sentence at the end.

Name _____

The Best Books

Prompt: What kinds of books do you enjoy the most?

Plan: Answer the questions about your choice.

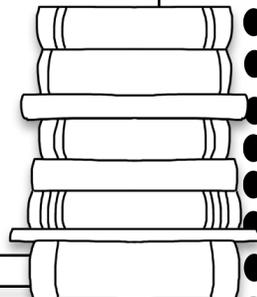
What kind of book do you enjoy reading most?

Why do you enjoy reading this kind of book?

Why would others like this kind of book?

Why should your school buy more books like these?

Read



DO: Give reasons and state your opinion why everyone should read the kind of books you enjoy.

Name _____

Friends from Books

Prompt: Think about a character from a book.

Plan: Which character would make a good friend?

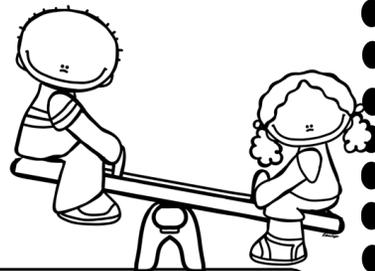
_____ from

Why do you think this character would make a great friend? List 3 reasons.

1.

2.

3.



DO: Tell about the character you chose and explain why the character would make a great friend.

Name _____

Which Chore?



Prompt: Would you rather make your bed or fold clothes?

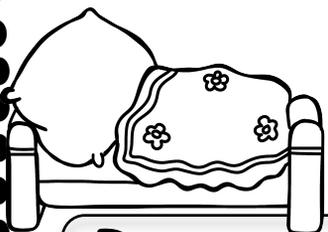
Make my Bed

Fold my Clothes

Plan: List two reasons why _____ is better.

1.

2.



DO: Tell your opinion and explain why this chore is easy for you.

Name _____

What Do You Know?

Prompt: What is the most important thing you have learned at school?

Plan: Think about all the things you have learned.

What did you learn?

Who was your teacher?

Why was it important?

Do you think other students would agree with you?
Why or why not?



DO: Clearly explain the reasons behind your opinion. Use linking words: *because, and, also*.

Name _____

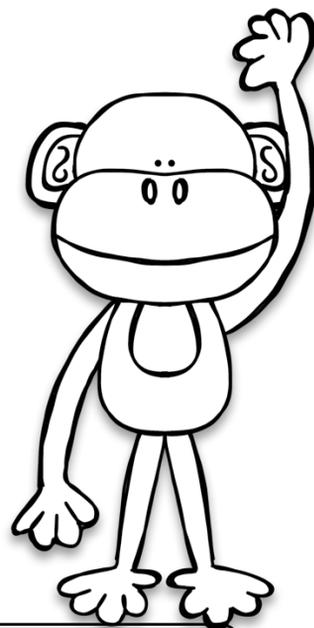
Pet Monkey

Prompt: A monkey escaped from the zoo and wants to be your pet.

Plan: Would a monkey make a good pet?

Here's why it's a GOOD idea:

Here's why it's a BAD idea:



DO: Tell why a monkey would *or* would not be a good pet. Use linking words: *because, and, also.*

Name _____

Sleepy Time

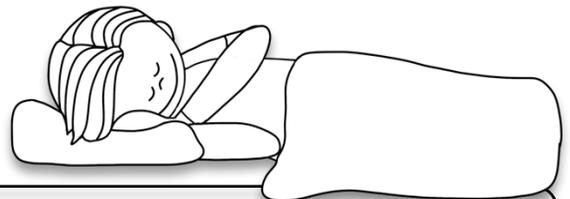
Prompt: It's important to get enough sleep.
Think about your bedtime.

Plan: What's the best bedtime for a second grader?

Why is it a good time?

Reason 1:

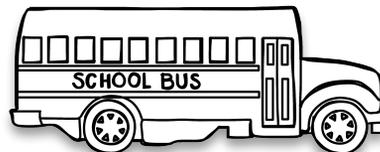
Reason 2:



DO: State your opinion and write about the best time for Second Graders to go to bed. Explain why.

Name _____

Field Trip!



Prompt: Field trips are a great way to learn new things.

Plan: Which is the best place for a field trip?

