



## GUMBALL MACHINE INSTRUCTION MANUAL

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.

Start the lesson off by showing the students a sample Gumball Machine border that is attached to this lesson. Point out the puff ball at the bottom of the image.

Tell the students that they will get one pom pom (or cotton ball) to glue onto their border to show where the gumball, candy or food will come out.

Allow the children to think outside the box. Their machine can be a gumball or candy machine, or something completely different!

Now the Lesson!

1. Tell the story line: "You're going to write an instructions manual for a gumball, candy or any other food machine."
2. Brainstorm ideas. Think of a machine idea. Think about how it works and where the gumball, candy or food will come out of the machine.
3. Show the 5 Sections

Introduction/Parts  
Set Up  
Operation  
Care  
Warnings

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 so their story is organized and complete. They are free to write these ideas in their own words.

1. Name your machine and write it on the top line under the border. Don't write the name of the machine in the border.
2. On the 2<sup>nd</sup> line, write an introduction that engages the reader. You can write questions and exclamations.
3. On the next line, left side, write the word PARTS.
4. Under the words PARTS, list the parts that you will need to put the machine together.
5. On the next line, left side, write the words SET UP.
6. Under the word SET UP, write sentences that tell how to put the machine together.
7. On the next line, left side, write the word OPERATION.
8. Under the word OPERATION, write sentences that tell how to use the machine.
9. On the next line, left side, write the word CARE.
10. Under the word CARE, write sentences telling how to take care of and maintain the machine.
11. On the next line, left side, write the word WARNINGS.
12. Under the word WARNINGS, write sentences listing any dangers that the machine could cause.
13. As soon as a student is finished writing, he/she can complete the gumball machine border using marker or crayon.

