

In Common: Effective Writing for All Students
Collection of All Student Work Samples, K-12

By The Vermont Writing Collaborative, with Student Achievement Partners and CCSSO

Third Grade
Range of Writing Opinion Writing Samples

File Name: O3R School Year Time

Opinion/Argument

Grade 3

Range of Writing

States an opinion

School Year Time

I do not think school should be year round. Do you think school should be year round? Without summer vacation students would not be able to go on family vacations. If a student wanted to go to a sleepaway camp they would not be able to do it. At camp you learn how to do things on your own. If school was year round older siblings would not have time to teach younger siblings how to swing or climb trees. Teachers would also not have time for vacation. Eaven if you are not at school you can still lirn things. Teachers cal also lirn things outside of school. Kids need to get thieir energy out. They can get it out by doing big races. In summer it is very hot indoors and children wuold be thinking about outside and not school. Children usoally like warm or hot weather. I know that towards the end of the year I look forwards to summer vacation and I think other children do to. If a student wants to learn more things in the summer, they can take classes about that subject. I do not think school needs to be year round!

Introduces the topic

Provides reasons that support the opinion

Uses linking words and phrases to connect opinion and reasons

Creates an organizational structure that lists reasons

Provides a concluding statement

In this third-grade piece, the writer supports a point of view with reasons. The topic is introduced with a question (“*Do you think school should be year round?*”) and a clearly stated opinion (“*I do not think school should be year round.*”). Reasons for the opinion are loosely organized; they could be arranged in any order within the piece. Although the reasoning is “listy”, some points are explained and elaborated upon (“*If a student wanted to go to a sleepaway camp they would not be able to do it. At camp you learn how to do things on your own.*”). The student is beginning to use linking words and phrases to connect opinion and reason (“*If school was year round older siblings would not have time to teach younger siblings how to swing or climb trees*”), but the argument would be more effective if linking words and phrases were used more frequently. A concluding statement (“*I do not think school needs to be year round!*”) clearly restates the focus of the piece.

File Name: O3R School Year Time

Opinion/Argument

Grade 3

Revised and Edited for Student Use

School Year Time

I do not think school should be year round. Do you think school should be year round?

Without summer vacation, students would not be able to go on family vacations. If a student wanted to go to a sleep away camp, they would not be able to do it. At camp you learn how to do things on your own. If school was year round, older siblings would not have time to teach younger siblings how to swing or climb trees. Teachers would also not have time for vacation. Even if you are not at school, you can still learn things. Teachers can also learn things outside of school.

Kids need to get their energy out. They can get it out by doing big races. In summer it is very hot indoors and children would be thinking about outside, and not school. Children usually like warm or hot weather.

I know that towards the end of the year, I look forward to summer vacation and I think other children do too! If a student wants to learn more things in the summer, they can take classes about that subject. I do not think school needs to be year round!

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Opinion/Argument

Grade 3

Range of Writing

School Year Time

I do not think school should be year round. Do you think school should be year round? Without summer vacation students would not be able to go on family vacations. If a student wanted to go to a sleepaway camp they would not be able to do it. At camp you learn how to do things on your own. If school was year round older siblings would not have time to teach younger siblings how to swing or climb trees. Teachers would also not have time for vacation. Eeven if you are not at school you can still lirn things. Teachers cal also lirn things outside of school. Kids need to get thier energy out. They can get it out by doing big races. In summer it is very hot indoors and children wuold be thinking about outside and not school. Children usoally like warm or hot weather. I know that towards the end of the year I look forwards to summer vacation and I think other children do to.

If a student wants to learn more things in the summer they can take classes about that subject. I do not think school needs to be year round!

File Name: O3R Chuke Cheese's

Opinion/Argument

Grade 3

Range of Writing

Chuke Cheese's

Once a year my family goes to Chuke Cheese's. It's a popular place.

Introduces the topic

Chuke Cheese's is a nice place to go because of the tasty food and the awesome arcade.

