



Opinion Writing

In this lesson, students learn the basics of what opinions and reasons are and how writing about our opinion lets others know how we feel.

Vocabulary:

Opinion — What you think or how you feel about something.

Reason — A detail that supports your opinion.

Discuss:

Use the following questions as a guide for a class discussion after viewing the video:

- *What is an opinion?* (What you think or how you feel about something.)
- *Give an example of an opinion you have?* You can start by saying *I think*, or *I feel*. (Answers will vary.)
- *What feelings did Coach Write have in the video?* (Sad because they lost the game, and mad because the pen ran out of ink.)
- *How did Coach Write feel about EverBounce shoes?* (Coach Write loves the EverBounce 2000 shoes.)
- *Why does Coach Write love the shoes?* (They make him jump higher and shoot better baskets.)
- *Can sharing your opinion help others make a decision?* (Yes, but they may have a different opinion than you do.)
- *What is your opinion about ice cream? Do you like ice cream or dislike ice cream?* (You can prompt students to stand for “like” and sit for “dislike.” Try doing this with several different topics that interest your students, emphasizing that everyone has an opinion and sometimes it is different than yours.)

Ohio Standards:

W.K.1, W1.1, W2.1, W3.1

Watch:



Watch the video “Opinion Writing.”

Review:

- An opinion is what you think or how you feel about something.
- Your opinion helps you make a choice.
- When we write our opinion we share what we think or how we feel and then give reasons or tell why we feel the way we do.
- Giving our opinion can help others make choices.

About Student Handouts:

When using the differentiated handouts, teachers should model their own example using the student handout before students begin their own. Here is an example of a teacher think-aloud to model opinion writing:

“I am going to write about my favorite foods and make a list of my top three. Hmm, I really like macaroni and cheese so I will put that on my list.”

1. macaroni and cheese

“I also like pizza and apples. I will add them to my list.”

1. macaroni and cheese

2. pizza

3. apples

“Now that I have my list, I need to choose my favorite of all three. It is a tough decision, because I really like all of them! But I think my favorite food is pizza. I love the cheese and all the toppings you can put on it. I am going to write a sentence that gives my reason.

I think the best food is pizza! The melted cheese is so tasty. Another reason pizza is the best is because you can add any toppings you like.

“Now it is your turn to make a list and write about your favorite things. Your list will be about what animal makes the best pet. Even if you do not have your own pet, you can still think about which animals would make the best pet.”

Foster a discussion about pets to allow for pre-thinking before students write.

“What are some pets that you or someone you know have? What are some pets that you have read about? What makes a good pet—an animal that can play with you? An animal that is calm or active? Is it better to have a small pet that you can hold?”

Opinion Writing Handout A:

Students formulate an opinion by circling which image they prefer (taco or ice cream, summer or winter, playing inside or outside). Students can then verbally share their reason for their choice.

Opinion Writing Handout B:

Students brainstorm three animals that make a good pet. Then students write a sentence about their favorite, giving one reason to support their opinion.

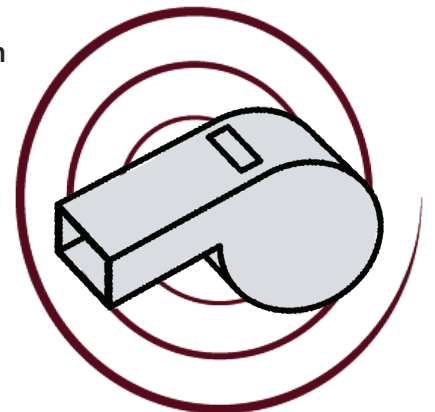
Opinion Writing Handout C:

Students list three animals they think make a good pet and then write a final decision sentence on one animal using sentence starters: I think, I believe, My favorite, etc.). Then they give two to three reasons to support their opinion and add a drawing.

Writing Checklist:

Provide students with a checklist to review their writing, or have a classmate check their writing.

- Did I use a capital letter to start my sentences?
- Do I have punctuation at the end of my sentences?
- Do my sentences make sense when someone else reads it?
- Did I give a reason for my opinion?



Opinion Writing: Handout A

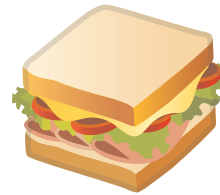
Name _____

Circle the one you like best.



ice cream

OR



sandwich



summer

OR



winter



play outside

OR



play inside



Opinion Writing: Handout B

Name _____

List three animals you think make a good pet.

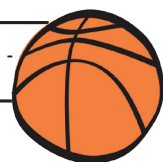
Draw	Write
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When finalized, there will be a sentence frame to fill in:

(choose an animal)

I think _____

is the best pet because _____



Opinion Writing: Handout C

Name _____

List three animals you think make a good pet.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Choose from your list the animal that you think makes the best pet and write your opinion with at least two supporting reasons.

Example: I think the best pet is a bird. Birds are great because they do not take up much space and can sing you a song. Another reason birds are the best is that they are easy to care for.

You can start your sentence with "I think," "I feel" or "My favorite."

