

# Informative Writing

## Informative Writing

There are different types of informative pieces.

- All About Books
- Articles
- How-To Pieces
- Biographies
- Explanatory Pieces

### 3 Parts to an Informative Piece

#### Introduction to Topic

Author tells the reader what topic or book they will be discussing.  
Introduction should catch the reader's attention.

#### Body- Facts and Details

Author supplies facts to give further information about topic or text.  
Each fact is supported with details.

#### Closure

Author wraps up the informative writing piece.  
Sometimes will give a action or ask a question.

## Organizing My Facts

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Complete the informative writing graphic organizer.

Topic: \_\_\_\_\_

Related Info.:

Related Info.:

Facts and Details to Include:

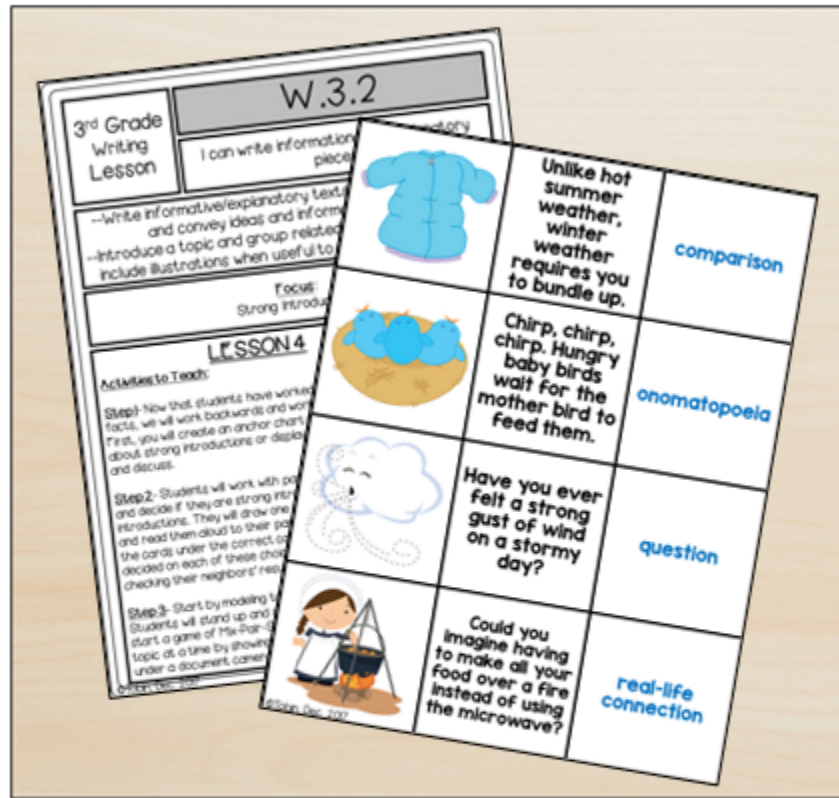
Facts and Details to Include:

Do you know where bears go in the winter? I do! They go into dens and caves. In the winter time, bears are one of the animals that hibernate. Hibernating means to sleep long lengths of time, usually through the cold winter. Bears find a warm den or cave to hibernate in. This warmth helps them survive the freezing cold temperatures. Bear hibernation will end when the weather begins to warm up again. Can you think of any other animals that may hibernate in the winter?

## How-To Words

First...  
Next...  
Then...  
After that...  
Last...  
Finally...

# What Teachers Say



"I absolutely loved this unit for my third graders. I love how it breaks apart all the parts of writing along with the activities. My kids also found it very engaging!"

"This was a great resource for teaching informative writing to 3rd graders! The activities are great and engaging! The students love them! It breaks down information for them to understand and use. So glad I purchased this! Thank you!"

