



FATHER'S DAY FRIENDLY LETTER

NOTE: This lesson can address the following Common Core Standards:

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.1.2.A, L.1.2.C, L.2.2.A, L.2.2.B, L.3.2.B, W.K.3, W.1.3, W.2.3, W.3.3, W.4.3 and W.5.3

I can't think of a dad or granddad I know that wouldn't enjoy opening up a thoughtful, loving letter from his son or daughter (grandson or granddaughter). A timeless gesture and sweetly appreciated, letter writing is becoming a lost art. Email, texting and social media are taking its place but not *replacing* it. It's still unique and heart-warming to tear open an envelope and hold a letter in your hand. Use this lesson to guide your child in writing a letter to their dad or grandpa!

Here's the lesson:

1. Tell the story line: *"You're going to write a letter to your dad or grandpa."*
2. Explain to them that asking questions is an integral part of letter writing. It expresses interest in the other person and also elicits a response letter for continued dialogue. Have the students think of questions they can ask their dad or grandpa.
3. Show the five sections:
 - Greeting and Questions
 - Reason
 - Story
 - Update
 - 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 student through the following steps. There are samples in italics.

4. Begin by writing the date on the first line on the right side of the page.
5. Skip a line.
6. Write the greeting on the 3rd line, left side (Dear Dad,).
7. Skip a line.



8. In your own words, write a greeting:

“Hello! How are you?” “How have you been?” “How’s it going?” etc.

9. Write 1-3 questions.

What’s your favorite breakfast? How fast do you drive? Do you like to watch movies or read books more?

10. Write the purpose of the letter and why your dad or grandpa is important to you.

For example:

“I wanted to write a letter to wish you a Happy Father’s Day!” You’re the best dad. You make me laugh. You like baseball as much as I do.”

11. Write a short story about a time you were with your dad or grandpa.

“Do you remember when...? It made me laugh so hard...”

12. Write an update about yourself.

Dad, did you know that I can do a handstand for 5 seconds now? Etc.

OR

Dad, did you know that I tried your spicy chips and like them! Etc.

13. Write the conclusion that thanks your dad and/or wishes your dad or grandpa well.

Thank you for taking time to give me hugs and wrestling when you get home. I know you work hard and feel tired sometimes. I hope you have a great Father’s Day!

14. Write the salutation UNDER the body of the letter and centered.

Your Friend, Your Buddy, Your Neighbor, Your Daughter, Your Cousin, etc.

15. Write your name UNDER the salutation.