Lesson 6: Prepare to Share

UNIT: Investigating Asteroids

TRANSCRIPT

HOOK 1

Hi, writers. It's Anne. When I'm finishing a piece of writing, I don't get to the end and say, "Okay, all done." I read my writing over and over, looking for any parts I want to change. Sometimes I write parts over and over, trying to get them exactly right.

You're getting ready to share a piece of writing. As a writer, you'll read your writing many times, each time looking for one thing you might want to change.

I have some ideas about how you can make your writing the best 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.

Proper nouns are specific names of people, like me, Anne, specific names of months and days, like June. And specific names of objects, like the asteroid Dimorphos. Proper nouns need to be capitalized even in the middle of a sentence.

Discuss: Where are the missing capital letters?

STEP 5

This letter needs to be capitalized since it's a month. And this one, since it is a specific name of an asteroid.

Now look through your writing. Find the proper nouns in your writing and make sure they start with a capital letter, even in the middle of a sentence. If it doesn't, you can change the letter.

Here are some proper nouns you might look for in your writing.

Notice that some of these words like NASA and DART are acronyms. Every letter stands for a word. When writing an acronym, every letter is capitalized.

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 a new research packet 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 does sound right. You can read it in your head or whisper-read it 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

To assemble your Final Draft, carefully tear the Bibliography page off of your research packet. Use it as the last page of your article so your reader will know where you got your information. Staple all your final pages together to create your final article.

WRAP UP

Wow writers, you are true nonfiction authors. You have put in so much work, and it's time to celebrate!

Think back on everything you've done. You researched this topic, taking notes from four different Sources. You made a plan and wrote four paragraphs. Finally, you edited your writing and got it ready to share. It is so amazing how much work you did. But it will really pay off when the readers of your article not only understand how the Earth is protected, but they will also know that you got your information from trusted sources.

Now you can share your writing with others. You might share with other people at your school, home, or community. You can educate the people in your life through your writing, just like Kristi.

Keep on thinking about what other topics you might want to teach people about, and you might find the topic for your next informative article.

Maybe you want to continue learning about asteroids and other NASA missions, or maybe you want to write about something completely different—like the coldest place on Earth or the invention of candy—the options are limitless.

Through your writing, you can teach people amazing things about the world. I'll see you next time.