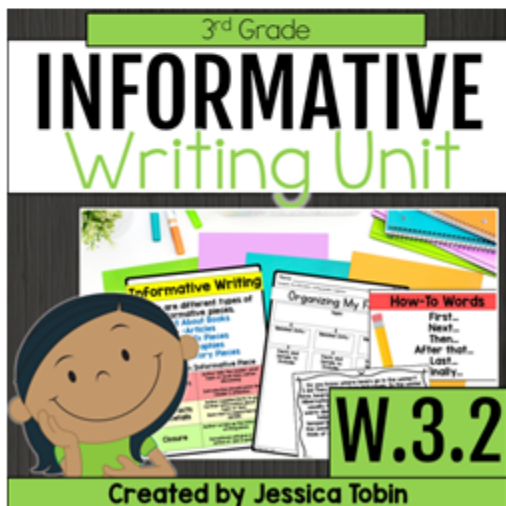
"My students loved this highly engaging resource. The lessons were clear, well organized, and targeted to specific skills. It is aligned to standards, easy to incorporate into the curriculum, and requires minimal prep time."

# W.3.2

This ELA unit provides resources to use while teaching the standard **W.3.2**, which states that students will be able to

**“Write**

**informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.”**



## Using This Unit

Let's look at the structure of this unit.

### Lessons

- There are 12 lessons in this unit. These lessons will likely take more than one day to complete, so you can break them up over the course of one to three days. It all depends on how much time you have for writing. I suggest at least 10-15 minutes for your daily lesson, then 15-20+ minutes for practice time.

### Prompts

- These can be used throughout the unit as you see fit. They can be incorporated into daily writing, morning work, or used throughout the school year as cyclical practice.

### Graphic Organizers

- These can be used throughout the unit as you see fit, too. You can use them with your lessons if you need more or use them within your independent practice time.

### Writing Papers

- There are primary lined and regular lined paper. You can choose the paper you like best. Each one has THREE options: one with a large picture, one with a small picture, and one with no picture option.

### Assessments

- There is a student self-assessment included as well as a teacher rubric to use. Have the student complete the self-assessment before conferring about their pieces.

# Mini Lessons

There are 9 mini lessons within this unit, plus 3 guided review lessons. These may take between 2 to 3 days to complete, depending on how long your ELA block is. Activities range from group work, partner activities, whole group lessons, and independent activities. **Here is a close-up of Lesson #1 + materials!**

**3rd Grade Writing Lesson** W.3.2  
I can write informational or explanatory pieces.  
--Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.

**W.3.2 lesson 1 Continued**

**Informative Writing**  
There are different types of informative pieces.  
-All About Books  
-Articles  
-How-To Pieces  
-Biographies  
-Explanatory Pieces  
3 Parts to an Informative Piece

<b>Introduction to Topic</b>	Author tells the reader what topic or book they will be discussing. Introduction should catch the reader's attention.
<b>Body- Facts and Details</b>	Author supplies facts to give further information about the topic or text. Each fact is supported with details.
<b>Closure</b>	Author wraps up the informative writing piece. Sometimes will give a call to action or ask a question.

**Suggested Mentor Texts**  
FOCUS: INFORMATIVE WRITING

Hippos are Huge! By: Jonathan London	The Honey Makers By: Gail Gibbons
What If You Had Animal...? Series By: Sandra Markle	What Makes a Magnet? By: Franklyn Branley
How to Teach a Slug to Read By: Susan Pearson	What is the World Made Of? By: Kathleen W. Zoehfeld
I am Helen Keller By: Brad Meltzer	National Geographic Kids Series By: Various Authors
The Bicycle Book By: Gail Gibbons	What is the Moon Like? By: Franklyn Branley

**Informative Writing Pieces**

**How-To Piece**

**All-About Book**

**Informative Article**

**Biography**

If you haven't been ice fishing, is this something you're now interested in? **conc.**

How do you feel about this precipitation? **conc.**

Now, I'll guarantee you know why the 16th President is, and why he was important. **conc.**

background of a young boy's backyard celebrating the Chinese New Year. The New Year is a holiday that celebrates the beginning of a new year. This holiday begins on a different day each year. This is because it is based off the lunar cycle. For this holiday, people celebrate by having dragon dances, parades, fireworks, and Lantern Festivals. Many of these activities are meant to bring good luck and fortune. I urge you to learn more about this holiday tradition.

