

My Informative Writing Checklist

Earth Explorers

Name: _____

Date: _____

Writing Process	Learning Goals	Not yet	Starting to ...	Yes!
				
Find information	I can find information and take notes in my own words.			
Write	I can write sentences and organize them into paragraphs, grouping information together.			
Add details	I can use my notes to write sentences with more details that help my reader understand my topic.			
Write an introduction	I can introduce my topic and write more to get my readers excited to read.			
Write a conclusion	I can write a conclusion in a sentence or more that helps my reader remember the most important parts of my writing.			
Make changes	I can choose words and phrases to make my writing exciting and interesting.			
Fix capitals, spelling, and end marks	I can edit my writing by checking for errors in capitalization, spelling, and punctuation (end marks.).			

3rd Grade Informative Writing Rubric

Earth Explorers

Name: _____

Date: _____

Standard	1	2	3	4	Notes
W.3.2, W.3.4, W.3.7, W.3.8 Take notes from the sources and plan what the writing will be about.					
W.3.2.a Write an introduction that states the topic and an overview of what the writing will be about.					
W.3.2.b, W. 3.4 Write sentences that develop the topic with facts, definitions, and details.					
W.3.2.c Use transition words and phrases to link ideas within categories.					
W.3.2.d Write a concluding statement or section.					
W.3.5 Use punctuation at the end of sentences, use capitalization and spelling as appropriate to grade (editing).					

1 = standard not met; 2 = standard partially met; 3 = standard met; 4 = exceeds expectations

