

Teaching Writing Skills With Your e-Edition



A
Hollister Kids
Teacher Guide
From:

The e-Edition newspaper is a valuable source of information for students

UNIT 8

STUDYING SURROUNDINGS

Good writers are always paying attention to their surroundings. One way to develop this skill is to have students look at their interests. Exploring the features of the e-Edition will help them understand the range of things they might write about. Seeing how the e-Edition handles different topics will help teach them different writing techniques and skills. The activities in this unit will help students focus their interests.

1. What Do You Like? *

A great way to start exploring surroundings is to send students on a search for things that catch their interest. Using the “What Do You Like?” activity sheet on the facing page, ask students to go through the e-Edition and pick out 10 items that interest them. The items include: A news story; an interesting photo; an ad or product; a sports story; a comic; a TV item; a movie they’d like to see; a job they might like to do; a celebrity they’d like to meet; a funny or unusual headline. Compare choices as a class and have students write several paragraphs about the thing that interested them most in the e-Edition.

STANDARDS/SKILLS: Responding personally, analytically, and critically to a variety of oral, visual, written and electronic texts, providing examples of how texts influence students’ lives and their role in society.

2. Find the Purpose

Writing serves a variety of purposes for readers. One of the most important is the way it informs and educates the public. Brainstorm with the class about ways writing can educate. Then have students write a paragraph describing two different ways writers educate. Remind them that not all education is “serious.” Some can be entertaining.

STANDARDS/SKILLS: Comparing and contrasting the style and characteristics of individual authors, speakers and illustrators and how they shape text and influence their audiences’ expectations.

3. Special Reporting *

In an e-Edition some subjects covered may require “specialist” reporters. Basketball, automobiles, music and theater are a few

examples. Using the “Special Reporting” activity sheet, have students rate their knowledge and qualifications as specialists in different areas. Then have them number in order the subjects for which they would like to be a specialty reporter. Have them fill in their name and specialty in the byline form at the bottom. Discuss their No. 1 choices as a class.

STANDARDS/SKILLS: Demonstrating, analyzing and reflecting upon the skills and processes used to communicate through listening, speaking, viewing, reading and writing.

4. Speak Out, Specialists

Have students find stories or photos in the e-Edition in one of their top specialty areas. Ask them to read the story quickly and study the photos. Then have each student give a two-minute talk about current events, personalities or trends related to their specialty. They should summarize what they learned from the e-Edition, and add knowledge they already have.

STANDARDS/SKILLS: Integrating listening, viewing, speaking, reading and writing skills for multiple purposes and in varied contexts.

5. Business Advice

What kind of business would students start if they could? Ask students to skim the ads, photos and stories in the e-Edition to find a business they might like to own. Ask them to write a paragraph stating what they like about the business. Then have them come up with three creative names for their business.

STANDARDS/SKILLS: Reading and comprehending general and technical material.

*Includes activity sheet for students.

WHAT DO YOU LIKE?

A great way to explore your surroundings as a writer is to search for things that catch your interest. Go through the e-Edition and pick out 10 items (one in each category) that interest you and write them below. Compare choices as a class and write several paragraphs about the thing on your list that interests you most.



The Items:

- 1 News Story _____
- 2 Interesting Photo _____
- 3 Ad or Product _____
- 4 Sports Story _____
- 5 Comic _____
- 6 TV Item _____
- 7 Movie _____
- 8 Job _____
- 9 Celebrity _____
- 10 Headline _____

BE SURE TO WRITE THE PAGE NUMBER WHERE YOU FOUND EACH ITEM!



Order Form

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Date Needed

Materials are generally sent within 4 days of order. If a rush is required please call to confirm delivery time.

Supplements

- Action Against Violence
- African American Healers TG
- Animal Connections
- Art Appreciation
- Asia TG
- The Art in Earth
- Back to School
- Baseball, Major League
- Baseball, Minor League
- Beezly Goes to the Hospital
- Be Safe, Not Sorry
- Black History
 - Journey of Inspiration TG
- Buggin'
- Build Skills for Reading TG
- Career Pathways
- Character Education
 - English
 - Spanish/English
- The Character of America
- Civil Rights TG
- Community of Holidays
- The Constitution/Blueprint
- The Constitution in the News
- Dealing With Conflict
- Drug Awareness
- Earth Day TG
- Earth Month TG
- EarthWorks TG
- Election
 - Elementary TG
 - Middle/High School TG
- Estuaries

- Ethan & Damon Are Friends TG
- Feasts of the Holidays
- The First Amendment
- Fitting In TG
- Focus on Finance
- Geography Vacation TG
- Great American Wildlife TG
- Hispanic Art & Design
- Hispanic Culture & Heritage TG
- Hispanic Roots, Homelands TG
- Lakes
- The Land Connects Us TG
- Learn to Write TG
- Learn with the News
- Let's Give Thanks
- Living Black History TG
- Make Reading Connection TG
- Math Carnival
- Math in the News
- Meet America's Original Nations .. TG
- The Middle East
- Mothers of the Movement
- Moms and Much More! TG
- Multicultural Women TG
- Multi-Media
- News in Our Community
- Oceans
- Protect & Serve America
- Reach for the Stars
- Read With the Pros
- Rivers
- Science in the News TG
- SHeroes TG
- Sports Science
- Steps to Better Reading TG
- Study Skills TG

- Study Skills 2 TG
- Summer Reading TG
- Symbols of the Holidays
- This Is Your Community, Eng/Span
- Totally Tech
- Trailblazers of Science & Tech
- Triumph of the Spirit TG
- Underground Railroad TG
- WeatherPalooza
- Wetlands
- Who We Are
- Writer's Workshop TG

e-Edition Teacher Guides!

- Super Skills for e-Editions
- Teaching Black History
- Teaching Diversity
- Teaching Election '08
- Teaching Hispanic Heritage
- Teaching History
- Teaching Math
- Teaching Reading
- Teaching Science
- Teaching Study Skills
- Teaching Writing Skills
- Back to School with e-Editions

Weekly News Features

- Newspaper PLUS web in paper
- Summer Plus web in paper
- e-Edition PLUS web in paper
- NewsBytes e-Editions .. web in paper

Other _____

Your Name

Newspaper Name

Street Address (No Post Office Boxes, Please)

City, State, Zip

Area Code and Phone Number Fax Number

Credit Card Number Visa MC Authorized Signature

Circulation

- under 50,000
- 50,000-200,000
- over 200,000

Format

- black & white
- color

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