**Stand Up- Hand Up- Pair Up Question 1:**  
Why are conclusions important in an informative piece?

**Stand Up- Hand Up- Pair Up Question 2:**  
Why does the author need to supply facts?

# Mini Lessons (cont.)

Here's a quick glance at Mini Lessons #2, 3, and 4.

**3rd Grade Writing Lesson**

**W.3.2**

I can write informational or expository pieces.

Write informational/expository texts to explain and convey ideas and information clearly. Develop the topic with facts, definitions, and

**LESSON 2**

Focus: Strong Facts, Definitions, & Details

Step 1: Students will participate in a "Share a Fact" game. They will stand up, drop the coin, and if it lands with the head side up, they will share a fact. If it lands with the tail side up, they will share a definition. They will then share a fact or definition to a partner.

**W.3.2 Lesson 2 Continued**

Step 2: Students will participate in a "Share a Fact" game. They will stand up, drop the coin, and if it lands with the head side up, they will share a fact. If it lands with the tail side up, they will share a definition. They will then share a fact or definition to a partner.

**Things I Can**

Animals:

Holidays:

Places:

**My Fact Map**

Fact/Definition: \_\_\_\_\_

Topic: \_\_\_\_\_

**W.3.2**

Ready? Identify...  
-a definition  
-a strong fact  
-supporting detail

**Ready? Identify...  
-a definition  
-a strong fact  
-supporting detail**

**Categories**

purpose for structure  
-predatory diet  
-savannah habitat

diet of animals  
-spotted fur

job they do  
-who they help

**Introduction**

In informative writing, introductions are very important.

They can:  
-introduce reader to topic  
-introduce reader to text

Sentence comes before you begin to give facts.

**Fact Writing**

the bald eagle

nest protection

Eagles build their nests at top of tall trees to keep their eggs safe. These are called aeries.

heat energy

man-made

**W.3.2 Lesson 3 Continued**

Step 1: Students will participate in a "Share a Fact" game. They will stand up, drop the coin, and if it lands with the head side up, they will share a fact. If it lands with the tail side up, they will share a definition. They will then share a fact or definition to a partner.

**W.3.2 Lesson 4 Continued**

Step 1: Students will participate in a "Share a Fact" game. They will stand up, drop the coin, and if it lands with the head side up, they will share a fact. If it lands with the tail side up, they will share a definition. They will then share a fact or definition to a partner.

**Organizing Facts**

Figures:

School buses:

**W.3.2**

3rd Grade Writing Lesson

I can write informational or expository pieces.

Write informational/expository texts to explain and convey ideas and information clearly. Include illustrations when useful to adding to

Focus: Strong Introductions

**Writing Introductions**

Unk sum weo wip wep requt to bur

Chirp chirp baby waf if mother feed

Have y felt a gust of on a d

Can imagine to make food ov instead of using the microwave?

**Introduction**

**Strong Introduction**

**Introduction**

**Whoosh!** The sound of waves crashing is music to some people's ears.

I know a few fact tractors.

Let me tell you ab

Have you ever he paleontologist? Let you about these s

Tigers are cool. He

Over 70% of the wo up of oceans. Let's what's in these vas

**Queen Elizabeth**

how they save lives

different types of shots

how they save lives

different types of shots

**INTRODUCTIONS**

**W.3.2**

3rd Grade Writing Lesson

I can write informational or expository pieces.

Write informational/expository texts to explain and convey ideas and information clearly. Include illustrations when useful to adding to

