



WOODRIDGE
SCHOOL DISTRICT 68

Common Core Writing Newsletter

Writing Reviews

This unit aims to bring opinion writing to 1st graders. Throughout this unit 1st graders will begin to understand the power and purposes of writing. Students will be speaking to others about their books and persuading others to read their books.

About this Unit

Students will begin this unit by writing about objects that are important to them. They will learn to review their collections and to make choices about which item in that collection is the best, writing defenses for those judgments.

Next, the students will begin writing reviews. They will write reviews about anything and everything: toys, restaurants, video games, the works. You might think about involving your child in reviews on restaurants, books, or kid-friendly places to play.

Along the way students will be learning qualities of good writing and work toward student independence. Students will study mentor texts and their own writing to enhance their persuasive writing skill. While studying these texts students will specifically be looking for claims or opinions, reasons, and explanations.

Finally, this unit will close with students working on individual projects that convince others to read and be interested in the books they read. The end celebration will allow children to speak to others about their books and persuade others to read their books.

Additional Information

Students will continue to participate in a writer's workshop during a daily, dedicated writing time. The daily workshop is set up so that students will be presented with a mini-lesson and then be sent off to write as the teacher confers with students both individually and in small groups.

Attached to this newsletter are a grade level specific checklist and an example of proficient student writing for this unit's genre of writing. Please contact your student's teacher should you have any further questions.