



Weekly Writing

The children were given a writing assignment this week. The goal is for the children to use the entire writing process not to do a quick write. I want to explain to you the writing process we have been doing all year. The children know this process. I am only telling you so you will know what they are to be doing and why there was one writing activity for the whole week. I appreciate the eagerness in getting the assignment completed, but it should be completed over a few days' time with a rough copy and then a final copy.

This week is an opinion paragraph that should have a topic sentence and a minimum of three reasons. Each reason should have a "tell me more" sentence after it explaining or giving a detail about the reason. The paragraph should end with a concluding sentence. There should be at least 8 sentences.

The first day, the rough copy should be written skipping lines. The children write on every other line to make correcting it easier. The next day, the children should revise and edit the paper. I do not do this for them. I have been teaching them what to look for and I may point out something, but they are learning how to do this on their own. Each sentence is looked at to see if anything can be added (like adjectives or adverbs) or changed (like a better vocabulary word...sprinted instead of run) to make it sound better. Then each sentence is checked for spelling, capitalization, and punctuation. The next day, the children take the corrected rough copy and write the final copy using neat handwriting (or it can be typed). Now you see why it should take several days! I always tell the children I want your BEST writing so take your time.