Focus: Strong Introductions

**Writing Introductions**

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# Practice Lessons

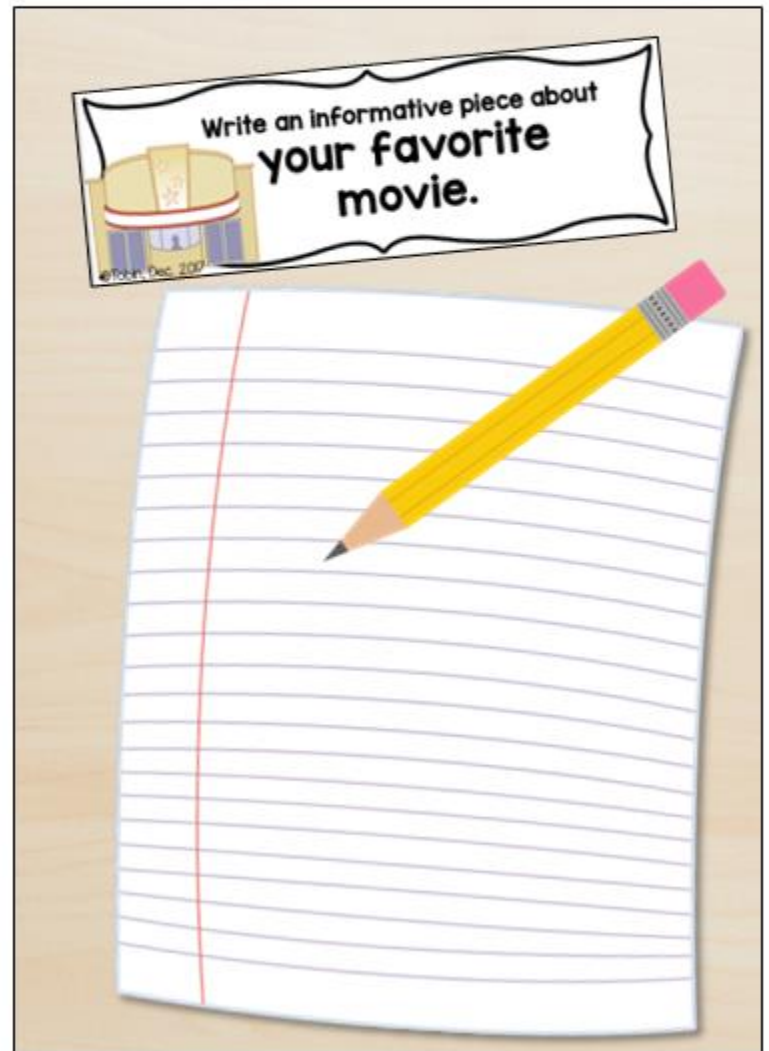
Here's a quick glance at Mini Lessons #10-12, which are review mini lessons. After the scaffolded lesson plans, there are extra mini lessons that gives students a guided practice through their writing. The teacher will guide them through a mini lesson including a review, prewrite, and drafting.

The collage features several overlapping documents:

- Prompt #1:** A yellow banner with a picture of a landscape and a boat. Below it, a worksheet titled "Informative Writing" with a table of writing types: "All About Books", "Articles", "How-To Pieces", and "Biographies".
- Prompt #2:** A yellow banner with the text "Write a how-to piece about building a snowman".
- Organizing My Facts:** A graphic organizer with a central box for "Topic" and three boxes for "Related Info." and "Facts and Details to Include".
- All About My Favorite Holiday:** A worksheet with a table for "Topic Introduction", "Fact", and "Closure".
- 3 Parts to an Informative Piece:** A table with three columns: "Introduction to Topic", "Body- Facts and Details", and "Closure".
- My Habitat Facts:** A worksheet with a table for "Fact #1" and "Fact #2".
- How-To Build a Snowman:** A worksheet with a table for "Notes" and "Steps".
- Informative Writing:** A worksheet with a table for "Introduction/ Hook", "Step 1", "Step 2", "Step 3", "Step 4", and "Conclusion".
- 3rd Grade Writing Lesson:** Multiple copies of a lesson plan for W.3.2, including a table of writing types and a list of steps.

