

Elementary Persuasive Writing

(This packet will also be available on the HCS website under e-resources.)

On the following pages you'll find:

- a definition for persuasive writing
- an edit checklist
- a list of persuasive library books
- persuasive topic sentences for each book
- One of the best ways to learn persuasive writing is to read books that model it.*
- writing outlines/webs for rough drafts
- student samples
- stationery for final copies

Here is a **suggested schedule** to help you plan each writing activity:

- Day 1: Read a story related to the topic.
Student starts filling out a web/rough draft.
- Day 2: Student finishes the web/rough draft.
- Day 3: Student edits web/rough draft using an edit checklist. Add details.
Final edit may be parent assisted.
- Day 4: Type or write a final copy (*not necessary for EVERY assignment.*)

***Provide your child with an opportunity to share his/her story with an audience. Family dinner-time is a great time to share.**

What is Persuasive Writing?

Persuasive writing:

- clearly states the writer's opinion on a topic "I think" or "I believe"
- tries to convince the reader to agree
- supports the position with at least three reasons or facts
- saves the strongest reason for last
- anticipates and addresses the reader's concerns or arguments
- facts and examples must be accurate, not based on misinformation

*How to Teach Nonfiction writing EMC 719
Evan-Moor corp. 2001*

Edit Checklist:

Write a + **when** you've done each one to your rough draft/web. Now you're ready to write your final copy! Write neatly or type your essay.

- ___ wrote my name and the date
- ___ centered my title on the top line
- ___ indented paragraphs
- ___ read **out loud**: Did it sound right?
- ___ the beginning stated my opinion
- ___ wrote 3 reasons to support my opinion
- ___ saved my strongest reason for last
- ___ used words to show strong feelings
- ___ my ending told my opinion again
- ___ read & circled misspelled words
- ___ fixed misspelled words
- ___ read/**fixed** capitals and punctuation
- ___ read my paper to someone

Remember to have fun writing!

Call Number	Information
796.6 LOE 4.1	1. Loewen, Nancy, 1964- Bicycle safety. [Plymouth, MN]: Child's World, c1997. Explains the safe way to ride a bicycle and identifies important equipment...
811 SEA 3.0	2. Seattle, Chief, 1790-1866. Brother eagle, sister sky: a message from Chief Seattle. New York: Dial Books, c1991. A Suquamish Indian chief describes his people's respect and love for the earth, and concern for its destruction.
E CHE 3.8	3. Cherry, Lynne. The great kapok tree: a tale of the Amazon rain forest. San Diego: Harcourt Brace, 2000, c1990. The many different animals that live in a great kapok tree in the Brazilian rainforest try to convince a man with an ax of the importance of not cutting down their home.
E CUT 3.7	4. Cutler, Jane. Mr. Carey's garden. Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin, c1996. All of his neighbors have suggestions for how to get rid of the snails in his garden, but Mr. Carey isn't interested.
E HAL	5. Hall, Donald, 1928- I am the dog, I am the cat. New York: Dial Books, c1994. A dog and a cat take turns explaining what is wonderful about being who they are.
E TEA 3.6	6. Teague, Mark. Dear Mrs. Larue: letters from obedience school. New York: Scholastic Press, 2002. Gertrude LaRue receives typewritten and paw-written letters from her dog Ike, entreating her to let him leave the Igor Brotweiler Canine Academy and come back home.
E TEA 5.4	7. Teague, Mark. Detective LaRue: letters from the investigation. New York: Scholastic Press, c2004. While on vacation, Mrs. LaRue receives letters from her dog Ike who has been falsely accused of harming the neighbor's cats and is trying to clear his name.
EAR 2.6 MAY	8. Mayer, Gina. Just say please. New York: Golden Books, 1998, c1993. Little Critter learns good manners at school and at home.
EAR 2.7 ROH	9. Rohmer, Harriet. Mr. Sugar came to town. San Francisco, Calif.: Childrens Book, c1989. Mr. Sugar uses his truck of sweet goodies to lure Alicia and Alfredo away from nutritious foods, but Grandma Lupe is not fooled by him.
EAR 2.8 BER	10. Berenstain, Stan, 1923- The Berenstain Bears and too much TV. New York, N.Y.: Random House, 1984. Concerned that the family is spending too much time in front of the television and neglecting other activities, Mama Bear decides that there will be no television watching for one week.
EAR 2.8 GRA	11. Grambling, Lois G. Can I have a Stegosaurus, Mom? Can I? Please!?. Mahwah, N.J. : BridgeWater Books, c1995. A child describes all the possible advantages of having a Stegosaurus for a pet.

