

Printable Writing Prompt Collection

40 PRINT-AND-GO WRITING PROMPTS FOR GRADES 3-8

Name: _____

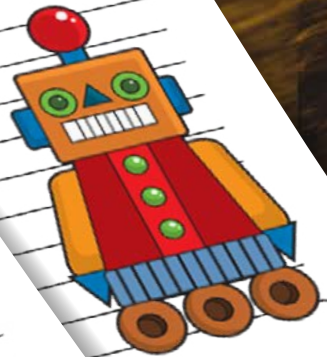
Father's Little Helper

For a Father's Day gift, you're debating between giving your dad a robot that does outside chores or one that lives inside the house. Which one will this new robot perform?

Name: _____

THE SWEETEST JOB

Your favorite candy store is hiring children. Write a letter to the owner of the store explaining three reasons why you are the perfect person for the job.



WriteShop®
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Printable Writing Prompt Collection: 40 Print-and-Go Writing Prompts for Grades 3-8
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Tips for Using These Writing Prompts

Print the entire collection, one for each student in your family. Three-hole-punch the pages and put them into a binder with additional lined paper of your child's preference. Place the prompt checklist at the front of the binder so your child can mark off the topics as they are used.

Schedule time in your homeschool plan for weekly writing time using these prompts. Better yet, create a writing center — a plastic tote with the notebooks, some favorite pencils or pens, and a thesaurus.

Some children will perform best with a page limit: fill up the prompt page or fill up the prompt page and half of an additional sheet of paper. Others will do better with a time limit: write for 5, 7, 10, or 15 minutes. Experiment to see what motivates your child the best. If your child naturally enjoys writing, you can easily print and go without setting any time or page requirements.

Periodically (once a month or each quarter), select one of the completed writing prompts to develop into a finished composition or project by taking it through the editing and revising process. Don't do this for every prompt -- only the ones your child is the most excited about.

Tips for Using These with Reluctant Writers

1. Let your child choose which prompt to use from the entire collection. Although some prompts are seasonal topics, there's no reason that you can't write about Christmas in March or about spring in October if you like! There's also no need to use them in any particular order. Let your child skip around as desired.
2. Read the prompt aloud to your child and have a short dialogue about the prompt to prime the pump. Ask probing questions to help your child see all sides of the prompt's topic.
3. Serve as scribe if the process of putting pencil to paper is laborious or frustrating.
4. Help your child look forward to your weekly writing assignment by reserving a special pencil to use or a crazy hat to wear only during that time each week.
5. Avoid saying anything that your reluctant writer may take as criticism. These prompts are to inspire journal writing, which should not be evaluated in terms of grammar, spelling, etc. Your feedback should focus on positives such as creative ideas, logical thought, and precise word choices. This is a chance for your child to write without fear of failure!



WriteShop Primary is a parent-led writing program that gently introduces K-3rd graders to the steps of the writing process through hands-on activities, crafts, and picture books. Reading and writing skills are not needed. Curriculum sets affordably priced at \$29 - \$42.



WriteShop Junior exposes 3rd-6th graders to genre, fiction, and nonfiction writing—and introduces tools that truly motivate young writers. Pre-writing games help them learn and practice vocabulary and other skills in such a fun way, they have no idea they're learning. Graphic organizers help them brainstorm and plan their stories and reports. And our engaging editing tools actually make it fun to proofread and revise. Curriculum sets affordably priced at \$82-\$107.



WriteShop I and II offer incremental lessons, challenging assignments, and creative activities for junior high and high schoolers. WriteShop I students improve descriptive, informative, and narrative, writing skills by becoming proficient in four vital techniques: brainstorming, drafting, editing, and revising. WriteShop II users learn to expand their skills by learning about descriptive narration, point of view, and voice. This level ends with an introduction to persuasive and essay writing, including timed essays. Curriculum sets affordably priced at \$117-\$140.

FaceBook group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/WriteShop>

Pinterest boards <https://www.pinterest.com/writeshop>

Blog <http://writeshop.com/blog>

Name _____

Your Own "I Have a Dream" Speech

This month we remember Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. who was born in Atlanta, Georgia in 1929. In 1963 he delivered his famous "I Have a Dream" speech from the steps of the Lincoln Memorial. Write the first paragraph of your own "I Have a Dream" speech, and include your greatest wish for the people of our country and our world.

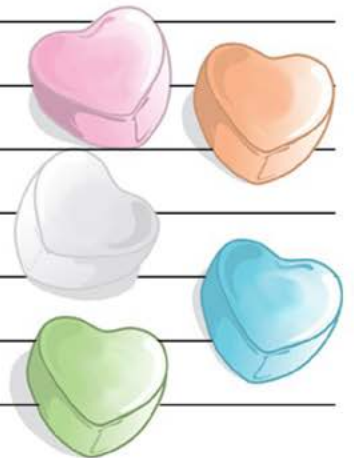


Name _____

Heart to Heart Conversations



Conversation hearts have been around for over 100 years! Pretend you work for a greeting-card company. Combine two or more of the following conversation-heart words and phrases to create several expressions for Valentine cards. You must use all words in a phrase ("a dream" but not just "a" or "dream"). You may not add any words not already listed.

