

**High-Performance Writing**  
Beginning Persuasive Writing

**School-Home Link**

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

During the next few weeks, your child will be working on Persuasive Writing at the Beginning Level. Your child will learn to write a persuasive composition that expresses an opinion and supports it with a personal reason based on experience, numbers, and information from experts. Your child will write a convincing sales pitch and learn how to present it to an audience. As your child completes the persuasive-writing assignments, he or she will learn important language arts skills, including rules for grammar, punctuation, and capitalization. Your child will also learn to organize ideas in order to be a better writer.

Here are some things you can do with your child at home:

1. When your child expresses an opinion about something, be a good listener. Ask your child what evidence can be used to support the opinion. Help your child categorize the evidence as a personal reason based on experience, numbers, or information from an expert.
2. When your child brings home a persuasive-writing assignment, ask your child to read it to you. Praise your child's writing. Post it on the refrigerator. Share it with other family members. Talk about other persuasive compositions your child might write.
3. Read some advertisements in newspapers or magazines to your child, have your child read some advertisements to you, or listen to some television commercials together. Talk about what makes a good advertisement. Ask these questions: What important information does the ad include? Does the product or service have a slogan or song? What does the ad say that makes the customer want to buy the product or service?
4. Play a game with your child to make up a slogan for one of your child's favorite foods or toys. Encourage your child to use rhyme (words that end with the same sound) or alliteration (words that begin with the same sound). For example, "These toy trucks do tricks on tiny tracks!"
5. Provide paper and a pencil for your child to write an advertisement for an imaginary new toy. Remind your child to write a beginning sentence that catches the audience's attention. The advertisement should include a slogan and use describing words to tell about the toy. Help your child with spelling as needed. Your child may want to draw a picture of the toy to accompany the composition. Ask your child to present the advertisement to you after it's finished.

If you have any questions, suggestions, or comments about the writing we're doing at school, please feel free to call or meet with me.

Your child's teacher,

  

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