Kites in the Wind

Name: _____

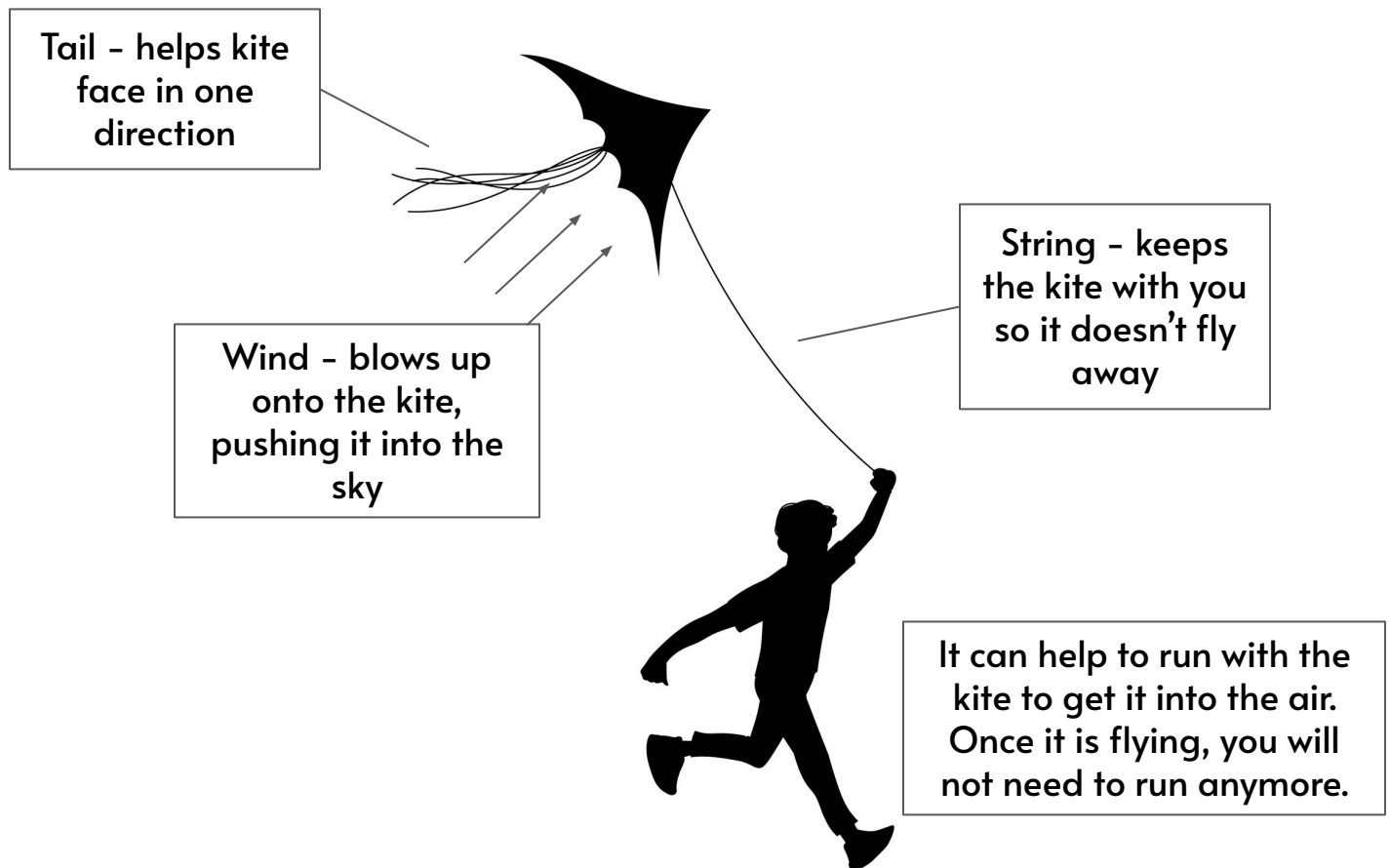
Date: _____

Kites are fun to play with outside! Kites come in all different shapes and sizes. Some kites are a simple shape, like a triangle or a square. Some people make kites in other shapes, like a butterfly, a spaceship, and so much more!

Kites can fly because they are very light. They are so light that wind can blow them up into the sky. Other light objects can be blown into the sky, such as leaves, empty bags, or balloons. If a kite were heavy, the wind would not be able to blow it into the sky.

In order to fly a kite, follow these simple steps:

1. Wait for a windy day to fly your kite.
2. Throw the kite in the air. You may need to run a little bit to help the kite get started.
3. The wind blows on the kite, pushing it up into the air.
4. Hold on to your string tightly so the kite does not fly away.



Kites

Name: _____

Date: _____

Flying kites can be a lot of fun! It's amazing to see how they can soar high in the air. Learn more about how kites fly.

Directions:

- 1) Watch the video.
- 2) Read *Kites in the Wind*.
- 3) Take notes in the space below.

Kites Notes

Kites

Name: _____

Date: _____

Directions: Write an informative text about kites. Be sure to include lots of facts and details about kites and to organize your writing.

In your writing, remember to

- ☐ write an introduction
- ☐ organize your writing
- ☐ add lots of details
- ☐ use transition words and phrases
- ☐ write a conclusion
- ☐ edit your writing

[illegible]

Kites

Name: _____

Date: _____

Drawing

If you need more space, continue on a piece of lined paper.

Word Bank

Earth Explorers

Name: _____

V.I.P.

Date: _____

Firefall



waterfall



rare



sunset



tall



glow



quick



Yosemite



California



light



Horsetail Falls

Sky Mirror



Bolivia



salt flat



rain



lake



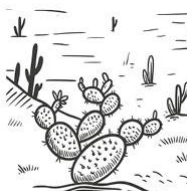
shallow



reflection



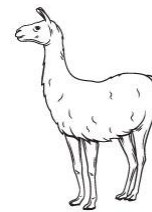
drive



desert



flamingo



vicuña

mystery

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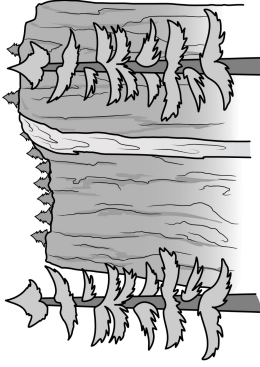
Explorer Facts

Name: _____

Date: _____

V.I.P.

Firefall



Firefall is located in Yosemite (yo-SEH-mi-tee) National Park, which is in California.

The Firefall can only be seen in mid- to late February, during sunset.

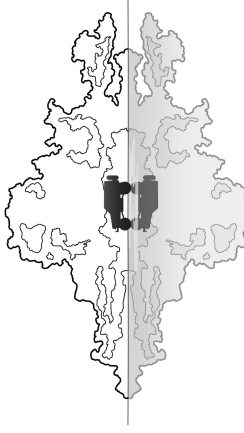
The waterfall that becomes Firefall is called Horsetail Falls.

Seeing the Firefall is very rare. When it happens, it only lasts about ten minutes.

Over 1,000 people travel from all over the world to try to see the Firefall every year.

The Firefall is over 2,000 feet tall. That's as tall as a 200-story building.

Sky Mirror



Sky Mirror is located in Bolivia (bu-LIV-ee-uh), which is in South America.

The Sky Mirror can only be seen during the rainy season, usually December through April. It can be seen at any time of day.

The Sky Mirror is the world's largest mirror. It is 80 miles across.

The ground under the Sky Mirror is a salt flat. That means the ground is made almost entirely of salt.

Some of the scenes in the movie *Star Wars: The Last Jedi* were filmed at the Sky Mirror.

