



**RESEARCH ESSAY - POSITION STATEMENT**

<b>TEACHER:</b>	<b>SUBJECT:</b> English Language Arts: Reading, Writing
<b>TOPIC:</b> Read an informational article and use it to formulate an opinion to discuss in an essay.	<b>FORMAT:</b>

**COMMON CORE STANDARDS:**

- RI.6.1** Cite textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.
- RI.6.2** Analyze informational text development.
  - a. Determine a central idea of a text and how it is conveyed through particular details.
  - b. Provide an objective summary of the text that includes the central idea and relevant details.
- RI.6.3** Analyze in detail how a key individual, event, or idea is introduced, illustrated, and elaborated in a text (e.g., through examples or anecdotes).
- RI.6.6** Determine an author’s perspective or purpose in a text and explain how it is conveyed in the text.
- W.6.1** Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence.
  - a. Establish a thesis statement to present an argument.
  - b. Introduce claim(s) and organize the reasons and evidence clearly.
  - c. Support claim(s) with clear reasons and relevant evidence, using credible sources and demonstrating an understanding of the topic or text.
  - d. Use words, phrases, and clauses to clarify the relationships among claim(s) and reasons.
  - e. Establish and maintain a formal style.
  - f. Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from the argument presented.
- W.6.2** Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and analysis of relevant content.
  - a. Establish a thesis statement to present information.
  - b. Introduce a topic; organize ideas, concepts, and information, using strategies such as definition, classification, comparison/contrast, and cause/effect; include formatting (e.g., headings), graphics (e.g., charts, tables), and multimedia to aid comprehension, if needed.
  - c. Develop the topic with relevant facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples.
  - d. Use appropriate transitions to clarify the relationships among ideas and concepts.
  - e. Use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to inform about or explain the topic.
  - f. Establish and maintain a formal style.
  - g. Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from the information or explanation presented.
- W.6.4** Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
- W.6.7** Conduct short research projects to answer a question, drawing on several sources and refocusing the inquiry when appropriate.
- W.6.9** Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.

## ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS:

1. What are the benefits of natural play areas?

## I CAN STATEMENTS (LEARNING OBJECTIVES):

- I can identify the benefits of natural play areas
- I can use informational sources to support my opinion in an essay
- I can write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence.

## MATERIALS:

Natural play area article

## LINKS:

<https://childhoodbynature.com/the-big-deal-about-nature-playgrounds/>

## ACTIVITY:

Students will read an article about natural play areas and write a persuasive essay about how their school can benefit from adding a natural play feature to their schoolyard. With the article from the link, or document provided, students can learn the benefits of natural play areas. Students will include in the essay an opinion as to what type of natural play feature they would like added to their school property and use the article to supplement and provide support for their argument. There is potential opportunity for further research on the particular element the student has chosen, however this is up to the teacher's discretion.

## EVIDENCE OF ACTIVITY (WHAT TO TURN IN):

Students will submit completed essays.