

Informational Text

An Independent Nonfiction Writing Piece

If you could write about a nonfiction topic of your choice, AND you get to choose what your writing looks like... what would you do? Good writers don't just write. They envision, plan, research, and collaborate.

Getting Started - Getting your sense of direction...

- ✓ Spend several days scanning different types of texts looking for ways to model your piece.
- ✓ Try to envision the way you want your writing to look.
- ✓ Share your thinking with someone in your group. Did you get even more ideas?
- ✓ Don't make up your mind about the topic yet. Focus more on how you want your writing to look.
- ✓ Step out of your comfort zone. Try a type of writing that you have not crafted before.

Start some "Smart Notebooking"

- ✓ Jot down a page of possibilities for modeling your writing - your container.
- ✓ List favorite crafting techniques - both new ones & your favorites.
- ✓ List favorite text features to choose from.
- ✓ Start a section for your research/focus.
 - ✓ Record what info you plan to use - just the big ideas, not every little detail unless you want to. You may decide to not use some of this info. Please highlight the text you use from any printout. (You may need to have a special folder to organize your papers.)
 - ✓ Organize the info into main idea chunks (paragraphs).
 - ✓ Don't forget to record the sources for your bibliography: name of book, author, and internet address.
- ✓ Record your favorite types of leads on a new notebook page.
- ✓ Type three different leads for your intro. Print them out and secure them on your favorite leads page. Which one works the best for your topic?