Many animals live at the Sky Mirror, including flamingos and vicuñas. A vicuña is similar to a llama.

Explorer Notes

mystery
Informative | Earth Explorers

Name: _____

Date: _____

V.I.P.

Firefall



How it works:

1

2

3



Location: _____



When to see it: _____



Extra facts: _____

Sky Mirror



How it works:

1

2

3



Location: _____



When to see it: _____



Extra facts: _____

Paragraph I

Name: _____

Date: _____

V.I.P.



Paragraph
Structure

Topic Sentence

1

Detail

First, _____

2

Detail

Next, _____

3

Detail

Finally, _____



mystery

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Paragraph 2

Name: _____

Date: _____

V.I.P.



Topic Sentence

Getting Started

One fact is _____

One thing to know _____

Adding More

Another fact is _____

Also _____

Additionally _____

Something else to know
is _____

Ending

Finally, _____

Lastly, _____



mystery

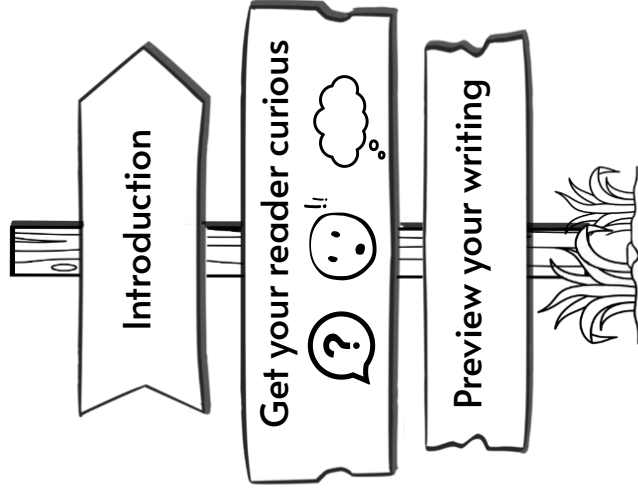
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Introduction and Conclusion

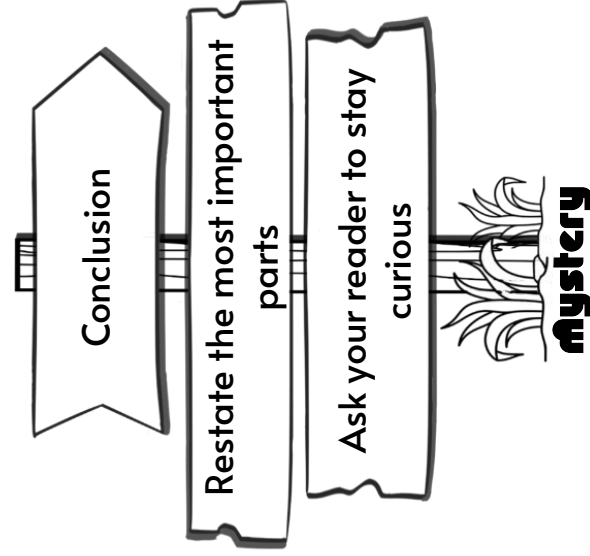
Name: _____

Date: _____

V.I.P.



Introduction



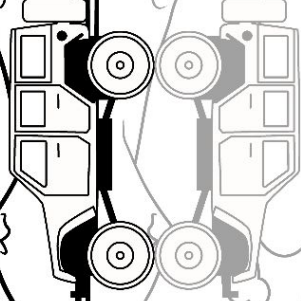
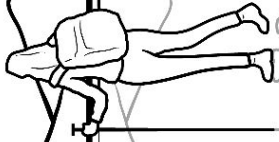
Conclusion

