Lesson 5: Create Your Poster

UNIT: Earth Explorers

TRANSCRIPT

HOOK 1

Hi. It's Margaret. 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 that it can be. Here's 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. Proper nouns are capitalized even in the middle of a sentence.

Proper nouns are specific:

Names of people, like me, Margaret.

Specific names of months and days, like March.

And specific names of places, like California and Bolivia.

Proper nouns need to be capitalized even in the middle of a sentence.

Discuss: Where are the missing capital letters?

STEP 5

These need to be capitalized since they are names of specific places, and these ones since they are the names of months.

Here are some proper nouns you might look for in your writing: Your place is a proper noun—Firefall and Sky Mirror are always capitalized. Also look for names of places like Yosemite, California, or Bolivia, and months such as February, April, and December.

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.

STEP 6

Number 3: Spelling.

Discuss: Where is the spelling mistake in this sentence?

STEP 7

This word was spelled incorrectly.

Use all the spelling strategies you know to help you spell your words. You can also use resources in your classroom to help 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 it 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

Your teacher will tell you where you'll write your final draft. 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

Today, you're going to build your poster.

When you're all finished, it will have a large title page and each of your pages of writing, allowing your readers to lift and read each part of your poster.

To get started, get these supplies.

STEP 12

Get your Conclusion worksheet.

Cut on the dotted line, like this.

STEP 13

Cut out your Earth Explorer badge by cutting on the dotted lines.

Put your scrap paper in a neat pile on your desk.

You can put your badge to the side for now.

STEP 14

Get your Body Paragraph 2 worksheet.

Cut on the dotted line like this.

You can add the blank part to your scrap pile on your desk.

STEP 15

Place your Body Paragraph 2 on top of your Conclusion paragraph like this.

Line the pages up at the top. They will not line up on the bottom, and that's okay.

STEP 16

Get your Introduction and Body Paragraph one worksheet.

Cut on the dotted line, like this.

STEP 17

Place your Body Paragraph 1 worksheet on top of the pile, lining it up at the top.

Then put your Introduction on the very top.

All four of your pages should line up at the top and will look like this on the bottom.

STEP 18

When your pages are all lined up on the top, gently pinch all four pages to keep them together. Then use a stapler to put one staple in the center of your writing pages. You only need to use one staple for now.

STEP 19

Get your title page.

Place your writing onto the title page.

Line it up carefully with a thick black line.

Gently pinch your writing and the title page to hold them in place. Then use a stapler to put a staple on each side in the gray boxes.

If you're waiting your turn for stapler, you can start coloring your title page.

STEP 20

Get your poster and your Earth Explorer badge.

Write your name on your Earth Explorer badge. Then use your coloring supplies to decorate both your poster and your badge.

Your teacher will tell you how long you have to color.

STEP 21

Get your Explorer badge. You are now officially an Earth Explorer for the visitor center.

Flip your badge over and use your glue stick to put glue on the back of your badge.

Then line your badge up with the gray square on your poster.

Press down firmly on the badge.

WRAP UP

Amazing job, writers! You are now officially Earth Explorers at the visitor center. Anyone who reads your poster will learn so much about an amazing place on Earth. The Earth Explorer exhibit is now full of amazing posters.

The next time you write all about a topic, you can follow the same structure you did in your poster. Informative writing always starts with an introduction, has body paragraphs with facts and details, and a conclusion at the end. You can always look back at the poster you made to remember all the parts.

I can't wait to see what you write about next. I'll see you next time.