



## GRUMPY GRASS- FICTIONAL NEWS ARTICLE

NOTE: This lesson can address the following Common Core State Standards: CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.K.3, W.1.3, W.2.3, W.3.3, W.3.3.B, W.3.3.C, W.3.3.D, W.4.3, W.4.3.A, W.4.3.B, W.4.3.C, W.4.3.D, W.4.3.E, W.5.3, W.5.3.A, W.5.3.B, W.5.3.C, W.5.3.D and W.5.3.E.

This lesson is a big hit if you show the students the Green Grass Art Accents. It's a fictional news article that involves grass. Additionally, it focuses on words that begin with the letters **GR**.

### Setting up the Lesson:

1. Tell the story line: "You're going to write a news article about unusual grass. The thing that makes the grass unusual has to begin with GR. For example, the grass can be greedy, grumpy, graceful, growling, growing etc. Anything can happen in your story."
2. Brainstorm characteristics of the grass that can be reported in the news article. These characteristics should begin with the letters **GR**.

a. Graceful	f. Gross
b. Gray	g. Growing
c. Greedy	h. Growling
d. Greasy	i. Grumpy
e. Grizzly	
3. Brainstorm different story lines to get the kids thinking:
  - a. Graceful grass puts on a ballet show
  - b. Grizzly grass takes over a forest
  - c. Growing grass takes over a neighborhood
  - d. Grumpy grass starts talking and complaining
4. Show the 5 sections:
  - a. Introduction (time/location/people/problem)
  - b. Different People's Reaction
  - c. One Person's Action
  - d. Another Person's Action
  - e. Solution/Conclusion

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

Now to write!

Guide the students through the following steps. They are free to use their own words. Remind them that **ANYTHING** can happen in their story as long as they follow the steps to keep their story organized. *Samples starts are in italics.*



1. Begin the article with an eye catching exclamation:  
*News Flash! Breaking News! Grey Grass Growing Out of Control!*
2. Write when and where the outbreak occurred.  
*Last night, in Louisville, Kentucky....*
3. Write what happened and to whom.  
*...a family was in their backyard. Thick gray grass started growing really fast*
4. Use words to show how people reacted.
5. Write about what one person, or a group of people did.
6. Write about what another person, or group of people did. .
7. Write a solution and conclusion.

#### **A KINDERGARTNER MIGHT WRITE:**

News Flash!

Yesterday, in Texas, grumpy grass started shouting.

People came to their windows to see.

Firefighters sprayed water.

A helicopter sprayed mud.

The grass is still shouting. Stay away until scientists find out how to stop it.

#### **A 5<sup>th</sup> GRADER MIGHT WRITE:**

Breaking News! Grey Grass Growing Out of Control!

Last night, in Louisville, Kentucky, a family was in their backyard. Thick gray grass started growing really fast. It grew about 6 feet tall. It was spreading fast.

The family ran into their house. They called 911. They watched the grass spread from their windows. It was swaying back and forth. It surrounded their house.

A helicopter flew over and started spraying a natural weed killer. The gray grass grew even thicker and started growling.

Next, bulldozers came. They tried to dig up the dirt and roots of the grass. The growling grass fought the bulldozers. The family kept watching. They were shocked and scared.

Then, the little boy threw marshmallows outside his window. The grass ate it and settled down. He threw more marshmallows until all the grass was calm. The grass collapsed. Scientists are now looking into the situation to find out what caused this outbreak.