States an opinion

Chuke Cheese's food is excellent! Thier peporoini pizza is mouth watering. The salads are great with diced tomatoes. The selections of veggies are endless and very good. The macoroni has a special ingredient in it. Well it seems it. The food is scrumpshish at Chuke Cheese's.

Provides reasons and details that support the opinion

While your waiting for your food, the arcade makes time fly. You have to by coins which each arcade game is only 1 coin. And if you do good you get lots of tickets to buy fun stuff. So it's not wasting your money parents! The motor games such as: The: Snowmobile, four wheeler, motor cycle, car and many more are great. The arcade is great while waiting for your food.

Creates an organizational structure that lists reasons

Chuke Cheese's is bad for you but is great. I wish I could go there every day! Oh well it's fun going to Chuke Cheese's because of the extraordinary food and spectacular arcade. I can't wait to win some more prizes next year at Chuke Cheese's.

Uses linking words and phrases to connect opinion and reasons, and reasons to details

Provides a concluding section

This third-grade opinion piece, based on personal experience, states an opinion (“*Chuke Cheese's is a nice place to go*”) and supports that opinion with reasons (“*because of the tasty food and the awesome arcade*”) and details (“*Thier peporoini pizza is mouth watering.*”). The writer has created an organizational structure—one paragraph for each reason—that explains each reason with supporting details (“*The selections of veggies are endless*”, “*the arcade makes time fly*”). Linking words and phrases (“*and*”, “*so*”, “*but*”, “*because*”) connect opinion to reasons and reasons to details. Although not required by the Standard, the writer even acknowledges a possible counterclaim (“*Chuke Cheese's is bad for you*”). The piece concludes by clearly restating opinion and reasons.

File Name: O3R Chuke Cheese's

Opinion/Argument

Grade 3

Revised and Edited for Student Use

Chuck E. Cheese's

Once a year, my family goes to Chuck E. Cheese's. It's a popular place. Chuck E. Cheese's is a nice place to go because of the tasty food and the awesome arcade.

Chuck E. Cheese's food is excellent! Their pepperoni pizza is mouthwatering. The salads are great, with diced tomatoes. The selection of veggies is endless and very good. The macaroni has a special ingredient in it. Well, it seems to. The food is scrumptious at Chuck E. Cheese's.

While you're waiting for your food, the arcade makes time fly. You have to buy coins, and each arcade game is only 1 coin. And if you do well, you get lots of tickets to buy fun stuff. So it's not wasting your money, parents! The motor games, such as the snowmobile, four-wheeler, motorcycle, car, and many more, are great. The arcade is great while waiting for your food.

Chuck E. Cheese's is bad for you but is great. I wish I could go there every day! Oh well. It's fun going to Chuck E. Cheese's because of the extraordinary food and spectacular arcade. I can't wait to win some more prizes next year at Chuck E. Cheese's.

File Name: O3R Chuke Cheese's

Opinion/Argument

Grade 3

Range of Writing

Chuke Cheese's

Once a year my family goes to Chuke Cheese's. It's a popular place.

Chuke Cheese's is a nice place to go because of the tasty food and the awesome arcade.

Chuke Cheese's food is excellent! Thier peporoini pizza is mouth watering. The salads are great with diced tomatoes. The selections of veggies are endless and very good. The macoroni has a special ingredient in it. Well it seems it. The food is srumpshish at Chuke Cheese's.

While your waiting for your food the arcade makes time fly. You have to by coins which each arcade game is only 1 coin. And if you do good you get lots of tickets to buy fun stuff. So it's not waisting your money parents! The motor games such as: The: Snowmobile, four wheeler, motor cycle, car and many more are great. The arcade is great while waiting for your food.

Chuke Cheese's is bad for you but is great. I wish I could go there every day! Oh well it's fun going to Chuke Cheese's because of the extraordinary food and spectacular arcade. I can't wait to win some more prizes next year at Chuke Cheese's.