Fifth Grade Writing Prompts
How important is it to finish what you start?
What does it mean to be honest? Give one solid example of what honesty looks like.
What three qualities do you think are most important in a friend? Why?
Since fifth grade is the top grade in elementary school, should fifth graders get special privileges? If so, write in detail about one privilege you think they should get. If not, why not?
Vincent van Gogh said, “If you truly love nature, you will find beauty everywhere.” Describe one of your favorite places in nature in detail.
Are fifth graders old enough to babysit little kids? Why or why not?
Write about three qualities that make a good leader.
Should teachers assign homework? Why or why not?
Which is more important for success, skill or luck?
If you won the lottery, what would you do with the money?
What does it mean to be a good citizen?
Describe five rules for staying organized in school.
Describe 10 ways to show people you care about them.
Describe five ways to help your family at home.
Would you rather have lots of money or lots of friends? Explain your answer.
What’s your favorite story of all time? Retell the story in your own words.
Would you rather read fiction or nonfiction books? Why?
Write about someone who has encouraged you. What was the situation and how did they help you?
Imagine you wake up one morning and have the power to fly. Where would you go and what would you do?
What are you deathly afraid of?
What is one thing you are really good at? What kind of training did it take for you to become skilled?
If you were to devote time to a charity, which would it be? How would you help your chosen cause?
Why is it important to recycle?
Why is science important?
Why is math important?
Write about the most fascinating person in history you’ve learned about.
Write about a book series you love. Who is the author? What books are in the series? Who are the main characters? Describe what the series is about.
What keeps you going when you want to quit?
What’s the weirdest thing you’ve ever seen?
If you had five wishes (and couldn’t wish for more wishes or money), what would you wish for?
There’s an old saying: "Don’t judge a book by its cover." What does this mean? Give an example from your own life about a time you judged someone or something and later changed your opinion.
There’s an old saying: "Many hands make light work." What does this mean? Give an example from your own life about a time that you found this to be true.
Write a letter to a fourth grader about how to succeed in fifth grade.
Next year you will be going to middle school. What three things are you most looking forward to? What three things are you worried about?
How can you make a new student feel welcome? List at least five ideas.
One day you see a big kid bullying a little kid on the playground. What do you do?
A person who cannot see wants to know what you look like. Describe yourself in detail.
If you were principal for a week, what three things would you do?
What is something that you’ve never done that you would like to try?
Describe your dream vacation.
Describe your dream job.
Write a story that includes these five words: serious, ostrich, humongous, camper, and however.
What really pushes your buttons? (In other words, what really gets you fired up?)
Have you ever gotten lost?
Write about it in detail.
If you hosted an interview show on TV, who would you interview first and what would you ask them about?
Do you believe in the saying “There are no stupid questions”? Why or why not?
Write about your favorite place in the world.
Write about your favorite human in the world.
Many cultures celebrate special occasions with a feast. If you were the chef and were asked to prepare a feast, what would you serve?
Do you think screen time should be limited for fifth graders? Why or why not?
Imagine a conversation between two characters from different books or movies (example: Percy Jackson and Hermione Granger). Describe it.
What sport would you add to the Olympics? Explain why it deserves a spot.
Would you want to be president of the United States? Why or why not?
The best season of the year is _________ because ...
If you could be any famous person for a day, who would it be? What would you do?
Choose a fairy tale and retell it from the point of view of the villain (such as *Cinderella* told by the Wicked Stepmother).
If you could spend a year in another country, which one would you choose? What excites you about living there?
Describe a day in your life if you lived in a colony on Mars.
Combine the features of two different animals to make one new one. What would you call it? What would it look like?
What’s your earliest memory?
If you could travel in time, would you go to the past or the future? Where would you go?
Do you think kids should be allowed to vote in elections? Why or why not?
Write a news story to go with this headline: “Kid Digs Up Treasure in Their Own Backyard.”
Make an argument for why kids should be allowed to bring their pets to school.
Describe a day in the life of a penguin.
If you could change one thing about your school, what would it be?
If you were an animal, would you rather live in the wild or in a zoo? Why?
Imagine you wake up one day and find a mysterious new door in your house. Where does it lead to?
What has been your favorite year of school so far? What did you like about it?
Describe the perfect Saturday.
Write an advertisement for a toy, food, or product you love.
Describe the proudest moment of your life.
Would you rather be a mermaid or a dragon? Why?
Write a review of your favorite movie to convince other people to watch it.
Imagine you’re taking a new student on a tour of your school. What would you show them? What tips would you offer them?