

Informative/Explanatory

Grade 2

Water is Important

Water is important. You should help save water. And I am going to tell you how. 1 way is TuRN OFF The SINK AFTER YOu BRuSH Your TEETH!

Another way is ONLY FILL YOuR BATHTuB UP HALF WAY! Also water is important so you should TAKE A SHORT SHOWEr. Also WHEN YOU WASH YOUR HANDS DON'T LEAVE THE WATER RUNNING! These are the ways why you should help save water

Provides a concluding statement that restates the focus

Introduces the topic and states a focus for the piece

Uses facts to develop points

Uses linking words and phrases to connect ideas

As kids learn to write, many times they will make errors because they are learning new words, phrases and writing skills.

Encourage and praise their creativity and exploration.

Punctuation problems, including missing punctuation marks, are green.

Grammar and word choice problems are in pink

This second-grade informative/explanatory paragraph begins with an introductory sentence and then states the focus of the piece (*"You should help save water. And I am going to tell you how."*). Four facts, from provided sources, develop the piece and are linked to each other and to the main idea by transitional words and phrases (*"1 way", "Another way", "also"*). The piece concludes by restating the focus (*"These are the ways why you should help save water"*). At this grade level, sentences may be a bit "clunky," particularly as students experiment with unfamiliar academic constructions. If this were an instructional piece, *"These are the ways why..."* could be revised during the writing process.

This sample of student writing, aligned to the Common Core and annotated to show its strengths, is drawn from the **In Common** project. You can find more writing samples and learn more here:

<http://achievethecore.org/page/507/in-common-effective-writing-for-all-students>