[illegible]



heart graphic by Roslen Mack - Fotolia.com

Name _____

Where Have All the Flowers Gone?

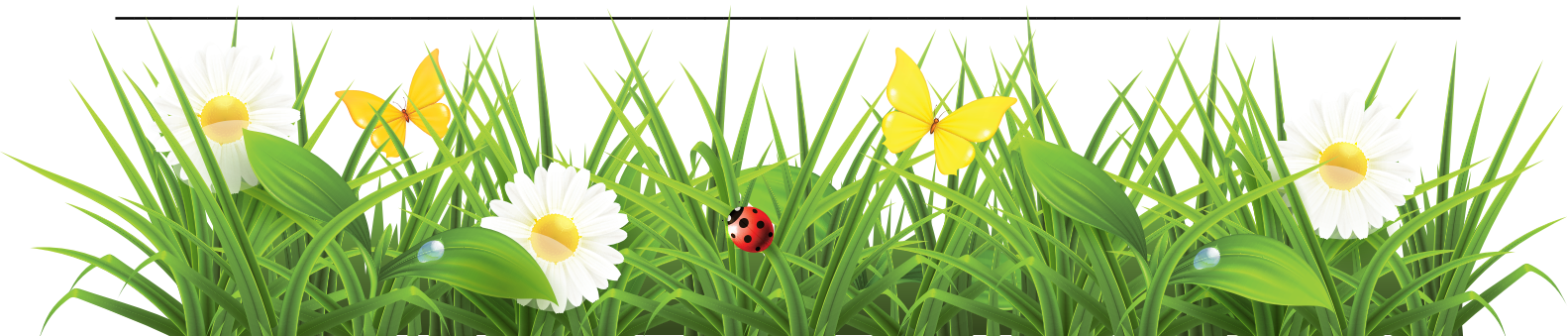
On the night of February 13, every last flower mysteriously disappeared from all the florist shops in town! As the most talented reporter for the Bridgeport News, you have been assigned to cover this story. **Write the first paragraph of an article** for the front page of the morning news. Don't forget to add a headline.

[illegible]

Name _____

New Life, New Birth
Spring Is Bursting Forth!

Signs of new life are everywhere in springtime! Describe something in nature that reminds you of Christ's resurrection. To get you started, think about a butterfly emerging from a cocoon, new leaves unfolding on a tree, and animals coming out of hibernation.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Name _____

Spring Storytelling

Write a story using at least five of the following words and draw a picture of your main character:

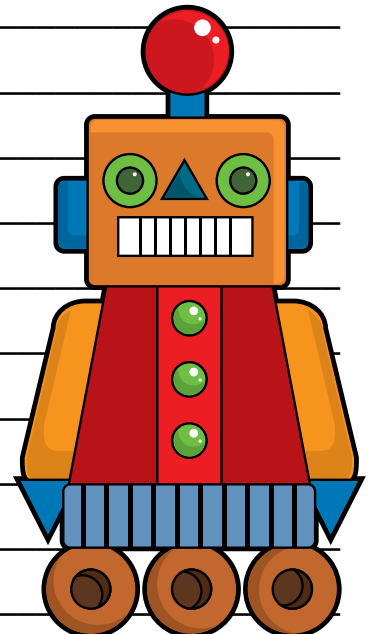
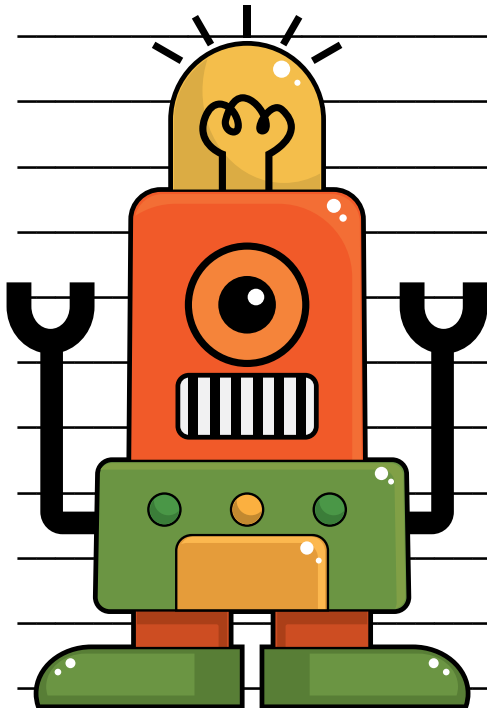
hen	egg
seeds	chick
parachute	chocolate
hang glider	whale
airplane	goggles

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Name _____

Father's Little Helper

For a Father's Day gift, you're debating between giving your dad a robot that does outside chores or one that fixes broken things around the house. Which one do you think he'd rather have? Describe five chores this new robot will perform.



Name _____



SUMMER Acrostic Poem

Write an acrostic poem using the word SUMMER.
Illustrate your poem.

