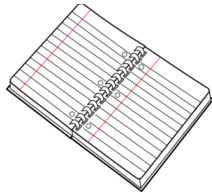




# *Family Writing Connections*

Grade 3 Unit 3: Changing the World

Persuasive Speeches, Petition and Editorials



## **Overview:**

Third graders are full of opinions and are eager to persuade others. This unit channels those opinions into writing that can make a difference. Students will learn to introduce topics, support these by listing reasons, and use transition words to connect the various parts of their pieces and to conclude. This unit moves writers from writing opinion speeches to forming cause groups to support various causes. Across the unit, there is a focus on considering audience and considering word choice in light of audience.

## **In this unit, Students will:**

- **Brainstorm** noteworthy people, places, and things when writing opinion pieces
- **Create** a thesis that is brave and bold and use reasons and evidence to support their thesis
- **Research** reasons and evidence
- **Consider** their audience when producing opinion pieces
- **Persuade** readers through speech writing

- **Organize** writing using paragraphs and transition words
- **Explore** transforming persuasive speech into different forms of opinion writing (letters, petitions, editorials)
- **Collaborate** with a group to research, write, and inform others about a cause

## **Ways to help at home:**

- Talk about words that are around you and discuss advertising and how it is presented
- Discuss current age-appropriate issues
- Talk about both sides of an issue
- Read current articles from newspapers or magazines with your child that are age-appropriate

## **See attached Writing Rubric and Exemplars for this Unit:**

- 3rd Grade Opinion Writing Checklist
- Exemplar: *Football is the Best Sport*

## **New Jersey Student Learning**

**Standards (NJSL):** Please refer to Morris School District Rubicon Atlas Website to view standards specific to this unit.