mystery

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SKY MIRROR

Glue badge
here



Staple

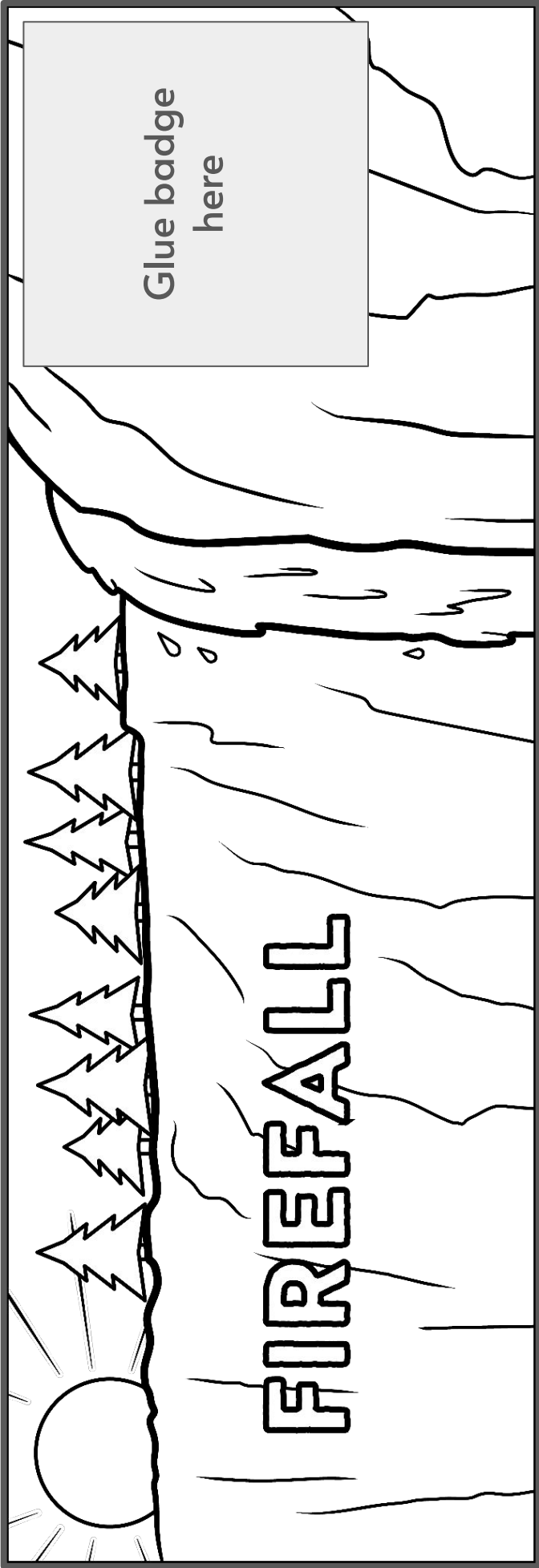


staple



mystery

Informative | Earth Explorers



Staple



staple



Introduction



Body Paragraph I

Body Paragraph 2

Name: _____

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Body Paragraph 2



Conclusion



This badge is awarded to:

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Tie-Dye Is Easy!

Name: _____

Date: _____

Tie-dye is a fun way to make colorful clothes. It gets its name because of how people make tie-dye clothes. First, they have to tie the clothes up using string or rubber bands. Then they dye the clothes using lots of colors. First tie, then dye . . . tie-dye!

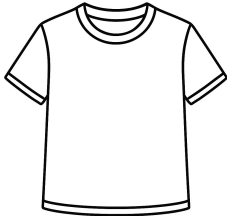
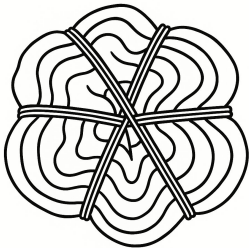
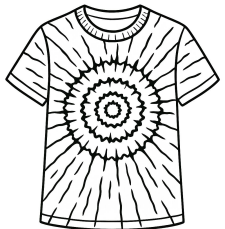
People have been making tie-dye clothing for thousands of years. Tie-dye clothing is made all over the world. Each piece of tie-dye clothing is different. Every person who makes tie-dye clothes can make them unique. Here is a simple way that you can make your own tie-dye.

Materials

- Clothes made out of white fabric. It could be a shirt, socks, a towel, or something else.
- String or rubber bands
- Lots of colors of dyes

Directions

1. Start with a plain white piece of clothing.
2. Scrunch or twist the fabric into the shape you want. Tie the fabric with string or a rubber band.
3. Squirt dye onto the fabric. Use all the colors you like.
4. When the dye is dry, untie the fabric to see your design!

1	2	3	4
			

Tie-Dye

Name: _____

Date: _____

Tie-dye clothing is a lot of fun to wear, and even more fun to make! Learn more about how to make tie dye-clothes.

Directions

- 1) Watch the video.
- 2) Read “Tie-Dye Is Easy!”
- 3) Take notes in the space below.

Tie-dye Notes

Tie-Dye

Name: _____

Date: _____

Directions: Write an informative text about tie-dye. Be sure to include lots of facts and details about tie-dye and to organize your writing.

In your writing, remember to

- ❑ write an introduction
- ❑ organize your writing
- ❑ add lots of details
- ❑ use transition words and phrases
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- ❑ edit your writing

[illegible]

Tie-Dye

Name: _____

Date: _____

Drawing

If you need more space, continue on a piece of lined paper.