S	
U	
M	
M	
E	
R	

Name _____

HOT DOG DAY

In honor of National Hot Dog Day, write a story using these words: (Let younger children choose just 3-5 of these words for their story.)

hot dog

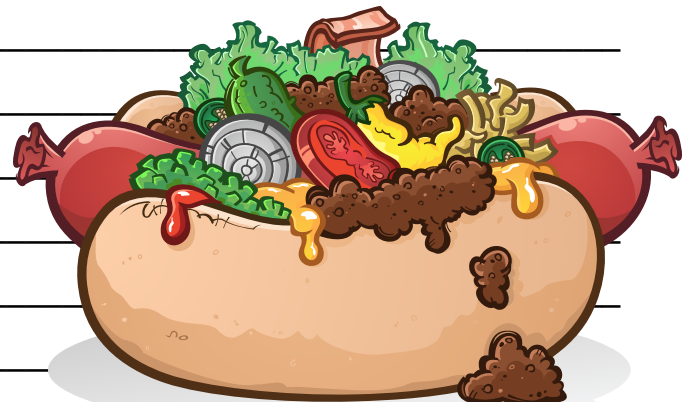
baseball stadium

thunderstorm

stolen passport

national anthem

sunglasses



Name _____

The Christmas Bell



Write a story about a silver bell named Jingle. Begin with this sentence:

After five years in a stuffy old box, Jingle knew this Christmas would be different.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Name _____

A Christmas Story

Write a story that takes place on Christmas Eve.
Use as many words from this list as possible:

homeless person

bakery

snow

family

street corner

Christmas carols

lost wallet

dog

shoe

brother

memories



Name _____

ADVENTURES IN A SNOW GLOBE

1. Draw a picture inside the snow globe using words from the Snow Globe Word Bank.
2. Now imagine that you have stepped into that snow globe scene. Write a story about what happens to you while you're there. What do you see? Where do you go? Whom do you meet?
3. Make sure snow is part of your story!

