



Going on a Field Trip

Grade level: Grade 5

Return to:

NIEW Liaison _____

by (date) _____

Challenge: Imagine your class is going on a one-day field trip in Pennsylvania. Write several paragraphs telling your classmates why they should vote for your choice. Be sure your essay not only tells readers about the place but why it would be a good choice for a field trip. What could you learn there?

Organize your ideas carefully. Use precise words and provide several reasons why your choice would be best. Support your reasons with details. Edit carefully for spelling, grammar and punctuation.

Common Core Standards: CC.1.4.5G Write opinion pieces on topics or texts. CC.1.4.5.H Introduce the topic and state an opinion on the topic. CC.1.4.5.I Provide reasons that are supported by facts and details; draw from credible sources. CC.1.4.5.J Create an organizational structure that includes related ideas grouped to support the writer's purpose; link opinion and reasons using words, phrases, and clauses; provide a concluding statement or section related to the opinion. Write with an awareness of style. • Use sentences of varying length. • Expand, combine, and reduce sentences for meaning, reader/listener interest, and style.

Notes to the Teacher: This information is for teacher use and is NOT part of the contest.

Point out to students that this can be a place they have visited or one they only heard about. Discuss where you can learn, not just places such as museums but natural sites, engineering wonders (bridges, etc.), workplaces or artistic performances/displays. Brainstorm different places in the state, using the Internet or brochures you request from the PA Tourism Board, so students become aware of the wide variety of places they can choose from.

Talk about things you've been learning in different classes throughout the year to make the link between learning inside and outside of the classroom. Stress that their essay must include both descriptive details about the place they choose and what the class would learn during their visit.

Limit: One entry per student, with a suggested range of 100 to 300 words.

Preparation of entries: Entries should be typed, printed, or written on an 8½ x 11 inch paper. All entries must be legible. The following information must be provided on the back of each entry: student's name, age, grade, school, teacher, **word count**, and the name of the NIEW liaison handling the contest.

Criteria: Judges will consider both the content and the quality of writing. Entries should be appropriate to fit the guidelines above. Judges will expect to see organization; topic sentence and development; appropriate style; and conventions of language.

Awards: First-place winner will receive a check for \$30; second-place, \$20; third-place, \$10. These three winning entries will be reproduced in the Design-an-Ad supplement in the Tuesday, March 7, issue of The Republican-Herald.

Deadline: Entries must undergo preliminary judging at the school. Top entries must arrive at The Republican-Herald no later than Tuesday, January 10, to allow time for final judging and production work.