



THE BEACH! Journal

NOTE: This lesson can address the following Common Core State Standards: CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.K.1, W.1.1, W.2.1, W.3.1, W.4.1, W.5.1, W.K.3, W.1.3, W.2.3, W.3.3, W.4.3, W.5.3, L.1.2.A, L.1.2.C and L.2.2.B.

Here's the Lesson:

1. First, tell the story line: *You're going to write your honest thoughts about the beach and also tell a short story about a time that you were at the beach.*
2. To get the students thinking, have them reminisce any experiences they've have at a beach.
3. Explain to the students that they are going to write a journal entry about the beach.
4. Explain that a journal is a great place to jot down your most honest feelings; excitement, frustration, disappointment, angst, fear, anger, humor etc.
5. Brainstorm with the students how the beach can generate so many different thoughts and feelings. List reasons why people would like or dislike the beach.

Here are some examples:

LIKES

Water
Waves
Surfing
Building sandcastles
Flying kites
The sound of the waves
Sunrises/sunsets
Looking for shells
Crab hunting
Dolphins eating

DISLIKES

The heat
Sand sticking to you
Sunburn
Salty water
Smelly water
Shells cutting your feet
Applying sunscreen

6. Give students time to think about reasons why they like/dislike the beach.

Show the 5 Sections:

Introduction/Opinion
Reason 1
Reason 2
A Short Story
Conclusion



Remember: K-1st Graders are encouraged to write 1 sentence for each section,
2nd Graders 2 sentences, 3rd Graders 3 sentences and so on.

Now to write!

Guide the students through the following steps.

1. On the first line, right side, write the date.
2. Skip a line.
3. On the 3rd line, left side, write the greeting, *Dear Journal,*
4. Skip a line.
5. On the 5th line, left side, write an introduction using 1-2 sentences:

I love the beach! We're going to the beach this summer and I can't wait!

OR

I can't understand why people like the beach.

6. Write a reason you like or dislike the beach. Explain the reason.
7. Write a reason you like or dislike the beach. Explain the reason.
8. Finish with a fun, funny or bad memory that happened to you at the beach.
9. Write a conclusion using 1-2 sentences.

I can't wait to go to the beach again!

OR

I hope I never have to go to the beach again.

10. Under the conclusion and in the center of the paper write the salutation: (Your Friend,)
11. **Under** the salutation write your name.