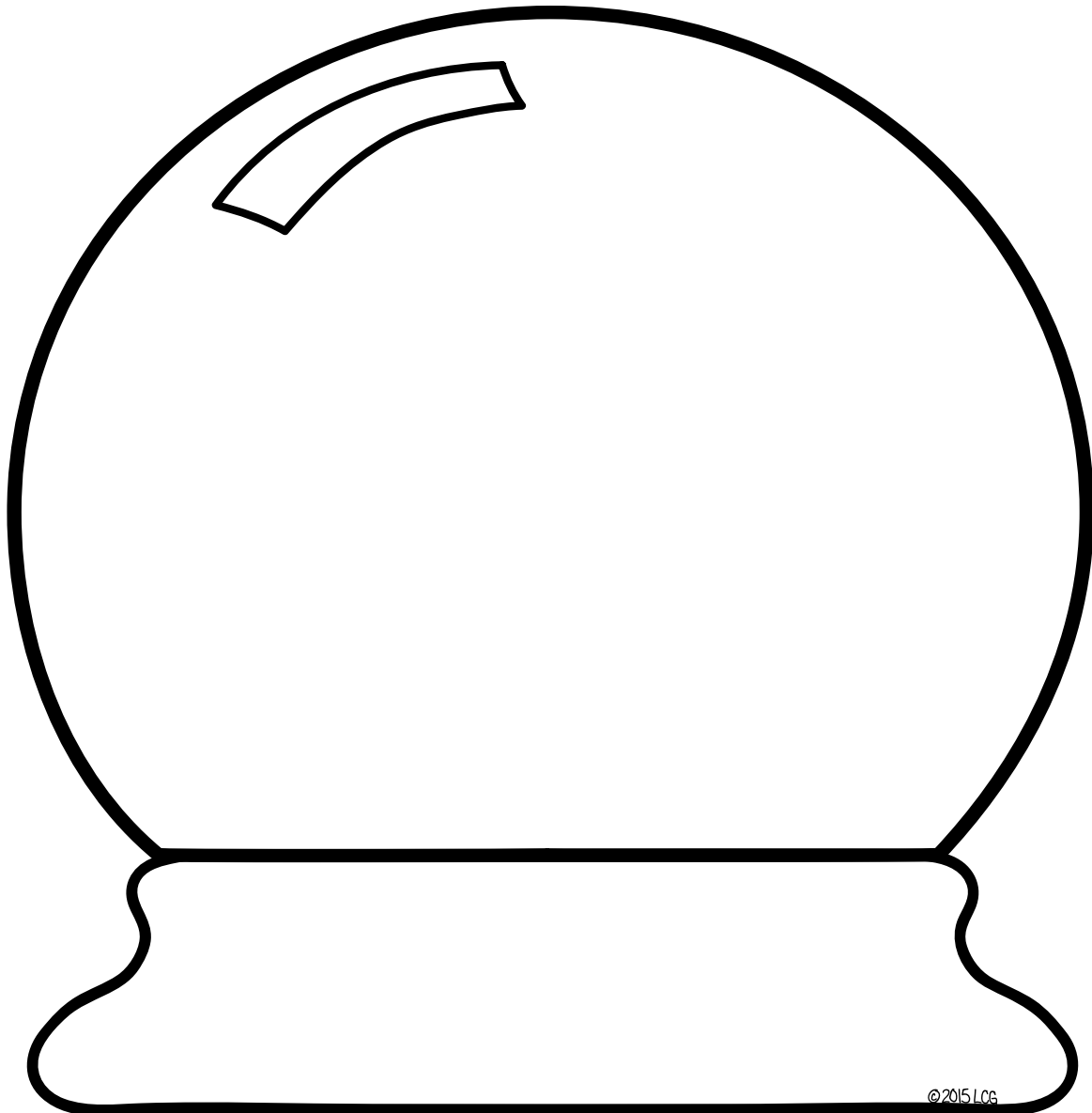
SNOW GLOBE WORD BANK

snowman
polar bear
penguin
skyscraper

sidewalk
toys
cabin
frozen pond

hill
castle
forest
Christmas tree

train
cat
sled
scarf



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Name _____



Journey to Birthdayland



Imagine that you are escorted to Birthdayland. In this magical world, children eat pieces of gigantic frosted cakes and open presents that fall from hot air balloons above. Describe the strange sights and the children you meet. How do you feel after a night in this land? Do you want to go home for your real birthday?

[illegible]

Name _____

A Generous Person

GENEROSITY is the character quality that imitates the Lord Jesus, who said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." In a paragraph or two, write a story about a generous person. Try to include as many of these words as you can:

Christmas Eve

candlesticks

kitten

limousine

apple cider

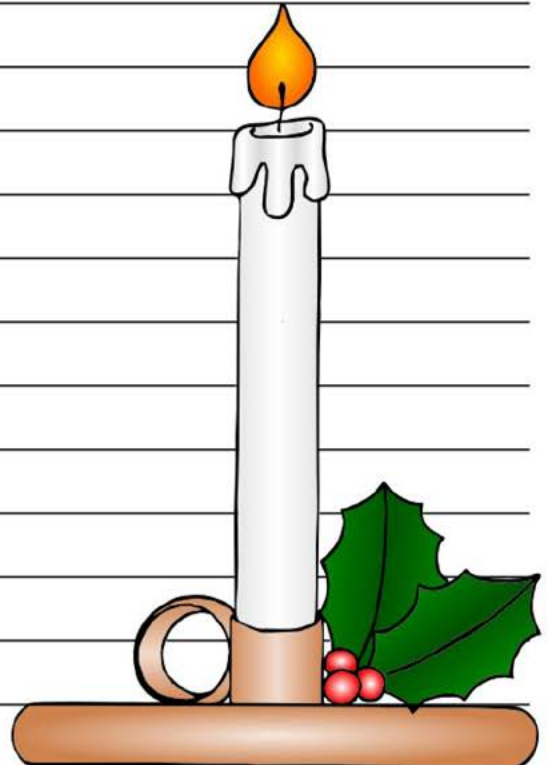
duct tape

secret

mice

cheese

trumpet



Name _____

Mayflower Journal Entry



Imagine you are a young person on the Mayflower, and your father is exploring the wild land just beyond the shoreline. What is it like living on a ship in the winter? What do you miss most about England and Holland? What kind of life do you hope for in the New World? Write down your thoughts as if you were writing a journal or diary entry.

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Name _____

Prudence

Prudence is the character quality that allows us to look ahead and decide on the most wise and virtuous course of action. Write a story with at least two characters – one who displays prudence, and one who does not. Incorporate several of the following words into your story:



fisherman

princess

solar eclipse

bicycle

butcher

wrist-watch

owl

piglet

goose

quill pen

Name _____

Describing Nature

Step outside and walk around a familiar space, perhaps your backyard or neighborhood. Take time to observe something in the natural world that you never noticed before, such as a small plant or insect. Write a descriptive paragraph about your findings, allowing your reader to experience the colors, textures, beauty, or rugged terrain that you just explored.

A cartoon illustration of a boy with black hair, wearing a red shirt and black pants, sitting on a rock and looking through a magnifying glass at a glowing dandelion seed head. The background features green hills, a blue sky with white clouds, and a large, stylized magnifying glass shape framing the scene.

Name _____

Spectacular Storytelling

Write a story using at least five of the following words:

golden unicorn

crystal stairs

silver tree

fire-breathing dragon

shower of stars

flying car

talking butterfly

treasure chest

castle in the clouds

mysterious forest

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the page. There are approximately 20 lines visible, starting from the top margin and ending near the bottom edge. The lines are thin and black, providing a guide for handwriting or typing. The overall appearance is that of a standard notebook or a piece of stationery designed for writing.

Name _____

140 Characters

Some say social media is superficial, with no room for expressing deep or complex ideas. We challenge you to defy these skeptics by describing yourself **as fully and accurately as possible** in the 140-character limit of a tweet.

