



Grade 5 Writing Unit 4- The Research Based Argument

In this unit your child will learn that in order to develop a strong written opinion or argument, he/she must analyze multiple texts, weigh evidence, and consider and address counterarguments.

The skills your child will develop in this unit are:

- Researching both sides of an issue in order to form an opinion
- Citing credible sources to support an opinion
- Organizing supportive evidence that supports an opinion in a powerful way
- Creating rebuttals for counterclaims of the argument
- Understanding the audience affected by the argument
- Debating issues thoughtfully

Questions to ask as your child is reading at home:

- What are the opposing views in the text you are reading? What do you think about these differing ideas?
- I understand your point, and I disagree because...
- Which position do you think the author supports? Is the author convincing you to agree or disagree with his/her position?

Some books your child will be exposed to in class are:

- Articles, short texts and topics that allow for argument and debate

You can help support these skills at home by discussing issues you and your child have strong feelings about and supporting your arguments with explanations and facts while still respecting each other's positions.