



Grade 5 Reading Unit 4- Reading to Research and Argue

In this unit, your child will learn debate protocols, how to form an opinion on a topic, as well as how to persuade others by clearly stating substantiated reasons.

The skills your child will develop in this unit are:

- Citing evidence to support claims
- Considering the opposing view's arguments (counterpoints)
- Using debate protocols
- Offering different perspectives
- Taking organized notes to understand big ideas
- Working collaboratively in groups
- Understanding the perspective of authors

Questions to consider asking as your child is reading at home:

- What questions do you have while previewing the text?
- What is this author trying to make me think about this topic/issue? Does the author make a valid claim?
- What's your view on this topic? What evidence do you have to support your thinking?

In this unit you can support your child by having conversational debates. Share some nonfiction texts from newspapers, magazines or books with opposing viewpoints. Discuss the topics together.

Some books your child may enjoy in class are:

- *Should There Be Zoos?* By Tony Stead
- Various texts/videos/articles on debatable topics

This unit will teach your child to form an opinion on a topic, and clearly express his/her reasoning. This unit will also allow students to develop the skills necessary to persuade others, and prepare for opposing points of view. At home, please support your child by engaging in discussions about various debatable topics. Have fun with this!