



The Future of the Planet

By: Jessica Shaffer

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Science
Grades 9-12



Introduction

The future of the planet is in jeopardy! The citizens of the Earth have a duty to protect our planet for our lifetime and beyond. Write an essay from the viewpoint of the Earth in one hundred years explaining why people need to take care of it now.

Learning Objectives

- ([CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.9-10.2.E](#)) WALT attend to the norms and conventions of writing appropriate to the audience and purpose.
- ([CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.9-10.2.F](#)) WALT provide a conclusion that supports the information or explanation presented and articulates implications or the significance of the topic.

Materials Needed

- [Pre-Writing graphic organizer](#)
- [Writer's checklist](#)
- Optional activities
- Chromebook/tablet/computer

Procedure

1. Students will brainstorm what they already know about conservation.
2. Visit these websites about conservation and global warming. Make sure to preview all before assigning as websites and contents change frequently. Make sure the information is appropriate for the grade level you are teaching.
 - BrainPOP links are more elementary, but give a basic overview and offer additional resources and reading.
 - [Humans & the Environment](#)
 - [Conserving Environment](#)
 - [Natural Resources](#)
 - [Climate Change](#)
 - [National Geographic: Conservation](#)
 - [Conservation](#)

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- [Simple Ways to Help the Environment](#)
 - [Saving the Earth's Resources](#)
 - [Earth Is Our Home](#)
 - [One Planet](#)
 - [A New Kind of Conservation](#)
 - [Save the World](#)
 - [Keep Plastics Out of Our Oceans](#)
3. Students should begin to prewrite for their essay. The teacher should reference an anchor chart. Have students fill in a graphic organizer. There are many great samples on various websites, but if you have a district or grade-level organizer that is often used, that is a great option. There is one available with this writing prompt.
- Opening
 - Supporting Details
 - Conclusion
4. Students will create their essay during this task. Teachers will conference with students as they create their writing piece. Students will be given a checklist to use as they create their writing piece. This will be done throughout the writing process for the essay. You can modify the checklist as needed.
5. When the rough draft of the essay is completed, students should have one or two peers edit/revise the essay and make the appropriate changes before creating a final draft.
6. Students will complete the final draft of the persuasive essay.

Optional Extension Assignments:

- The students can participate in sharing essays with the class. This will most likely spark a class discussion as the future of the Earth is unknown. This is something that further incorporates ELA speaking standards.
- You should have a couple of extension activities for early finishers. These can extend students' knowledge of the Earth and conservation of its resources, and additionally provide you with classwork grades.

Evaluation

You should use the writing rubric that your district requires to grade the writing. You can use activities leading up to the final draft as classwork grades.