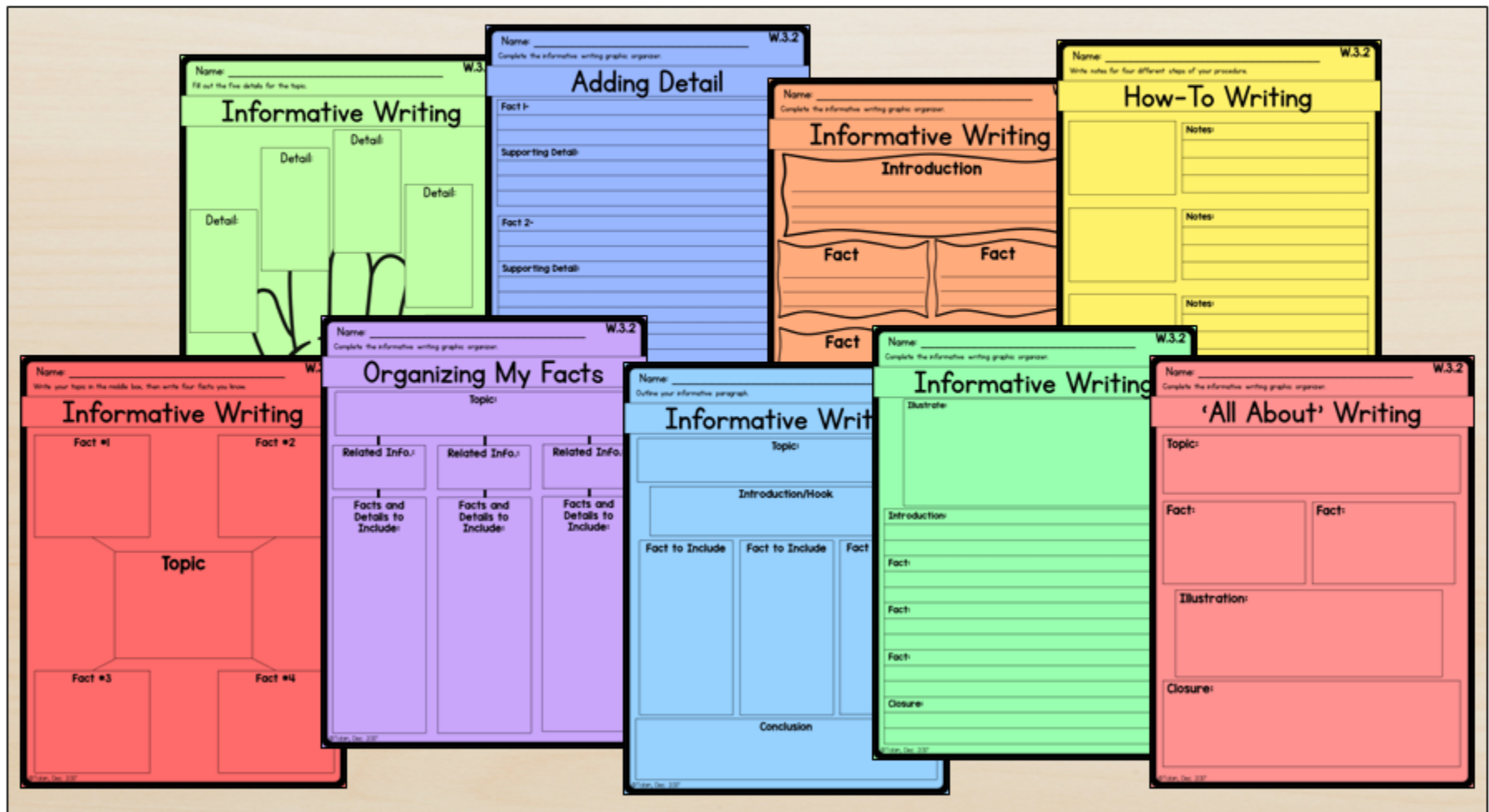
# Extra Prompts

You're also provided with **prompts** that will help give students practice.