Zoo

Aquarium

Why do you think your choice is the best?

Reason 1:

Reason 2:

Reason 3:

DO: Write about the best place for a field trip.
Restate your opinion in the concluding statement.

Name _____

Fruity Flavor

Prompt: What is the best tasting fruit?

Plan:

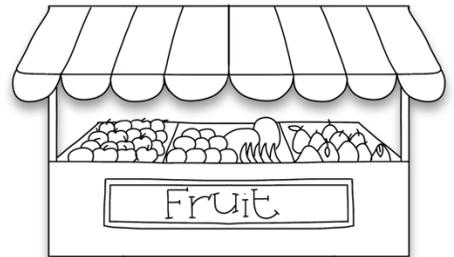
In my opinion, _____
is the best tasting fruit.

Give 3 reasons to support your opinion.

Reason 1:

Reason 2:

Reason 3:



DO: Explain why this fruit tastes the best.
Use linking words: *because, and, also.*

Name _____

Grown Up Fun

Prompt: Think about the things adults can do that kids can't do.

Plan: What would be the best things about being an adult?

1st Best Thing:

2nd Best Thing:

3rd Best Thing:



DO: State your opinion and explain clearly.

Name _____

New at the Zoo

Prompt: There will be a new animal at the zoo!

Plan: Which animal should be added? _____

The _____ should be added at the zoo!

Reason 1:

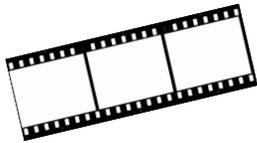
Reason 2:

Reason 3:



DO: Write about your choice and include reasons.

Name _____



Movie Director

Prompt: What book would you make into a movie?

Plan: In my opinion, _____,
Should be made into the next big movie.

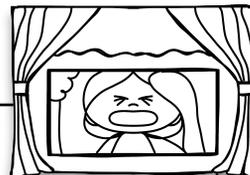
1st Reason:

Details that support this reason:

2nd Reason:

Details that support this reason:

DO: Write about your ideas and explain.
Use linking words like: *because, and, also.*



Name _____



Pick A Season



Prompt: Think about the four seasons.

Plan: In your opinion, which season is the best?

What do you like about the season you chose?

Give 3 Reasons.

1.

2.

3.

D0: State your opinion and explain your reasons.
Restate your opinion in the concluding statement.

Name _____

I Scream for Ice Cream

Prompt: Think about all the flavors of ice cream.

Plan: In your opinion, the best ice cream flavor is

_____.

My reasons:

My opinion is important because:



DO: Explain your choice and give reasons why.
Use linking words: *because, and, also.*

Name _____

Playground Fun

Prompt: Think about playground activities.

Plan:

What is the best game to play?

Why do you think it is the best game to play?

Reason 1:

Reason 2:

Reason 3:

Why would other students agree?



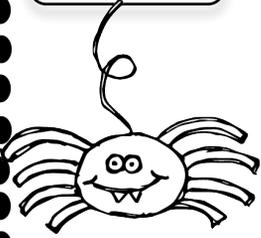
DO: Explain why the game is the best.
Restate your opinion in the concluding statement.

Name _____

Snakes or Spiders?

Prompt: Imagine having a pet snake or a pet spider.

Plan: Would you rather have a snake or a spider?



Tell reasons for your answer.

Reason 1:

Reason 2:

Reason 3:

Why is your choice better than the other?



D0: Explain why you made the best choice.
Restate your opinion in the concluding statement.

Name _____

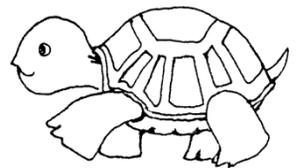
Take Your Time

Prompt: You should do some things slowly.

Plan:

What is something you should do slowly?

Give facts why it is important to do this slowly.



DO: Explain what you think you should do slowly.

Name _____

Say How To Play

Prompt: Think of a game you like to play.

Plan:

What materials do you need to play this game?

Where do you play it?

How many can play?

What is the object of the game?



DO: Write a direction sheet for the game.

Name _____

Love your Pet

Prompt: People need to take good care of pets.

Plan:

How to take care of a pet:

Fact 1.