- EAR 2.8 MAZ 12. Mazer, Anne. *The Salamander Room*. New York : Dragonfly Books, 1994, c1991. A young boy finds a salamander and thinks of the many things he can do to make a perfect home for it.
- EAR 3.0 SPI 13. Spinelli, Eileen. *The best time of day*. Orlando, Fla. : Harcourt, 2007, c2005. Farmer Fred, various members of his family, and his neighbors each has a favorite time of day.
- EAR 3.2 WIL 14. Williams, Suzanne, 1949- *My dog never says please*. New York : Dial Books for Young Readers, c1997. Tired of having to mind her manners, clean her room, and wear shoes, Ginny Mae wishes she could trade places with the family dog.
- EAR 3.3 SCH 15. Schimmel, Schim, 1954- *Dear children of the earth: a letter from home*. Minnetonka, MN : NorthWord Press, c1994. Mother Earth writes a letter telling people about herself and asking them to take care of her for themselves and for all living creatures.
- EAR BER 4.0 16. Berenstain, Stan, 1923- *The Berenstain bears and too much junk food*. New York : Random House, c1985. Mama Bear starts a campaign to convince her family that they are eating too much junk food.
- EAR CON 3.5 17. Conford, Ellen. *Nibble, nibble, Jenny Archer*. Boston : Little, Brown, c1993. Jenny Archer is excited about making a television commercial for a new snack food, until she discovers that the food she liked so much was meant for gerbils.
- EAR PIL 3.4 18. Pilkey, Dav, 1966- *Dog breath: the horrible trouble with Hally Tosis*. New York : Blue Sky Press, c1994. Hally, the Tosis family dog, has such bad breath that Mr. and Mrs. Tosis plan to give her away, until she proves to be an invaluable watchdog.
- EAR RAT 3.4 19. Rathmann, Peggy. *Officer Buckle and Gloria*. New York : Putnam's, c1995. The children at Napville Elementary School always ignore Officer Buckle's safety tips, until a police dog named Gloria accompanies him when he gives his safety speeches.
20. *Choose a book to read about your favorite sport to play.*

Suggestions for opinion topic sentences for the library books listed on the previous page: (*Feel free to reword them.*)

1. Everyone should (or shouldn't) follow bicycle safety rules at all times.
2. It is important (or not important) to take care of the earth. (*You could make a poster to explain/show why it's important.*)
3. Write a letter to the "Senhor" in the story explaining why he shouldn't (or should) chop down the Kapok tree.
4. Mr. Carey needs (or doesn't need) to get rid of the snails in his garden.
5. Cats make better pets than dogs **or** Dogs make better pets than cats.
6. Write a letter to Mrs. Larue to explain why she should (or shouldn't) leave her dog, Ike, at the Igor Brotweiler Canine Academy.
7. Mrs. Larue's dog, Ike, is (or isn't) guilty of harming the neighbor's cats.
8. It is (or isn't) important to use good manners where ever you go.
9. Parents should (or shouldn't) limit the amount of sugar their kids eat everyday.
10. Children should (or shouldn't) be able to watch as much television as they want.
11. Explain to your parents why you should be able to have the pet of your choice.
12. You found an animal. Convince your parents to let you keep it.
13. The best time of day is _____.
14. Write a book review explaining why or why not someone should read this book.
15. It is (isn't) important to take care of the earth.
16. It's okay (or not okay) to eat too much junk food.
17. Write a commercial or advertisement for your favorite snack food. This could be a poster.
18. Write a book review to convince someone to read (or not read) this book.
19. It is important (or not important) to follow safety rules at all times.
20. _____ *is one of the best sports to play.*

