

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

Kindergarten On-Demand Opinion Writing Samples

Grade K, Prompt for Opinion Writing

Common Core Standard W.CCR.1

(Passage should be read aloud by the teacher)

Bob and his friend Ann don't agree on which pet is best. Listen to find out what they each think.

The Best Pet

My friend Ann says her pet is better than mine! I have a brown cat named Fluffy. Ann has a black and white dog named Spot. We each think our pet is the best.

I told Ann that cats are better pets because they are clean, quiet and very cute. Cats wash themselves with their tongues. You don't have to walk them. They use a litter box. Also, cats are sweet and quiet. I think dogs are too noisy! They bark a lot. They don't clean themselves or use a litter box. Dogs need someone to give them baths, train them and walk them. Dogs are more work.

Ann says that cats are no fun! She says that dogs are better to play with. Spot always wags his tail when he sees her. He can even do tricks. He barks when she says, "Speak". He knows how to roll over! Ann says dogs are also better because they protect their owners. Spot always barks when there is someone at the door. It makes Ann feel safe. So, Ann thinks dogs are best.

I guess Ann's dog is pretty cool, but so is Fluffy. Maybe different kinds of pets are good for different people.

Teacher Directions to Students (after reading):

- What do you think? Which pet is best—a cat or a dog?

- Turn and talk to a partner about which pet you chose. Be sure to tell your partner WHY you picked that pet.

Allow about 3 minutes for students to discuss their choices.

- Now, use this paper to draw a picture of the pet you chose. I will help you write words under your picture to tell more about your choice.

Kindergarten Opinion Prompt

Teacher Directions

- Read the story, present the question, and allow a few minutes for discussion with a partner. Give out lined or unlined paper. Then, use your typical classroom writing process to support students in completing the writing prompt. The piece should represent first draft writing (done in a single sitting).
- The response should include a picture and whatever sentences, words, or letters the child can add. An adult may assist with sounding out or spelling words and/or transcribe the child's words if desired.
- Please distinguish the child's independent production from words or letters produced with adult help by **underlining any part of the writing done with teacher support**. The writing sample will be most useful to other teachers if it is easy to tell where help was given.
- We understand that, especially in the fall, most Kindergartners have had limited experience with writing.

File Name: OKFP The Best Pet

Opinion/Argument

Kindergarten, Fall

On-Demand Writing- Uniform Prompt

The Best Pet

MKIECYKDBbD

*I like my cat because they are better than dogs.**

**dictated response*

Tells the reader the topic he or she is writing about and states an opinion or preference about the topic

In this Kindergarten opinion piece, done in the early fall, the student shows a basic awareness that what we say can be written down. Early in the Kindergarten year, specific letter/sound association has typically not yet developed, yet the above type of experimentation with writing plays a crucial role in the development of written language

