

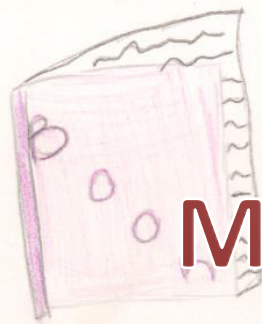
Grades 3-5

The cute puppy

loudly barked.

Using Details

My Traits of Writing Working Folder



Finding the Topic

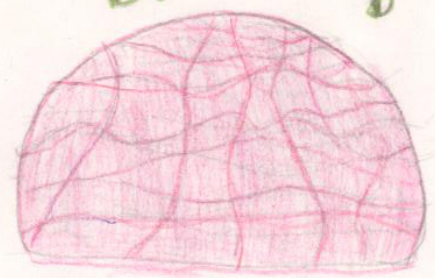


IDEAS

Name _____

USE YOUR BRAIN!

Teacher _____



Focusing on the Topic

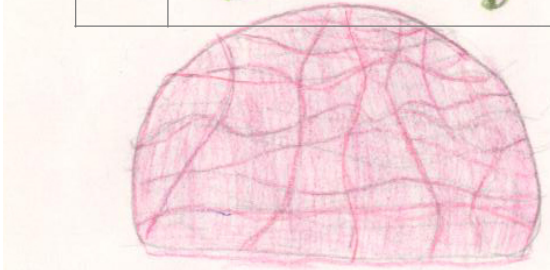
CONTENT



Developing the Topic

	6-5 I've got it!	4-3 On my way	2-1 Just Starting
Ideas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I've picked a topic and stuck with it. My topic is small enough to handle. I know a lot about this topic. My topic is bursting with fascinating details. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I've wandered off my main topic in a few places. My topic might be a little too big to handle. I know enough about my topic to get started. Some of my details are too general. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I have included several ideas that might make a good topic. No one idea stands out as most important. I'm still looking for a topic that will work well. My details are fuzzy or not clear.
Organization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I included a bold beginning. I've shown how the ideas connect. My ideas are in an order that really works. My ending leaves you with something to think about. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There's a beginning, but it's not particularly special. Most of my details fit logically; I could move or get rid of others. Sections of my writing flow logically, but other parts seem out of place. My ending is not original, but it does clearly show where the piece stops. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I forgot to write a clear introduction to this piece. I have the right "stuff" to work with, but it's not in order. The order of my details are jumbled and confusing. Oops! I forgot to end my piece with a wrap-up.

Finding the Topic



Focusing on the Topic

CONTENT



Developing the Topic

Voice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I used a distinctive tone that works with the topic. I was clear about why I was writing, so my voice is believable. The audience will connect with what I wrote. I tried some new ways of expressing myself. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I played it safe. You only get a glimpse of me in this piece. I wasn't always clear about my purpose, so my voice faces in and out. I'm only mildly interested in this topic. I didn't try to express myself in new ways. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I didn't share anything about what I think and feel in this piece. I'm not sure what or why I'm writing. This topic is not interesting to me at all. I'm bored and it shows.
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Finding the Topic

6-5
I've got it!

4-3
On My Way

2-1
Just Starting

Word Choice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I've used strong verbs to add energy. My words are specific and are colorful, fresh, and snappy. My words help my reader see my ideas. My words are accurate and used correctly. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only one or two verbs stand out in this piece. I've used many ordinary words; there's no sparkle. My words give the reader the most general picture of the idea. I've misused some words or overused others. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I haven't used any verbs that convey energy. I've left out key words. Many of my words are repetitive or just wrong. I'm confused about how to use words as I write.
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KEEP YOUR BRAIN!

Sentence Fluency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> My sentences are well-built and have varied beginnings. I've tried to write using interjections or fragments to create variety. My sentences read smoothly. I've varied the length and structure of my sentences. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> My sentences are working pretty well. I've tried a couple of ways to begin my sentences differently, but could do more. When I read my piece aloud, there are a few places that need smoothing. I might put some sentences together or I could cut a few. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> My sentences aren't working well. The beginnings of my sentences sound the same. I'm having trouble reading my piece aloud. I've used words like "and" or "but" too many times.
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Focusing on the Topic

Developing the Topic

Conventions

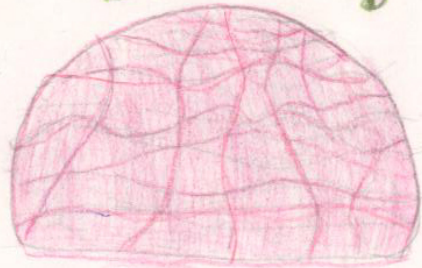
- My spelling is magnificent.
- I put capital letters in all the right places.
- I used punctuation correctly to make my writing easy to read.
- I used correct grammar and indented paragraphs where necessary.

- Only my simpler words are spelled correctly.
- I used capital letters in easy spots.
- I have correct punctuation in some places but not in others.
- There are a few places where the grammar isn't quite right, and I've forgotten to indicate paragraphs except at the beginning.

- My words are hard to read and understand because of the spelling.
- I've not followed the rules for capitalization.
- My punctuation is missing or in the wrong places.
- The grammar needs a lot of work. I forgot about using paragraphs.

Finding the Topic

USE YOUR BRAIN!



Focusing on the Topic

IDEAS

CONTENT

Using Details



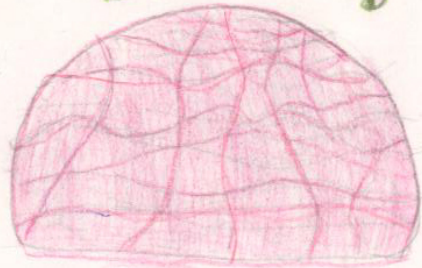
Developing the Topic



Finding
the
Topic



USE
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Focusing on
the Topic



IDEAS

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Developing
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