Fact 2.

Fact 3.



DO: Explain in detail how to care for the pet.

Name _____

Writing and Drawing

Prompt: Authors and illustrators are important.

Plan:

What does an author do?

Facts:

What does an illustrator do?

Facts:



DO: Write a letter to a friend explaining each job .

Name _____

Keep it Clean

Prompt: What if everyone littered?

Plan:

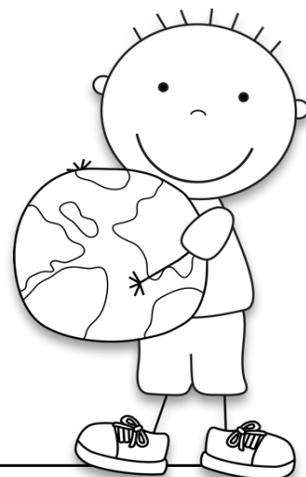
What does our Earth look like when people litter?

List reasons why this would be a horrible idea.

1.

2.

3.



DO: Explain why people should keep the Earth clean.

Name _____

Brusha Brusha

Prompt: Don't forget to brush your teeth today!

Plan:

Write the steps you use to brush your teeth:

1.

2.

3.

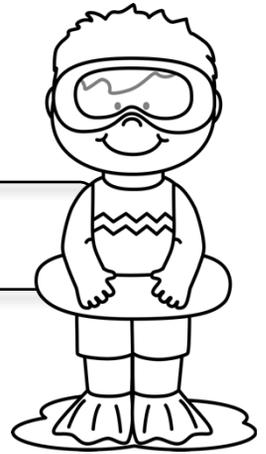
4.



DO: Title your writing "How I Brush My Teeth".
Tell the steps you take from start to finish.

Name _____

Sunshine & Sand



Prompt: You are going to the beach.

Plan:

Explain what you need to do to get ready for the beach.

1.

2.

3.

4.

DO: Explain how to get ready for the beach.

Name _____

Substitute Teacher

Prompt: The substitute needs help today.

Plan:

What is the morning routine in your class?

FIRST:

THEN:

NEXT:

LASTLY:

DO: Using details, write a note to the sub and explain the routine.



Name _____

GROW IT!

Prompt: You want to grow a plant for a friend.

Plan:

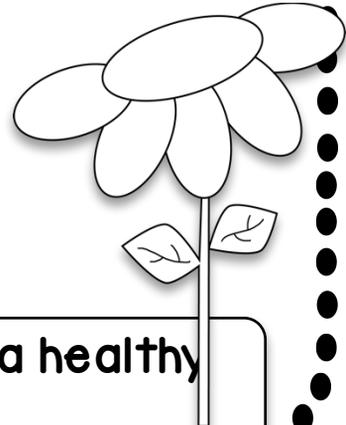
What are the steps?

1

2

3

4



DO: Write detailed instructions to grow a healthy plant.

Name _____

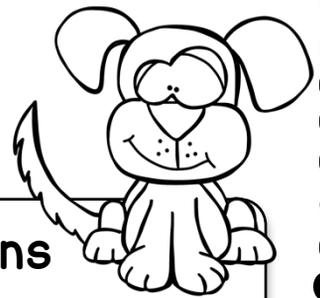
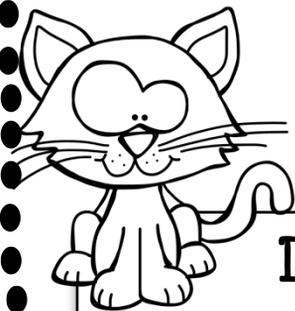
MEOW OR WOOF?

Prompt: Should I get a kitten or a puppy for a pet?

Plan:

Ways puppies and kittens are alike....

Ways puppies and kittens are different....



D0: Explain how puppies and kittens are alike and different.

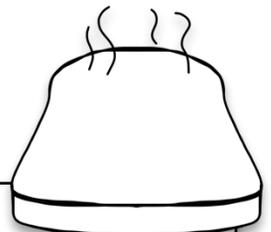
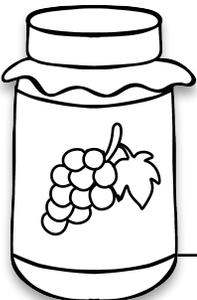
Name _____

Making Toast

Prompt: Make toast with jelly for breakfast.

