

How-To Projects

Students have been exploring how-to articles, which are informative articles that tell the reader how to make or do something. How-to articles are written in paragraph form (i.e. not a list of steps 1-5, but a paragraph).

The 5th grade How-To Project will consist of 2 parts:

1. Written How-To article
2. In-class Presentation (includes props & index note cards)

Most of the work for the written How-To article is done in class. First, students brainstorm things they do well, things they can make, and things they do indoors & outdoors. This helps them to narrow their scope for a How-To Project topic. Once students have picked a topic, they can begin writing *in detail* the steps necessary to make/do their topic. Students should put their steps in a logical order to avoid confusing the reader. The students' descriptive paragraphs should include a clear purpose for the topic, as well as detailed, accurate and complete instructions, and a summarizing conclusion.

The second part of the How-To Project will be an in-class presentation. The students will present their how-to topics and show their classmates how to make/do something. Students are encouraged to use props for this presentation, and should also have written index cards to remind them of the steps/main points of their presentation. In class I gave the example of how to give a dog a bath. If that were the topic, the presenter could bring in a stuffed dog, a dog shampoo bottle, and a bucket/basin as props to help them show their classmates how to give a dog a bath. Presentations should be about 5-7 minutes per student (capped at 10).

All How-To Projects (written articles, props & index cards) are due:

Tuesday, 2/7

In-class presentations will be:

Tuesday 2/7 - Friday 2/10