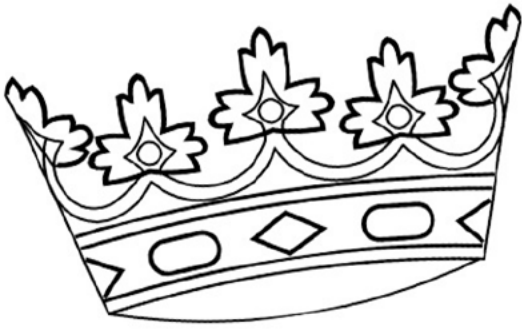
Brainstorm words that describe you:



140

Tweet

Name _____



A Foolish King


How much better to get wisdom than gold, to choose understanding rather than silver! ~Proverbs 16:16

Write a story about a king who had piles of gold and silver, but no wisdom or understanding.

Name _____

A Royal Brush

A playing card company has asked you to design the artwork for a new deck of cards. Describe the patterns or pictures you would choose. Would you use one style for all fifty-two cards, or thirteen different designs?

Three empty rounded rectangular boxes are arranged horizontally, intended for drawing.[illegible]

Cat Comics

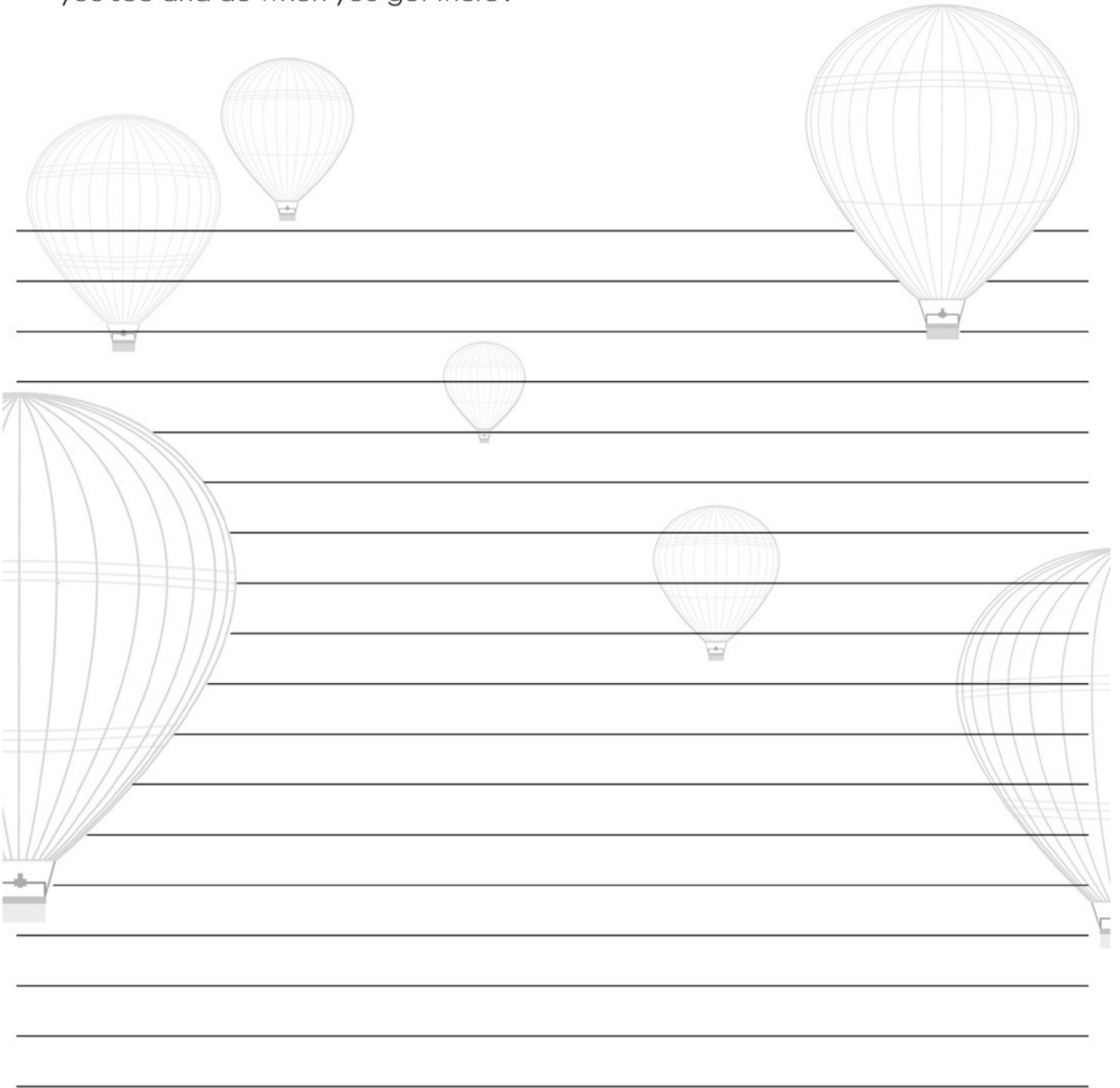


Draw a comic strip about a feisty feline using only pictures and onomatopoeia — “sound words” such as buzz, whack, knock, thump, meow, splash, and boom.

Name _____

Not in Kansas Anymore

You and a friend just won a free trip on hot air balloon. Where will you go? What will you see and do when you get there?