Plan:

List the steps and materials needed:



DO: Explain how to make toast with jelly.

Name _____

What Do You Know?



Prompt: Think of something you know a lot about.

Plan:

What is your topic?

How did you learn about this topic?

What do you know?



DO: Write about your topic and give details.

Name _____

Riding My Bike

Prompt: Think about riding a bike.

Plan:

List the steps needed to ride a bike.

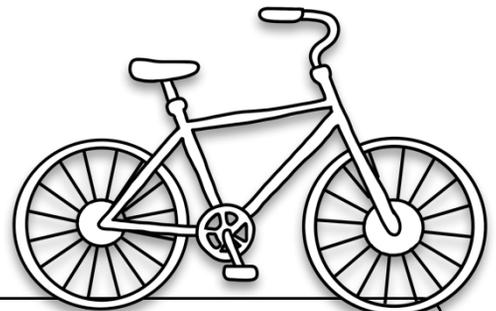
1.

2.

3.

4.

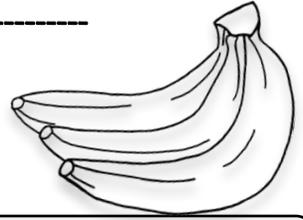
Any others?



DO: Explain (with details) how to ride a bike .

Name _____

Yummy Food



Prompt: Think about a food you really like.

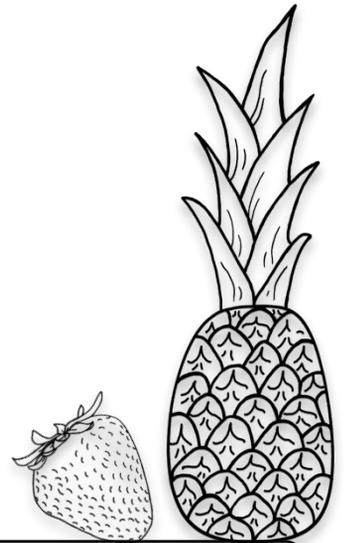
Plan:

Explain how it....

Tastes:

Looks:

Smells:



Do: Use details to write about the food you like.

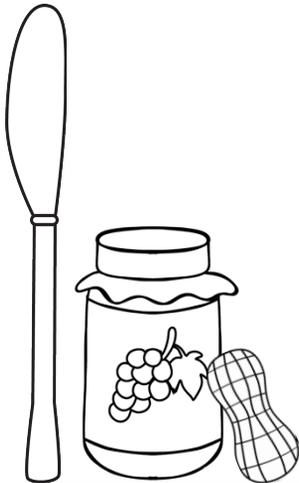
Name _____

PB & J

Prompt: Most kids have eaten a PBJ sandwich.

Plan:

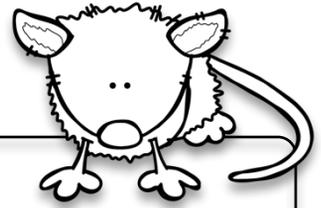
What materials do you need to make a Peanut Butter and Jelly Sandwich?



DO: Use details to explain how to make PBJ.

Name _____

Did You Know?



Prompt: Think about an animal you like.

Plan:

List facts you know about this animal.

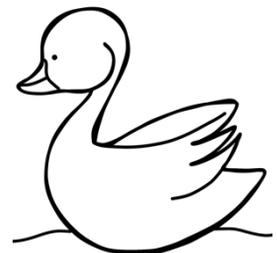
1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



DO: Explain the things you know about this animal .

Name _____

New Neighbors

Prompt: A new family moves in next door.

Plan:

What does the family need to know about your neighborhood or town?

Fact 1:

Fact 2:

Fact 3:

DO: Write a letter to your new neighbors.
Share your facts and details.



Name _____

Rainy Days

Prompt: Do you like to stay inside on rainy days?