*****Another fun persuasive writing activity is to watch a movie of your choice and write a movie review.**

Web/Rough Draft

Name _____ Date: _____

Persuasive Writing

Title: _____

My opinion:

Reason # 1 and a detail:

Reason # 2 and a detail:

Reason # 3 and a detail: (Give your strongest reason.)

Conclusion:(Say your opinion in a new way.)

Rough Draft

(date)

Dear _____,
(greeting)

Indent (topic/opinion sentence)

(reason 1)

(reason 2)

(reason 3 is your strongest reason)

(conclusion: tells your opinion sentence a different way)

(closing)

Date: _____ Name: _____

Persuasive Book or Movie Review Outline:

Title: _____

THE BASICS: *(Topic sentence that tells the Title and Author. Give your opinion)*

CONTENT INFORMATION: *(What happens in the story? Don't give away the ending!)*

BEST PART (or Worst Part):

RECOMMENDATIONS: *(Why should someone read this book OR watch this movie?)*

A Few Persuasive Writing Samples:

I Wanna Iguana

I think I Wanna Iguana by Karen Orloff is a humorous book that all students should read. A boy writes letters to his mom to convince her to let him keep an iguana. His mom writes letters back to explain why his reasons are not good enough. The funniest part is when he tells his mom that the helpless iguana will get eaten by a mean dog if he doesn't adopt it. Read this fun book to find out if he gets his way.

Pet Puppy

Dad, I'm ready to be responsible for a puppy. We could play fetch in the back yard. On other days we could go for walks to get some exercise. He could sleep outside in a dog house with a pillow and a blanket. I'll give him a stuffed animal so he's not scared. I will remember to feed him and keep his water dish full. Most of all, I promise to cheerfully care for him everyday so that you don't have to do it. I hope you'll let me have a puppy to love.

Go Team!

I believe basketball is a great sport to play. There are five people who have to work together as a team in order to score points. If players want to get better at the game, we have to practice dribbling the ball with one hand, shooting hoops, and passing to our teammates. All of this hard work will improve our game. Basketball requires that players move quickly on the court. That means it is great exercise. Most of all, it is exciting to play when we hear the fans cheering in the stands for our team. That's why basketball is one of the best sports to play.

Let's Eat!

La Juerta Villa is one of the best places to eat. When I sit down at the table, the waiter brings a warm basket of corn chips and a bowl of salsa. If I'm really hungry, this helps me to concentrate while I look at the menu. There are many delicious foods to choose from such as super tacos, burritos, and enchiladas. The servers are friendly and they bring the food quickly. Do you want to know the best part about eating there? I usually have food to take home with me. That means I'll get to eat it for lunch the next day! If you eat there, I'm sure La Juerta Villa will be your new favorite place to eat.

The Furious Five

"Secrets of the Furious Five" is a cartoon video that everyone would love to watch. Master Shifu tells Po that he has to teach the students at the palace about Kung Fu. Po decides to tell stories about the Furious Five. He tells how they learned patience, courage, confidence, discipline, and kindness. One of the best parts is when Po remembers back to his first day as a Kung Fu student when he couldn't do anything right. Anyone who likes the movie "Kung Fu Panda" would enjoy this movie. I recommend this movie because it tells how the Furious Five learned important lessons.

Dear Mrs. LaRue,

I know that you are at your wit's end, because of your dog's behavior. I think Ike should stay at obedience school for two months. If he comes home now he will probably continue to make bad choices like eating off the table. Also, his letters make the school sound horrible, but it's not. Most of all, he hasn't learned his lesson, and he blames everyone else for his mistakes. You made the right choice to send him there.

Sincerely,