Name _____

A Paint Chip Inspired Story

Paint chip samples often have interesting names. The list below contains actual paint color names! Choose five color names from the list and write a story using all five. Example: *Tent, Campground, Copper Mountain, Moon, Happy Camper*

Painted Sky	Scotland Road	Happy Camper
Tropical Holiday	Moon	Secret Garden
Wheat Field	Cloudy Day	Copper
Gentle Rain	Cup of Cocoa	Mountain
Baked Scone	Puddle	Heirloom Lacc
Pebble Path	Early Morning	Scroll
Garden Wall	Vibrant	Parakeet
Tent	Rain-washed	Campground
Icicle	Ballerina Gown	Cozy Cottage
Calm Air	Candlelight	Koala Bear
Treasures	Sunlight	Pool



Name _____

Pick a Prompt!

It's your choice! Cut apart and pick a prompt!

Describe a Mother's Day gift that would make your mother or grandmother cry.

If the citizens of Mismatched Sockville elected you as Mayor, what kind of laws would you enact?

Describe the strangest meal you ever ate.

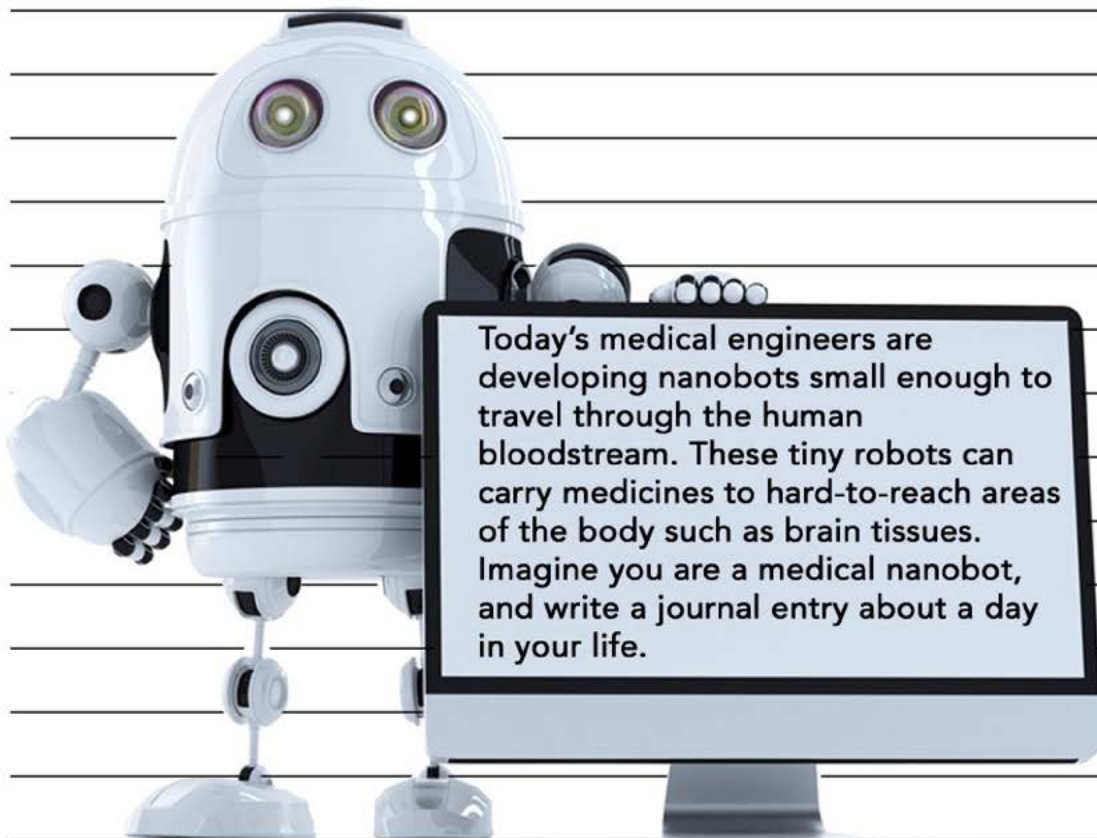
Make a list of ten questions you would like to ask a character from a computer game or video game. Ask a brother, sister, or friend to come up with answers.

You have been asked to invent a new ice cream flavor. Draw a picture of your creation and write a tempting description.

If you could be friends with a character in one of your favorite books, whose friend would you be? Choose an experience from the book and rewrite it in your own words as if you had been there.

Name _____

The Job of a Nanobot



Name _____

Round Robin Writing Adventure

As a family, think up your own creative adventure using these words:

jeep	ancient pyramid	sandstorm	missing mummy
secret passageway	hieroglyphics	trap door	palm tree
crocodile	leopard	Nile River	biplane
leather pouch	oasis	camel	treasure

Directions:

1. Cut apart tiles.
2. Choose one person to begin the story.
3. Take turns choosing a new word and adding to the story until each player has had a turn and all the words are used up.

Players must continue the story by drawing a new paper randomly and using that word or phrase to continue the story.

Name _____

StoryBuilder

From each box below, pick one character, one character trait, one setting, and one plot. Write a short story.