Plan:

_____ Play Outside _____ Play Inside

Explain why you chose your answer.
Describe what you like to do:



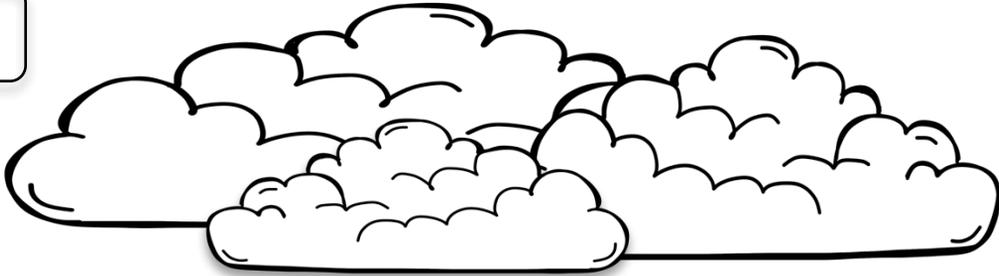
DO: Explain what you like to do on a rainy day.

Name _____

SCARY STORM?

Prompt: How do you feel when it is stormy?

Plan:



Write down the way you feel when it storms:

What makes you feel this way?

Reason 1:

Reason 2:

Reason 3:

DO: Explain how you feel during a storm.

Name _____

Making Friends

Prompt: What is the best way to make new friends?

Plan:

List 4 ways to make a new friend.

1.

2.

3.

4.



DO: Explain how to make a new friend.

Name _____

Community Worker

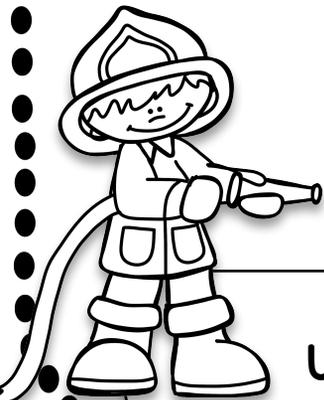
Prompt: What is an important job in your community?

Plan:

_____ is an
important job.

What does a person with this job do?

Why is this job important to your community?



DO: Explain this job.
Use facts to support your main idea.

Name _____

DRESSY

Prompt: Remember a time when you were all dressed up.

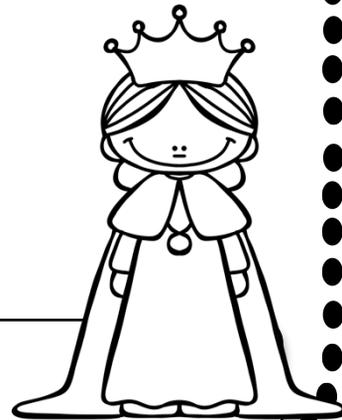
Plan:

Why were you dressed up?

What did you wear?

Did you like being dressed up?

DO: Give details about being dressed up.
Explain this event to the reader.



Name _____

Amazing Artist

Prompt: Remember when you made a great project.

Plan:

What did you make?

Give at least 3 details about it.

1.

2.

3.



D0: Tell about your project.
Explain how you felt to the reader.

Name _____

First Time

Prompt: Wow! You did something for the first time.

Plan:

What did you do?

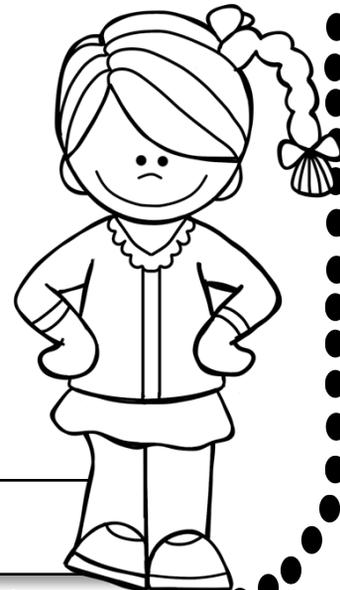
Was it easy or hard to do?

Give at least 3 details about it.

1.

2.

3.



D0: Explain about something new.

Name _____

Out of Time

Prompt: Oh no! You're out of time and need to hurry.

Plan:

When was a time you needed to rush?



Why?

1.

2.

3.

DO: Write your story and add details to show how you felt. .