File Name: OKFP The Best Pet

Opinion/Argument

Kindergarten, Fall

Revised and Edited for Student Use

The Best Pet

I like cats because they are better than dogs.*

**dictated response*

File Name: OKFP The Best Pet

Opinion/Argument

Kindergarten, Fall

On Demand Writing- Uniform Prompt

The Best Pet

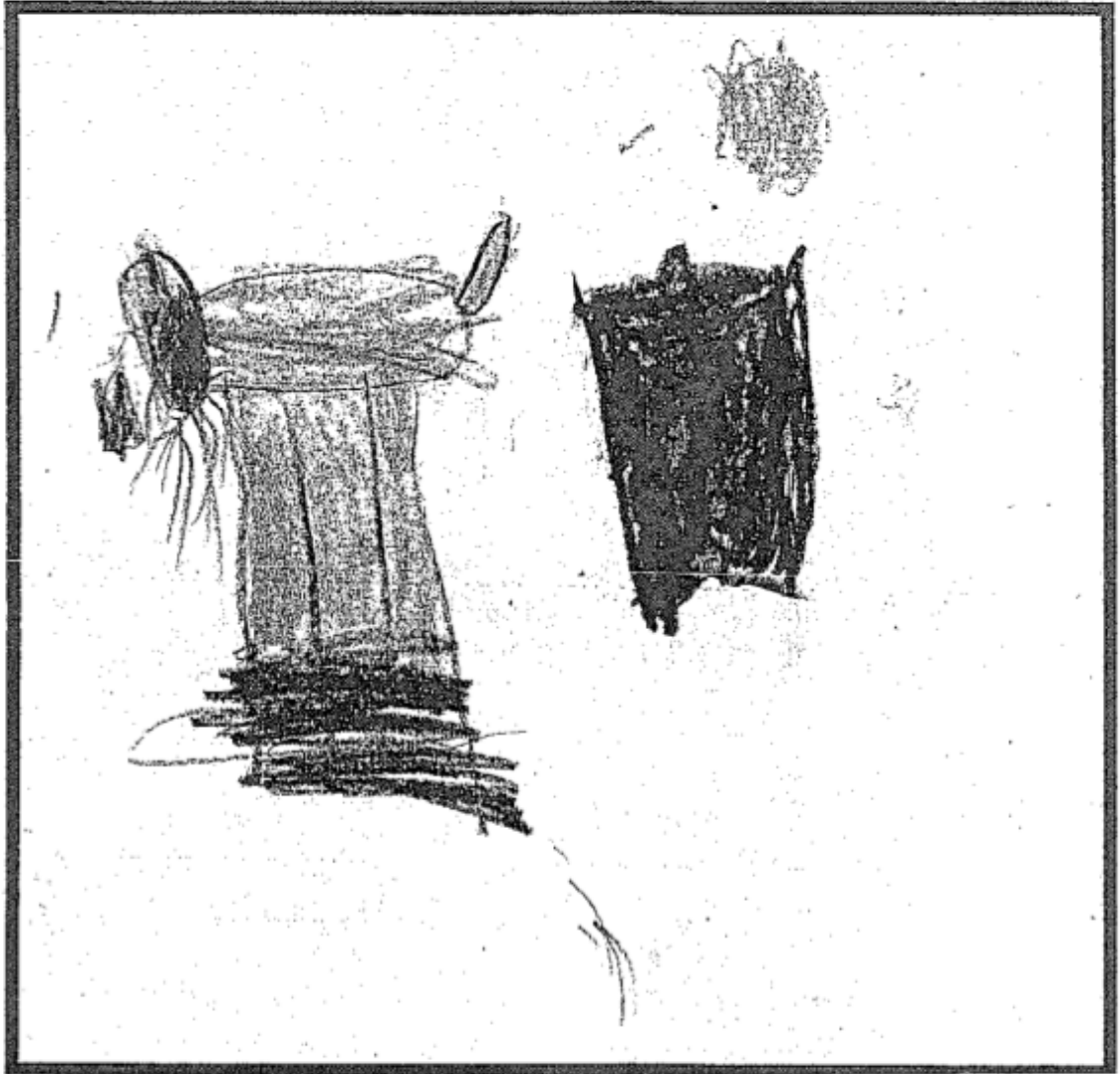
MKIECYKDBbD

*I like my cat because they are better than dogs.**

**dictated response*

AKTECKK DPLD

"I like my cat because they are better
than dogs."



File Name: OKSP The Best Pet

Opinion/Argument

Kindergarten, Spring

On Demand Writing- Uniform Prompt

Dog is the Bst Becs thea BuRc.

Tells the reader the topic he or she is writing about and states an opinion or preference about the topic

In this Kindergarten piece, done in the spring, the student shows a growing understanding of the sounds in words and the letters that represent those sounds. The writer names a topic and clearly expresses an opinion. Although not required by the standards, this writer also gives a reason for the opinion (*Becs thea BuRc*) , laying the foundation for the more complex opinion pieces he will write in first grade.

File Name: OKSP The Best Pet

Opinion/Argument

Kindergarten, Spring

Revised and Edited for student use

Dogs are the best because they bark.