CHARACTER	CHARACTER TRAIT	SETTING	PLOT
monkey dinosaur cowboy toaster	humble inquisitive frightened mysterious	jungle thrift store race car city	finds a secret tunnel falls into a _____ gets stuck in a _____ something is on fire

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Name _____

A Changing World

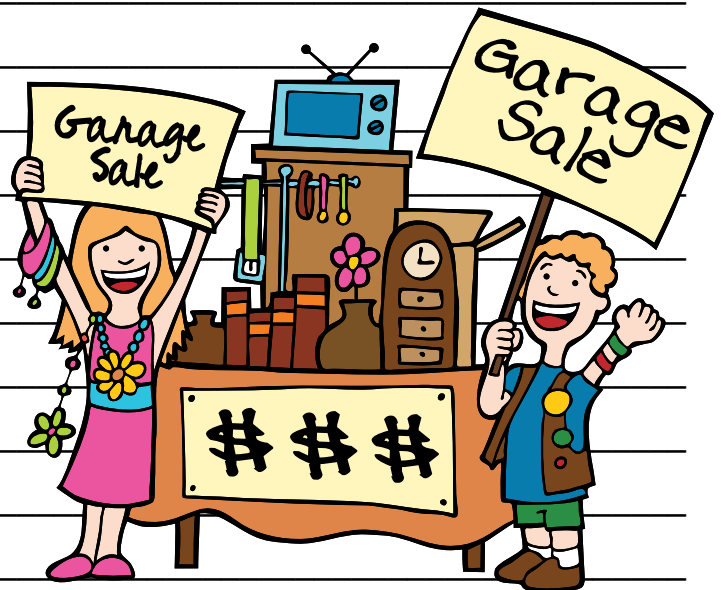


**Describe one way the world has
changed in the past five years.**

Name _____

Time to Say Goodbye

Your family is planning a garage sale, and you must part with three possessions. Write about each of these things and explain why it's time to get rid of them.



Name _____

It's Impossible!

Walt Disney said, "It's kind of fun to do the impossible." Make up (and write) a story about something impossible that you did.



Name _____

The Perfect Tree House

Write a paragraph to finish this sentence:

When I build the perfect tree house, it will include four spectacular features.



Name _____



Imagine that you are entering a contest to win a family vacation in Hawaii. You must convince the judges that you have the best mother in the world. Write a paragraph or two explaining why she is the greatest mom ever.



Name _____

THE SWEETEST JOB

Your favorite candy store is hiring children. Write a letter to the owner of the store explaining three reasons why you are the perfect person for the job.

This image shows a single page of white paper with horizontal black lines, resembling notebook paper. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There is no handwriting or other markings on the paper.

Name _____

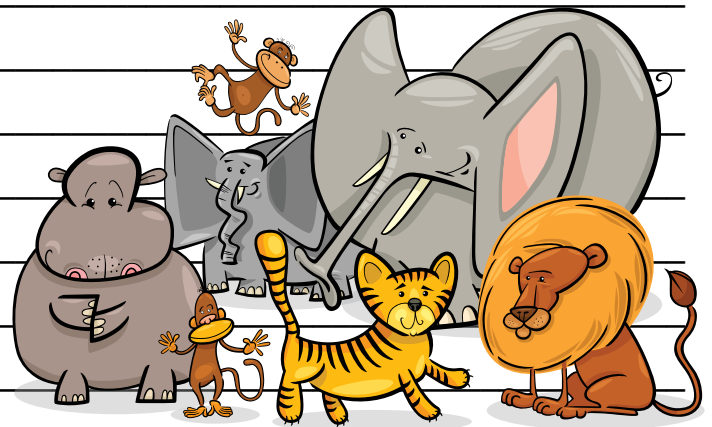
Thankful for You

Invent a holiday to celebrate a person you love, such as "Auntie Amy Day" or "Grandpa Appreciation Day." Write a paragraph expressing three reasons why you're thankful for this special person.

Name _____

A ZOO FOR YOU

Which zoo animal would make the best pet? Describe how you would care for and play with it.

A cartoon illustration of a savanna scene. In the foreground, a large grey hippo is on the left, a small brown monkey is jumping in the center, a yellow tiger with black stripes is on the right, and a lion with a large orange mane is on the far right. In the background, two grey elephants are visible, one of which is also being jumped by a small brown monkey. The entire scene is set against a white background with horizontal lines.

