



## ANIMALS Non-Fiction

For this lesson a child can choose to write about ANY animal. It's especially fun if you have a calendar or printed image of the animal that the child wants to write about.

NOTE: This lesson can address the following Common Core State Standards:

CCSS.ELA.LITERACY.W.K.2, W.1.2, W.2.2, W.3.2, W.3.2.A, W.3.2.B, W.3.2.C, W.3.2.D, W.4.2, W.4.2.A, W.4.2.B, W.4.2.C, W.4.2.D, W.4.2.E, W.5.2, W.5.2.A, W.5.2.B, W.5.2.C, W.5.2.D and W.5.2.E

Now for the Lesson!

1. Tell the Story Line: *"You're going to write facts about an animal. This is non-fiction so you won't write your opinion. You won't use the words I or my."*
2. Brainstorm facts about the animal. Write the students' responses on the board. Encourage them to think about the following information:
  - Where the animal lives and what it eats
  - What the animal looks like and how it moves
  - Dangers to the animal and its form of protection

3. Show the 5 Sections:

Introduction  
Lives/Eats  
Looks/Moves  
Dangers/Protection  
Conclusion

Remember: K-1<sup>st</sup> Graders are encouraged to write 1 sentence for each section,  
2<sup>nd</sup> Graders 2 sentences, 3<sup>rd</sup> Graders 3 sentences and so on.

NOTE: In the case of animals, there is often so much to write. These 5 sections are meant to get kids started. By all means, change one of the sections if it's a better fit. Or, simply tell your students to write an introduction 3-15 general facts, then the conclusion.

Now to Write!

1. Engage the reader by writing questions about your animal. You can write exclamations as well to get them excited about your information.
2. Write about where your animal lives and what it eats.
3. Write about how the animal looks and moves.
4. Write about the dangers your animal experiences and how it protects itself.
5. Write a conclusion. Add additional fun facts and/or encourage the reader in some way. For example, encourage the reader to learn more about the animal or see one live somewhere.
6. If possible, once the student is done writing, place their essay and picture back to back in a plastic page protector or hang their writing next to their picture.