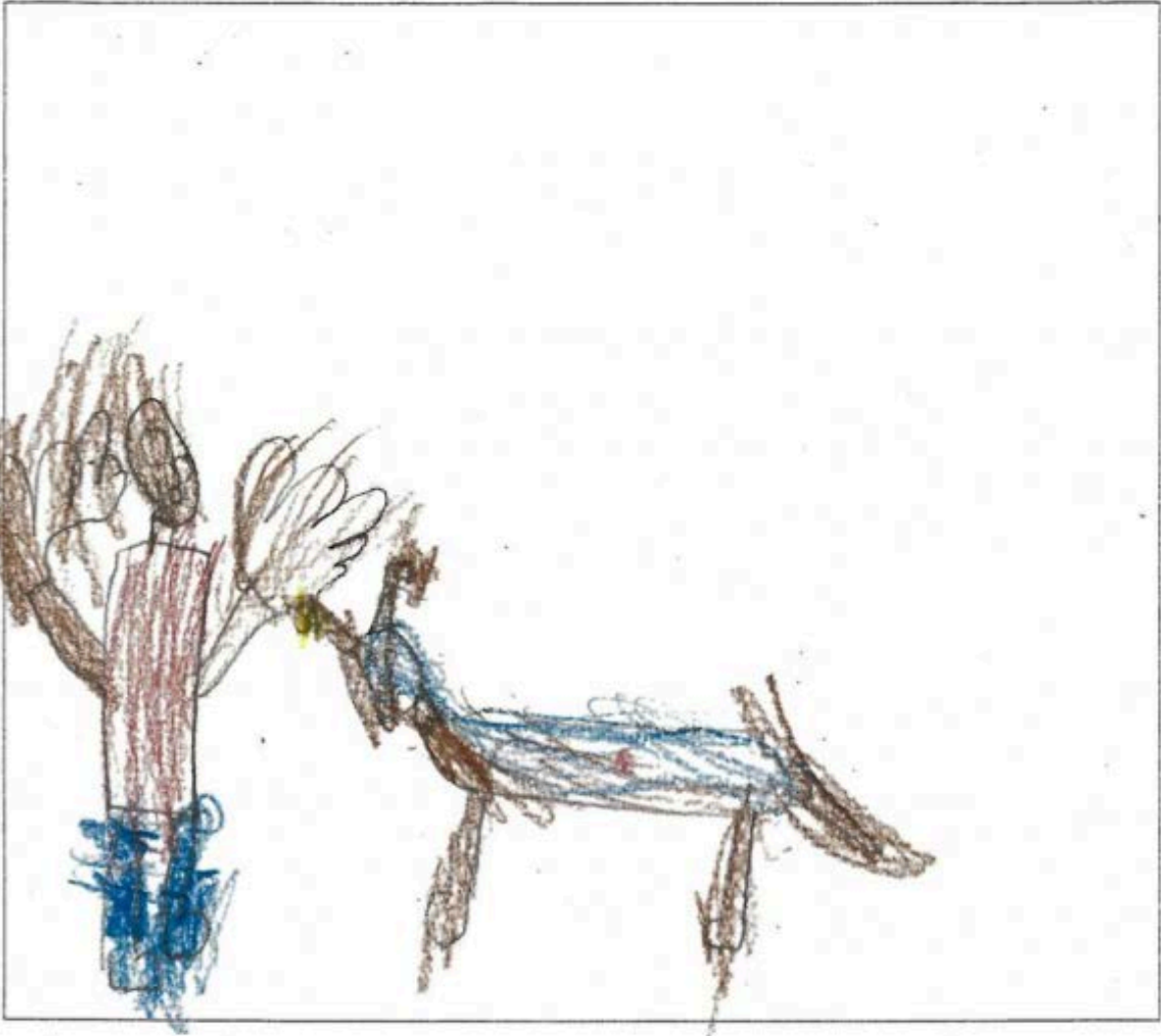
File Name: OKSP The Best Pet

Opinion/Argument

Kindergarten, Spring

On Demand Writing- Uniform Prompt

Dog is the Bst Becs thea BuRc.



Dog is the BEST BECS
 THE PURR.

Dog is the best because they bark