Name _____

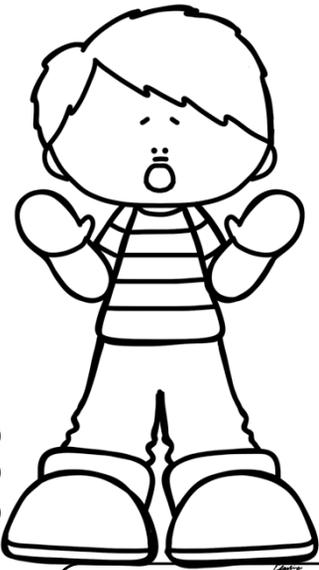
Oops!

Prompt: Everyone makes a mistake sometime.

Plan:

When have you made a mistake?

What happened and how did you feel?



DO: Explain the setting and give details.
Explain how you felt to the reader.

Name _____

I'm a Mouse

Prompt: You turned into a mouse. Eek!

Plan:

Describe where you hide.

Describe what you do.

What do you eat?



DO: Write a detailed story about being a mouse.

Name _____

Kindness Matters

Prompt: Think about a time when someone did something nice for you.

Plan: What nice thing was done for you?

Who did this for you?



Why did they do this?

How did it make you feel?



DO: Write your story and explain how you felt.

Name _____

Embarrassed

Prompt: Tell about a time when you were embarrassed.

Plan: What happened to make you embarrassed?

Why was it so embarrassing?

How did you feel later?



DO: Describe the event and moment with details.

Name _____

SURPRISE!

Prompt: Write about a time you were surprised.

Plan: What made you surprised?

When did this happen?

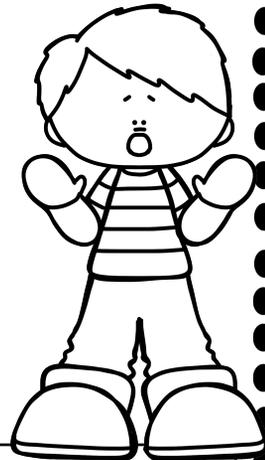
Where did this happen?

What happened....

First,

Next,

Lastly,



DO: Describe the setting, characters and events.
Tell how the surprise made you feel.

Name _____

You Shrunk!

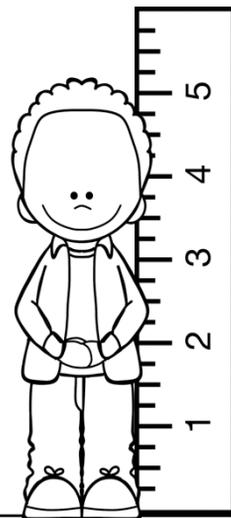
Prompt: You wake up and you are 5 inches tall!

Plan:

What do you do?

Where do you go?

What do you eat?



D0: Write a detailed story about being 5 inches tall.
Explain how you felt to the reader.

Name _____

A Million Dollars!

Prompt: You found a million dollars!

Plan:

Describe how you found the money.

Describe where you found it.

What will you do with it?



DO: Write a detailed story about the money.
Explain how you felt to the reader.

Name _____

Fly Like a Bird

Prompt: You grew wings like a bird.

Plan: Describe where you fly.

Is it easy to fly? Explain why or why not?

What does it feel like to fly?



DO: Write a detailed story about flying like a bird.

Name _____

Run the School

Prompt: You are the school principal for the day.

Plan:

Describe 3 things you would do...

First,

Next,

Lastly,



DO: Tell what you would do using First, Next, and Lastly.

Name _____

Science Smartie

Prompt: You are a scientist. What do you create?

Plan:

Describe what would you invent.

Explain why people are happy or unhappy with your invention.



DO: Write a detailed story that includes your invention.

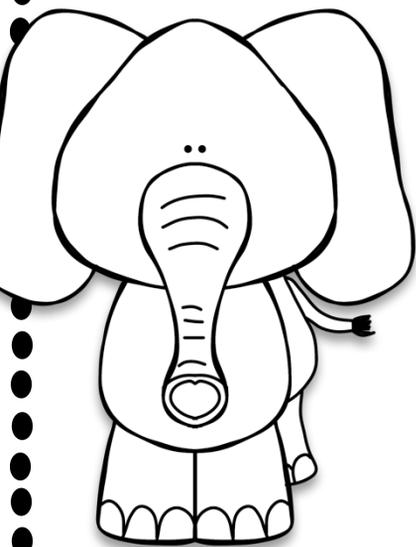
Name _____

Elephant Trouble

Prompt: You found an elephant and want to keep it.