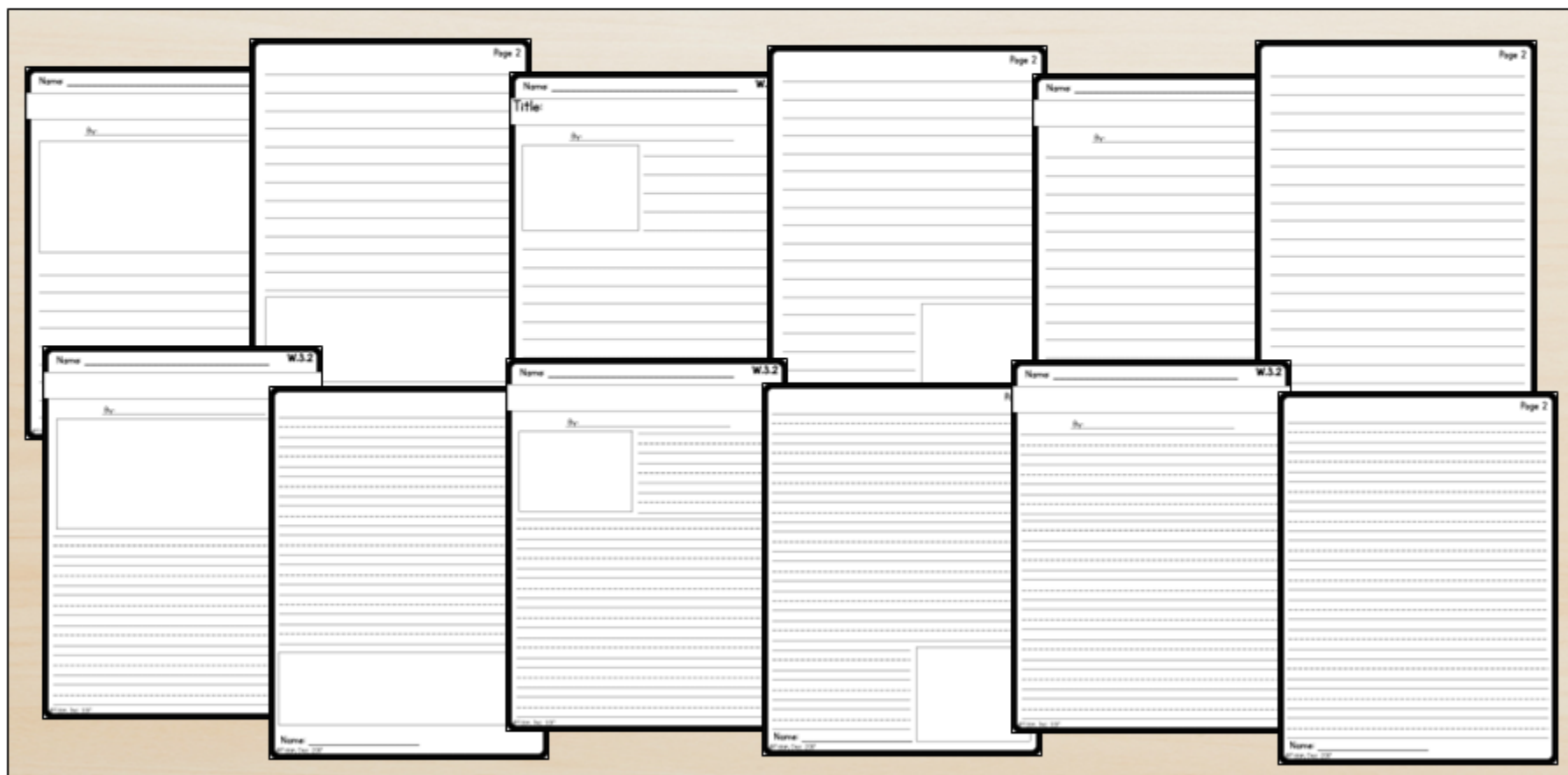
# Graphic Organizers

You're also provided with **graphic organizers** that you can pull from and use for any narrative writing activity.



# Extra Writing Papers

You're also provided with **writing papers** that you can pull from and use for any narrative writing activity. It includes primary writing lines, plus three options of illustration box sizes.





# Digital Additions

4 pieces of this writing unit have been converted into digital options. The passages and graphic organizers now come in Google Slides.

- Graphic organizers
- Self-assessment
- Prompts
- Writing papers

