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| Title | Parent Letter – Opinion/Persuasive |
| Overview | Students will write a letter to their parents stating their opinion about the strawberry project and using persuasion to convince their parents to help out. Students will collaborate to come up with ideas to put in their letters and the teacher will model/help with opinion statements using connecting words to link their opinion and reasons for their opinions. |
| Standards | |  | | --- | | **ELA.2.W.C9.1**: Write opinion pieces in which they introduce the topic or book they are writing about, state an opinion, supply reasons that support the opinion, use linking words to connect opinion and reasons and provide a concluding statement or section. | | **ELA.2.W.C11.2**: recall Information from experiences or gather information from provided sources to answer a question. | | **ELA.2.SL.C14.1**: recount an experience with appropriate facts and relevant, descriptive details, speaking audibly in coherent sentences. | | **ELA.2.SL.C14.3**: produce complete sentences when appropriate to task and situations in order to provide requested details or clarification. | |
| Materials/Advance Preparation Needed | SmartBoard/Intelliboard or Chart Paper and Markers  Paper & Pencil  Rubric (Included) |
| Procedures/Steps:  (Emphasis on students making inquiry, e.g., posing questions/problems and working towards answers and solutions) | Ask students to brainstorm ideas about how to get their parents involved in their strawberry project. Make a list. Help where needed and make sure writing them a letter is on the list.   Tell student they are going to write a letter to their parents that will state their opinion about the strawberry project and why their parents should help. They will also use persuasion to convince their parents to help care for the garden/strawberries over the summer. Have students discuss ideas with a partner and then the teacher will write down their ideas on the SmartBoard or chart paper so students have a list of things they could add to their letter as they are writing it. The teacher will now model how to use an opinion statement using a linking word (because, and, also are examples) to connect the opinion with the reason.  Examples: I liked the book because it was funny. (Not a very convincing opinion. Need more details.) Better opinion: The book, *(insert title here)* was funny because \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. |
| Procedures/Steps (continued) | Have students practice writing an opinion statement, share it with their partner. The teacher should glance at their statements as they are working as well and help any students who aren’t quite getting it.  Pass out the rubric for the letter and go over it with the class. Make sure students understand how to use the rubric and are aware of how to get the best grade on their letter.  Students will write their letter. They can/will use the list of ideas we wrote down as a class and the rubric. Have students share their letter with a partner and make any changes they need. Students will then hand in the letter for a grade before taking home to parents. |
| Assessment (What will be the evidence of student learning?) | Parent Letter – Needs to include at least 3 opinion statements  Needs to be about the strawberry project.  Needs to be at least 8 sentences long. (see Rubric) |

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| Rubric for Parent Letter | |  |
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| Category |  |  |
| **Length** | at least 8 Sentences | 8 points (1 point for each sentence) |
| **Capitalization& Punctuation** | Each sentence begins with a Capital letter | 4 Points (1/2 point for each capital letter  and correct punctuation) |
| **Format** | Letter has date, opening,  body, closing | 4 points (1 point for each part) |
| **Opinion  Statements** | Letter includes 3 opinion statements using a connecting word | 3 points (1 point for each opinion  statement) |
| **Topic of Letter** | Strawberry Project | 2 points |
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|  |  | **Total Points: 21 points** |