

FAMILY PACKET

Family Packet, Grade 3, Cluster PREPARE, Module 4: Choose, Justify, Draft, Revise, and Share

This packet gives your family a short, friendly view of this week's learning. Read it together, talk about the new words, and ask your student to teach the thinking tool aloud.

Every page is written for families.

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Ask your student to teach you what they learned. Explaining it aloud helps the learning stick.

Inside this packet

1 Family Letter

A note from the classroom about this week's learning.

2 Family Tip Sheet

The skill and standard in plain words.

3 Key Words

New words with meanings and examples.

4 Our Thinking Tool

The tool your student uses.

5 Conversation Starters and a Family Activity

Simple questions and activities.

6 What Strong Work Looks Like

A short model and a checklist.

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A checklist to sign and return.

1 Family Letter

Dear Families,

This week your student completes the PREPARE Cluster. Prepared writers decide what their writing needs to do, name the topic, purpose, and audience, choose and justify a genre, plan, draft, revise, edit, and share their reasoning. We are reading *The Recess Question*, about Beth, Lily, and their class considering whether recess should be longer. Your student uses TRAILS to develop a narrative with setting, relationships, actions and thoughts, an important moment, and a lasting effect. Invite your student to tell a small moment as a story and explain why narrative fits the purpose.

With appreciation,

[Classroom teacher signature]

The Writing Academy, LLC

ASK FOR A DEMONSTRATION

Ask your student to teach the tool and explain why it works.

2 Family Tip Sheet

The skill in plain words

Complete the full prepared-writer process. Choose and justify a genre, plan, draft, revise, edit, share, and explain the reasoning.

The standard in plain words

Your student applies planning and narrative craft to a complete piece and explains deliberate choices. These ideas connect to 3.11A(i), 3.11C(i), 3.11D, 3.12A(i), and 3.12A(ii).

How to help without giving the answer

- Ask your student to explain the tool in their own words.
- Ask for a reason and proof from the text or work.
- Listen first. Let your student make the writing decisions.
- If your student is stuck, ask which part of the tool could help.

3 Key Words

justify

to give a clear reason for a choice

Example. I justify why I chose narrative.

draft

the first version of a piece of writing

Example. The draft can change.

revise

to improve ideas, details, or organization

Example. I revise to make the moment clearer.

edit

to correct sentences and conventions

Example. I edit capitals and punctuation.

share

to present the work to a reader or listener

Example. I share an author's decision.

TRAILS

a checklist for developing a narrative

Example. TRAILS guides my draft.

Reading tip. Pause at a new word and use the sentence to make a guess before explaining the meaning.

4 Our Thinking Tool

The prepared-writer path is Topic, Purpose, Audience, Genre, Plan, Draft, Revise, Edit, Share. Use TRAILS during planning and revision to check the narrative experience.

Mini version to use at home

Try it together

Read this week's question or task. Ask your student to name the topic, the action, and the information they need to use.

Family prompt. The student should explain how each part of the tool helps answer the task.

TRACKS In informational texts, TRACKS can help find details. It means Time, Reactions, Actions, Character or Concept, Key Knowledge, and Scenery or Setting.

5 Conversation Starters and a Simple Family Activity

- What writing job did you choose?
- How did you justify the genre?
- What changed between the draft and the revision?
- Which TRAILS part made the reader experience the moment?

Author Talk

Ask your student to name the writing job, genre, and planning route, then give one reason for each.

Share the Moment

Listen to a small narrative and ask which detail, revision, or ending helped the story do its job.

6 What Strong Work Looks Like

This model shows the decisions a writer should make.

Prompt. Author explanation. Why does narrative fit this writing job?

Strong work

Narrative fits because my purpose is to let readers experience Beth's changing thinking. I planned the class setting, showed her actions and thoughts, slowed the moment when she heard Lily's idea, and ended with Beth carrying a new understanding into the vote.

Checklist for strong work

- ☐ choose and justify a genre
- ☐ show a visible plan
- ☐ draft a complete narrative
- ☐ revise for a purposeful craft choice
- ☐ edit and explain the finished work

7 Progress at Home

My student can...

- ☐ choose and justify a genre
- ☐ show a visible plan
- ☐ draft a complete narrative
- ☐ revise for a purposeful craft choice
- ☐ edit and explain the finished work

Student name

Family signature

Date

Please sign and send this page back to school with your student.