



THANKSGIVING RING TOSS WRITING INSTRUCTIONS



Kids love this lesson because they get to make their own ring toss and play it later!

Note: This lesson can address the following Common Core State Standards: CCSS.ELA.LITERACY.W.K.2, W.1.2, W.2.2, W.3.2, W.3.2.A, W.3.2.C, W.3.2.D, W.4.2, W.4.2.D, W.4.2.E, W.5.2, W.5.2.D and W.5.2.E.

Making the Ring Toss:

Materials:

1 ft. long strong, skinny stick, a pipe cleaner and a 24" piece of yarn. A thick popsicle stick can be used in place of a stick.

Steps:

1. Cut the pipe cleaner in half. Use one half.
2. Form the pipe cleaner into a circle and twist the ends tightly.
3. Tie one end of the yarn to the circle.
4. Tie the other end of the yarn to the stick.

The Writing Lesson:

1. Tell the story line. You just finished making your own ring toss. Now, you're going to write out the instructions so someone else can make it.
2. Brainstorm. Give the students time to recall the materials they used and the steps they took. Have them speak these items out loud. Write them on the board.
3. Show the 5 sections.

Introduction (Engage the reader.)

Materials

Steps 1 and 2

Steps 3 and 4

Conclusion (Encourage the reader.)



Now to Write!

Guide the students through the following steps.

1. Write the title on the first line in the center.
2. Engage the reader by asking questions about Thanksgiving fun or Pilgrim/Native American childhood activities.
3. Write the word MATERIALS on the next line, left side and list them.
4. Skip a line.
5. On the next line, left side, write INSTRUCTIONS or STEPS.
6. Encourage young writers to write a sentence for each step listed. Have them use the words, First, Next, Then, Last.

For example:

First, get a stick.
Next, make a circle.
Then, tie the yarn.
Last, play!

7. Encourage older writers to elaborate their instructions for each material. They can also use the words, First, Next, Then, Last.

Here's a detailed example:

First, go outside and find a small, sturdy stick.
Next, cut a pipe cleaner into two equal parts.
Form one half into a circle.
Tightly twist the ends of the pipe cleaner around the circle.
Then, cut a piece a yarn so that it's 24 inches long. Tie one end of the yarn to the circle. Tie the other end of the yarn to the stick.
Last, hold the stick in one hand. Swing the ring up into the air and try to catch it onto the end of your stick. Count how many times you catch it!

8. Older writers can also write out how to play the ring toss.
9. Write a conclusion that encourages readers to make their own and play it!
10. Last, have the students play with their ring toss!