Name _____

THE FURRY MESSENGER

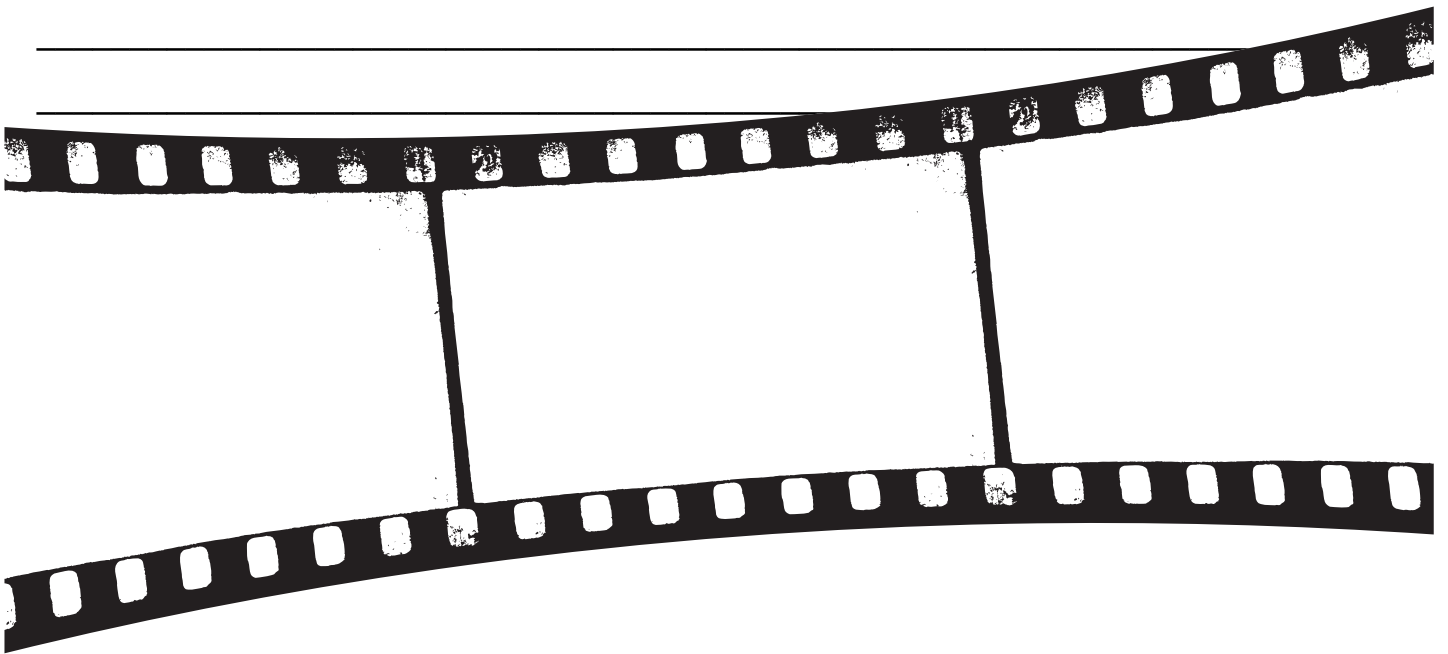
You're exploring in the woods with your best friend when a chipmunk suddenly jumps up on a rock and starts shouting a warning! What is it saying? Are you in danger? What will you do? What will you discover? What will happen to you?



Name _____

Lights, Camera, Action!

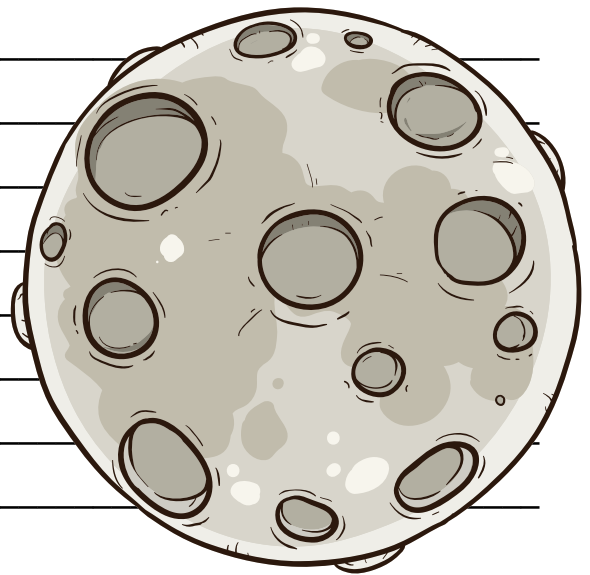
You have an idea for an exciting new TV show. Pitch your idea to a famous producer, giving three reasons why he should consider your show for his fall line-up.

[illegible]

Name _____

Moon Bounce

If a trampoline bounced you all the way to the moon, how would you get back to earth?



Name _____

The Invisible Pocket

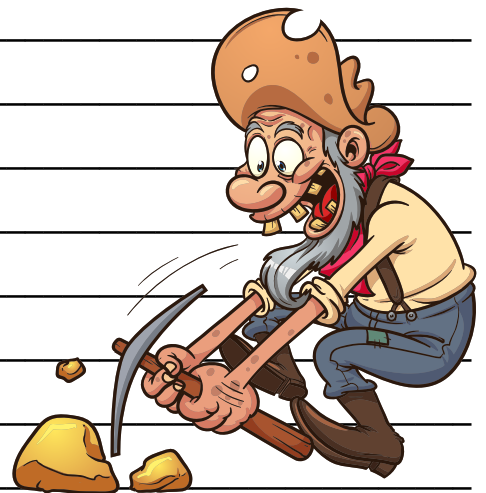
If your jacket had an invisible pocket, what would you keep in there and why?



Name _____

MINING CAMP TREASURES

Imagine you are a historian who must explore an old mining camp. Describe the items that you and your metal detector will discover.



Name _____

[illegible]