

Family Writing Connections

Grade 1 Unit 4: Opinion Writing and Writing Reviews



Overview:

During this unit, *Opinion Writing and Writing Reviews*, students will be exploring and creating meaningful opinion writing pieces and book reviews to accurately persuade their audience with supporting reasoning. First, students will understand that It is necessary to persuade others of our opinion about the things we care most about. Students will then understand that to convince others to agree with our opinions, we must include several supporting details. Students will learn that writers sometimes disagree, which helps writers back up with opinions with reasoning. Finally, students will learn that writers write book reviews to recommend titles and authors that they believe others should read.

In this unit, Students will:

- **Develop** opinions about their reading
- Plan and establish goals for their writing
- **Modify** their writing **using** author's craft from their mentor texts
- Persuade their audience
- **Restate** their writing so their opinions make sense to readers
- Write towards a specific audience
- **Convince** others with supporting details
- Analyze their writing utilizing checklists
- Organize reasons to support their opinions

- Design book reviews based off of personal favorites
- Write with increasing independence

Ways to help at home:

- Brainstorm a list of things you care for and things you don't care for. Next, try to support those opinions with reasoning why.
- Practice the spelling of transitional words/phrases: first, then, next, after that, last. finally, etc.
- After reading a story with your child, write your reasoning why you enjoyed reading that story or why you did not enjoy it.
- This or that activity: Pick a food, tv show, sporting event, fast food restaurant, fruit, or vegetable that you like the best and explain three reasons why!

See attached Writing Rubric and Exemplars for this Unit:

- Opinion Writing Checklist- First Grade
- Opinion Writing Exemplar

New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS): Please refer to

Morris School District Rubicon Atlas Website to view standards specific to this unit.

