



Narrative Memoir Writing

Dear Parents,

Our newest writing focus is on narrative stories. In third grade, students share stories from their own experiences by writing personal memoirs. The memoir is a collection of experiences that are connected with a repeating line. This strategy helps students firm up their paragraphing structures in preparation for creating multiple-paragraph essays. The narrative memoirs typically revolve around real-life events or personal experiences, encouraging students to reflect on and express their feelings. Third graders focus on engaging the reader with a repeating line, developing details, and beginning to use figurative language. Narrative memoirs serve as a valuable tool for developing writing skills, self-expression, and building an understanding of a narrative paragraphing structure.

Ideas for Home Support

As your child practices writing these narratives at school you might consider practicing at home with the following ideas:

- Create a memory map where they visually represent significant events, places, or memories from their life. Use drawings, symbols, and labels to illustrate key moments.
- Have your child interview family members about significant events or memories from their lives.
- Choose a family member or friend to email regularly, sharing memories or events of the day.
- Encourage your child to create visual representations of their personal narratives through drawings, collages, or comic strips.

Thank you for all your support!

Sincerely,

Narrative Memoir Rubric

3rd Grade

Genre Chart Narrative: Memoir	4 Exceeded Goal	3 Accomplished Goal	2 Just Beginning	1 Hasn't Started
Uses a strategy to engage the reader	Engages the reader in a creative way	Engages the reader	Engaging sentence is weak or off-topic	Does not engage the reader
Is organized in multiple paragraphs	Writes events in the order they happened with only the most important details	Writes events in the order they happened	Some events are in order; uses unimportant details	Events are not in order; uses unimportant details
Describes emotions	Describes emotions in vivid detail	Describes emotions	Attempts to describe emotions but lacks detail	Does not describe emotions
Develops details of events	Writes events in the order they happened with only the most important details	Writes details of events	Uses some details of events	Uses unimportant details of events
Uses vivid verbs and other descriptive language	Uses unique verbs and other examples of descriptive language	Uses vivid verbs and one other descriptive language	Attempts to use vivid verbs or descriptive language	Verbs are not vivid and no other descriptive language is used
Has a reflective conclusion	Ends with a strong feeling or reflection	Ends with a feeling or reflection	Has an ending but does not show how the writer feels	Does not have an ending
Correct conventions support the meaning	No errors or minor errors in spelling, punctuation, and grammar	A few errors but they do not interfere with the meaning	Frequent errors that distract the reader	So many errors that make it hard to read

Name _____ Date _____

Narrative Memoir Organizer

Memoir Topic:
Repeating line:
First Memory:
Details:
1.
2.
3.
Second Memory:
Details:
1.
2.
3.
Third Memory:
Details:
1.
2.
3.
Reflective Conclusion:

Name _____ Date _____

Narrative Memoir Organizer Model

Memoir Topic: Growing up in Hanford

Repeating line: Growing up in Hanford

First Memory: Going to the drive-in theater

Details:

1. went every Saturday, blue car
2. Grandpa bought us snacks
3. fell asleep on way home

Second Memory: getting ice cream at Superior Dairy

Details:

1. whole family went
2. banana malts
3. hot outside, shop had air conditioning

Third Memory: Swimming at the city pool

Details:

1. went with sister
2. running to pool in bare feet, street hot
3. Jumping off diving board

Reflective Conclusion: family is most important thing

Model It Paragraph

One day, my family and I went to the park. We had a picnic of sandwiches, fruit, and cookies. I played with my sister while Mom and Dad watched. Then we flew kites. Time at the park with my family is always fun.

Do It Paragraph

One Friday during the summer, I went to the beach with my family. We built sandcastles and splashed in the waves. I found seashells and collected them in a bucket. We watched the sun set over the ocean. It was one of the best days ever.

Narrative Memoir Model

Growing Up in Hanford

Growing up in Hanford, I went to the movies with my grandparents every week. Every Saturday we piled into their blue car and drove to the drive-in theater. My grandpa bought us popcorn and sodas. On the way home, we would fall asleep in the backseat. Movie night was my favorite night of the week.

Growing up in Hanford, we visited the ice cream shop on summer days. The whole family went. Me and my sister always got banana malts. On hot days we sat in the air conditioned store, enjoying the cool air. The banana ice cream was wonderful.

Growing up in Hanford, my sister and I would walk to the swimming pool in our bare feet. We ran from shady spot to shady spot to avoid the hot street. I remember when my sister and I finally were brave enough to jump off the diving board. The cool water felt great.

Growing up in Hanford, I did a lot of fun things with my family. Those memories help me feel close to my family, no matter where I am.

Annotated Narrative Memoir Model

Growing Up in Hanford

Growing up in Hanford, I went to the movies with my grandparents every week. Every Saturday we **piled** into ~~there~~ their blue **station wagon** and drove to the drive-in theater. My grandpa bought us **buttery** popcorn and **orange** sodas. On the way home, we would **quickly** fall asleep in the backseat. Movie night was my favorite night of the week.

Growing up in Hanford, we visited the ice cream shop on summer days. The whole family went. ~~My sister and I~~ My sister and I always got **banana** malts. On hot days we **lounged** in the air conditioned store, enjoying the cool air **laughing as we enjoyed our sweet treats**. The banana ice cream was wonderful.

Growing up in Hanford, my sister and I would walk to the swimming pool in our bare feet. We **sprinted** from shady spot to shady spot to avoid the hot street. I remember when my sister and I finally were brave enough to **nervously** jump off the diving board. The cool water felt great.

Growing up in Hanford, I did a lot of fun things with my family.

Those memories help me feel close to my family, no matter where I am.

Annotations

Uses a strategy to engage the reader: repeating line is in red

Is organized in multiple paragraphs - each of the four paragraphs are indented

Describes emotions is in purple

Develops details of events appears in each paragraph

Uses vivid verbs and other descriptive language is in blue

Has a reflective conclusion is in red

Revision: Narrative Memoir

3rd Grade

Name _____ Date _____

Partner _____ Rubric Score _____

Self

Partner

Genre Chart

___ ___ **Uses a strategy to engage reader**

Suggestions: _____

___ ___ **Is organized in multiple paragraphs**

Suggestions: _____

___ ___ **Describes emotions**

Suggestions: _____

___ ___ **Develops details of events**

Suggestions: _____

___ ___ **Uses vivid verbs and other descriptive language**

Suggestions: _____

___ ___ **Has a reflective conclusion**

Suggestions: _____

Editing Checklist - Third Grade

Name _____

Date _____

Partner _____

Any item on the checklist without an X will need to be edited before turning in the paper.

Self Partner

- | | | |
|-------|-------|---|
| _____ | _____ | 1. Paper includes name, date, and title |
| _____ | _____ | 2. Correct punctuation at the end of each sentence . ? ! |
| _____ | _____ | 3. Correct capitalization (beginning of sentences and proper nouns) |
| _____ | _____ | 4. Paragraph is indented |
| _____ | _____ | 5. Correct spelling, including No Excuse Words |
| _____ | _____ | 6. _____ |

(Grammar focus for the class)



Editing Checklist - Third Grade

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(Grammar focus for the class)