End of Grade 6

Understanding Provincial Achievement Standards in Reading and Writing

Helping your child to be successful



In earlier grades, your child developed many skills in reading and writing.
Although he or she is becoming increasingly independent, you can continue to help him or her on the path to being an



The seen was glesning through the palm trees and the construence of the works could be kneed so Meline anote. Telism was thirden your did and back of the works could be kneed so down to the beach with her friend to said and have four to the beach with her friend to said and have four to the beach with her friend to said and have four the could not of less, ext on he ard said and haded out to the beach.

Then she arrived, her fitable were aboutly out on the nation. They all etypical what they were doing smiled and came toward whose . They had been wanting. "Hi" said souther "Nee you going to tack one to do that contacted today?" Philista gradual happily and headed fore the nation.

Sky are just starting to get the bring of the more when some large nocks.

bornible happened larder's surflowed got cought between some large nocks.

At lost her bollows and fell hard. He was save the had broken her own.

Ale was right. Phose called for help but they were too for from whore

Missa rolled ander onto her surflowerd and started sciencing.

Massakile ander had just realized where she was and started kicking her

for They predelled on fore what second like looks When they arrived

at shore they noticed that their other friend Mishael had called for an embalance.

At quickly thanked him and soul bock to check on ander.

ander was being littled up into the ambalance when she saw
Milisse she called her over and thanked her. "Palissa" she said
"Thank you for soving my life. You're the to lest find it was had".

You can be involved in building your child's Writing skills.

Encouragement

- Encourage your child to pursue forms of writing that interest her or him. You might begin an online space to share family updates and events.
- Write with your child. If your child has an online space, request an invitation to contribute.
- Encourage your child to ask the guestions on the attached bookmark.
- Point out the specific strengths of your child's writing. For example, "I love the colourful
 details you used in this part."

Focus

- We learn to write by writing, so help your child to set aside time to write.
- Ask your child what he or she is working on as a writer. Assure your child that writing benefits from attention and practice.
- Encourage your child to follow the writing process: prewriting, drafting, revising, editing, publishing.

Recognize the Signs of a Successful writer.

Teachers look at six areas of a student's writing to identify success, as reflected in the Provincial Achievement Standards for the end of Grade 6. The *Troubled Waters* story on this page is an example of acceptable writing by a student at the **end of Grade 6**.

Content includes the ideas and details of the piece of writing. In the *Troubled Waters* example, the writer has focused on a specific topic (the surfing incident) and included details to support this main idea (Melissa nodded happily... and ...too far from shore to be heard).

Organization involves the structure and form of the writing (letter, story, report, etc.). This includes the order and grouping of ideas. The story *Troubled Waters* is written in a logical order and has a clear beginning, middle and end. The paragraph divisions are appropriate and helpful to the reader.

Sentence Structure means the writer uses a variety of sentence types. In *Troubled Waters*, the writer used different kinds of sentences, including some complex ones (Amber was being lifted up into the ambulance when she saw Melissa). The writing is easy to read, as sentences have different lengths and beginnings.

Voice shows that the student cares about the topic and understands how to interest the reader. The writing gives glimpses of the writer's personality. (Are you going to teach me to do that corkscrew today?)

Conventions include spelling, punctuation and grammar. All of the common words in *Troubled Waters* are spelled correctly. Quotation marks, commas and other punctuation marks are used properly in most places.

Word Choice means that descriptive and interesting words are used. Some examples from Troubled Waters are: gleaming, noticed and crashing of the waves.

Awareness

- Help your child see that people write for many purposes (e.g., to-do lists, blogs, emails).
- Writers use good penmanship and punctuation to make it easy for the reader to understand their message.
- Writers who read develop stronger writing skills. Encourage any form of reading, such as comics, graphic novels or blogs.

Be a successful writer.

Reflect on your writing by asking these questions:

Did I

- select a specific topic and support my ideas with relevant details?
- choose a form that suits my purpose?
- include an introduction and a conclusion?
- put my ideas in order and organize them into paragraphs?
- use interesting and descriptive words that say what I mean?
- write with my audience in mind and show that I care about the topic?
- include different kinds and lengths of sentences with varied beginnings?
- spell words correctly and use correct grammar?
- use correct punctuation?