Plan:

Explain where you keep it.



What do you feed it?

What does it do when you are at school?

DO: Write a detailed story about your elephant.

Name _____

Giraffe Views

Prompt: You wake up as a giraffe.

Plan:

What can you see? Explain.

What does your family say?

Where do you sleep? Is it comfy?

D0: Describe your life as a giraffe.
Explain how it feels to be a giraffe.



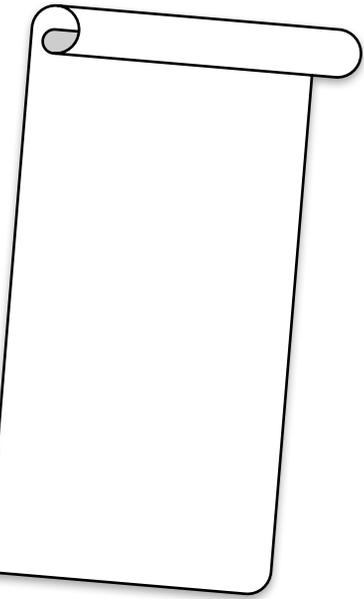
Name _____

Message in a Bottle

Prompt: A bottle on the beach has a message in it.

Plan:

What does the letter say? Give details.



Who wrote it?

What do you do?

DO: Tell a detailed story about finding the bottle.

Name _____

Sleepover

Prompt: A friend spends the night.

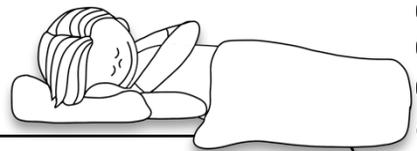
Plan:

Who spends the night?

Describe where you sleep.

What do you do? Tell about it.

What do you eat? Was it good?



DO: Tell a story about your fun sleepover! Explain how you felt during the sleepover.

Name _____

World Traveler

Prompt: You travel the world.



Plan:

Where would you go? What does it look like?

Why do you go there? Explain your reasons.

What exciting things do you do?

DO: Write about your travels.
Explain how you felt during your travels.

My Favorite Time

What do you like best: morning, afternoon or evening?

Give 3 reasons

Field Trip

Prompt: Think of the best place where you would go?

Plan: List two reasons why you would pick this place and why your principal would agree.

Best Gift

Prompt: What is the best gift?

Plan: Explain why it is the best gift.

Pet Monkey

Prompt: A monkey escaped from the zoo and wants to be your pet.

Plan: What materials would you need to make a good pet?

Which Chore?

Prompt: Would you rather make your bed or fold clothes?

- Make my Bed
- Fold my Clothes

Plan: List two reasons why one is better.

Say How To Play

Prompt: Think of a game you like to play.

Plan: What materials would you need to play this game?

Making Learning Fun!

60 Journal Prompts for 2nd Grade

NO PREP

Prompt-Plan-Go

Teacher Features

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.2.1 Opinion
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.2.2 Informative/Explanatory
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.2.3 Narrative

Writing and Drawing

Prompt: Authors and illustrators are important.

Plan: What does an author do?

Elephant Trouble

Prompt: You found an elephant and keep it.

Plan: Explain what you would do.

The Best Books

Prompt: What kinds of books do you enjoy the most?

Plan: Answer the questions about your choice.

What kind of book do you enjoy reading most?	Why do you enjoy reading this kind of book?
Why would others like this kind of book?	Why should your school buy more books like these?

Do: Give reasons and state your opinion why everyone should read the kind of books you enjoy.

My Best Friend

Prompt: Would you rather have a best friend who is loud or quiet?

Plan: State your opinion.

60 No Prep Templates

- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.2.1 (Opinion)
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.2.2 (Informative)
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.2.3 (Narrative)

Teacher Features

Do: Express your opinion and be sure to have a strong closing statement. Use linking words like: because, and, also.

Community Worker

Prompt: What is an important job in your community?

Plan: _____ is an important job.

What does a person with this job do?

Why is this job important to your community?

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