Lesson 5: Make it Shine

UNIT: Rock Camp

TRANSCRIPT

HOOK 1

Hi, writers. It's Margaret.

When my friend Max came back from Rock Camp, he taught me lots of amazing things about rocks. Like, sometimes when rock collectors find a rock they really love, they put it in a special machine, called a tumbler, that slowly smooths and polishes the rock. It comes out shiny and really colorful. The rock was always beautiful, it just needed a little extra work to help it really shine.

You're getting ready to share your letter with Hailey. Your writing is ready for a few last changes to help make it shine just like the rock. As a writer, you'll read your writing many times, each time looking for one thing you might want to change.

Last lesson, you used a checklist to make revisions to your writing. Today, you're going to edit your writing, looking for things like missing punctuation or misspelled words that you might want to change. Later on, you'll recopy your letter and design and decorate it.

I have some ideas about how you can make your writing the best that it can be. Here is my countdown of ways to get your writing ready to share.

I'll get you started, step by step.

STEP 1

Before we begin, you'll need a piece of writing that you're going to edit and get ready to share. Get the draft you're working on now.

STEP 2

Number 5: Punctuation!

Every sentence needs to end with a period, question mark, or exclamation mark.

Discuss: This sentence is actually two sentences. Can you find where the missing period should go?

STEP 3

The period needs to go here between these two sentences.

Now look through your writing. Check the end of every sentence to make sure it ends with a period, question mark, or exclamation mark. If it doesn't, you can add one.

STEP 4

Number 4: Capitalization

Every sentence needs to start with a capital letter.

Discuss: Where is the missing capital letter?

STEP 5

This letter needs to be capitalized since it's the start of a new sentence.

Now look through your writing. Check the start of every sentence to make sure it begins with a capital letter. If it doesn't, you can change the letter.

STEP 6

Number 3: Spelling

Discuss: Where is the spelling mistake in this sentence?

STEP 7

This word was spelled incorrectly.

Now get your writing. Use all the spelling strategies you know to help you spell your words. You can also use resources in your classroom and in your Idea Bank to help you if you're not sure how to spell a word. If you see a misspelled word, you can fix your mistake.

STEP 8

Number 2: Check if it sounds right

Discuss: What part of this sentence doesn't sound right? If you want, you can whisper-read the sentence to yourself.

STEP 9

This part doesn't sound right.

Now read your writing to check to make sure it sounds right. You can read in your head or whisper-read to yourself. If you find a part that doesn't sound right, you can fix your sentence.

STEP 10

Number 1: Recopy your work.

Writers make sure their writing is nice and neat, in their best handwriting.

When you recopy your writing, you might find parts that don't make sense or other parts you want to change. You can make changes as you recopy.

Get the papers you will need to recopy onto, then take your time to make your writing the neatest it can be.

STEP 11

Now you'll make your final letter to Hailey. You can decorate it by adding stickers and coloring it.

To get started, get these supplies.

STEP 12

Your letter to Hailey is really coming together. But right now, Hailey wouldn't know who wrote it.

Just like every letter starts with a greeting, it also needs to end with something called a closing to let the reader know who it's from. Some people like to close their letters like this: "Your Friend," while others like ending their letters by saying "Sincerely," or "Best,"—you then complete your closing by writing your name.

Finish your letter by writing a closing statement followed by your name. You can use one of these or come up with a new one.

STEP 13

To make your letter to Haley really stand out, you can add Rock Camp stickers to it.

Get the second page of your final letter worksheets.

Get your scissors and cut along the bottom dotted line, like this.

STEP 14

Now cut the sticker's top dotted line, like this.

STEP 15

Put your second page of Hailey's letter off to the side for now. Continue cutting the dotted lines to cut out your camp stickers.

STEP 16

These are your camp stickers. You can use these to decorate your letter.

On the first page of your final letter, find the "Reason 1" sticker box. This is where you will paste the sticker that matches your first reason.

Find the sticker that matches your reason one.

Place it over the "Reason 1" sticker box like this.

STEP 17

Find the sticker that matches your reason two.

Make sure it matches the second reason that you wrote about in your letter.

Place it over the "Reason 2" sticker box like this.

STEP 18

Use your glue stick to draw an "x" in the "Reason 1" sticker box, like this.

Now paste your reason one sticker into the "Reason 1" sticker box like this.

STEP 19

Glue and then paste your reason two sticker into the "Reason 2" sticker box.

STEP 20

Nice job adding stickers. It's going to really help your letter stand out to Hailey.

It's now time to make your letter shine. Use your coloring supplies to decorate your letter. You can add color to the stickers, the Rock Camp pictures, or add something new.

STEP 21

Stack both of your final letter pages together at the top with the first page of your letter on top, like this.

Find the staple box in the upper left corner, here.

Use your stapler to staple page one and page two together, like this.

WRAP UP

Amazing job, writers! You've done so much. You learned all about Rock Camp, took notes, made a plan, drafted your letter, and then went back and polished it up until it

was exactly how you wanted it to be. And now you have your final letter—a real convincing opinion letter written just for Hailey.

Max is really grateful for all of your hard work helping him try to convince Hailey to go to Rock Camp.

The writing process that you followed is the same writing process that writers use all the time. The next time you're starting on a piece of opinion writing, you can follow these same steps to make your writing clear and convincing for your readers.

Great news, writers. I just got an update from Max. Hailey has decided that she is going to Rock Camp next summer with Max.

She said that Max and all of the letters she's read about Rock Camp were very convincing and helped her to see exactly why Rock Camp rocks!

I'll see you next time.