

What are Learning Support Tools?

Learning Support Tools are designed to provide kids additional support for carrying out the Challenges in the *Learn* project. These tools offer more detailed instructions to support kids' thinking about the different tasks needed to complete each step, helping kids approach tasks like *evaluating sources* and *explaining evidence* the way a more experienced scholar would. Not every step of the project needs a Learning Support Tool, and not every kid will need the support of every tool offered here. For those that do, these additional explanations, activities, guides, and examples can help accelerate learning.





Many Hands: Learning Support Tools

What will I find here?

The tools you will use here provide additional support to help you get inspired, develop a plan, organize research, and draft and finalize a final product through the "Many Hands Make Light Work" project.

Planning Your Project

- Dav-at-a-Glance
- Month-at-a-Glance
- Materials List
- Exploring the Essential Question
- Plan Your Project Milestones
- Finding Your Inspiration

Challenge 1: **Identify Your Project Focus**

- Step 1: Describing the Big Problem
- Step 1: Choose a Specific Angle
- Step 2: The 5 Whys Analysis Tool
- Step 3: Draft Claim Statement

Challenge 2: Research

- Step 1: Read and Discover
- Step 2: Develop Reasons to Support Your Claim
- Step 2: Test your Claim and Reasons in the Real World!
- Step 3: Evaluate your Sources
- Step 3: Gather Evidence

Challenge 2 (cont.)

- Step 3: Learn by Testing Your Solution in the Real World!
- Step 3: Link Evidence to Your Claim
- Step 3: Learn by Testing Your Evidence and Message in the Real World!

Challenge 3: Consider Your Audience and Medium

- Step 1: Identify Your Audience
- Step 2: Understand Their Medium and its Style
- Step 3: Choose Your Medium
- Step 3: Extension! What makes great so great?

Challenge 4: Draft Your Argument

Step 1: Argument Components Checklist

Challenge 5: Prepare to Share

- Step 1: Review Tool
- Step 2: Review Your Medium and Style





Planning and Introduction

Before you dive into the project's challenges, introductory slides offer a brief look at **what** you'll do to complete the project and **how** and **when** you'll do these things, along with some inspiration to help you find your **why**. The tools below provide support for these introductory steps.

Planning

- A Day-at-a-Glance Calendar
- A Month-at-a-Glance Calendar
- Materials List

Introductory Activities

- Exploring the Essential Question
- Plan Your Project Milestones
- Finding Your Inspiration



Many Hands: Day-at-a-Glance

What does a day look like? Each month, Unboxed by Prepared Parents walks kids through six tools: Plan, Engage, Build, Learn, Grow, and **Celebrate**. We have designed the tools to provide a complete experience, one that can complement and enrich your school schedule. You can always mix-and-match, skip, or double down on a specific tool.

Check out what a day with Unboxed could look like:

	Time	Description
8:50am	Engage : Check-In	Practice a routine of checking in. (5–10 minutes)
8:55am	Plan : Set Goals for the Day	Make a plan for your day. (5 minutes)
9am– 1pm	School/Remote Learning	Attend classes and complete required coursework. (3–4 hours)
lpm- 2pm	Break	Rest, refuel, and refresh. (1 hour)
2pm- 2:30pm	Build : Reading and Writing Practice	Strengthen foundational skills in reading and language arts. (30 minutes)
2:30pm- 3pm	Build : Math Practice	Strengthen foundational skills in math. (30 minutes)
3pm- 4pm	Learn : Project Time	Make progress on your Unboxed project. (60 minutes)
4pm	Engage : Check Out	End the day with a reflection on how the day went. (3–5 minutes)



Many Hands: Month-at-a-Glance

How does this project fit into a month? Each challenge in the **Learn** monthly project is broken into manageable steps. One or more steps can be tackled each day. Every student works at their own pace; the calendar below is just one example of how the project might fit into a month of learning.

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
Explore the Essential Question	Finding Your Why Optional Extension: View The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind	Review Organizing Your Impact Project and Due Dates	Challenge 1: 1 What's the Big Problem	Challenge 1: 2 Complete the "5 Whys" analysis. Challenge 1: 3 Develop a draft claim.
Day 8	Day 9	Day 10	Day 11	Day 12
Challenge 2: 1 Read and Discover	Challenge 2: 2 Develop Reasons	Challenge 2: 2 Develop Reasons: Test Your Claim and Reasons in the Real World	Challenge 2: 3 Evaluate and Select Evidence	Challenge 2: 3 Evaluate and Select Evidence
Day 15	Day 16	Day 17	Day 18	Day 19
Select Evidence: Test Your Reasoning, and Link it to Your Evidence or Solution in the Claim		Challenge 2: 4 Explain Your Reasoning, and Link it to Your Claim: Test Your Evidence and Message in the Real World	Challenge 3: 1 Consider who you must reach. Challenge 3: 2 How will you reach your audience? Challenge 3: 3 Choose your medium Challenge 3: 3 Extension: Examine Multimedia Arguments	
Day 22	Day 23	Day 24	Day 25	Day 26
Challenge 4: 1 Revisit Your Purpose Challenge 4: 2 Draft Your Introduction Challenge 4: 3 Draft Your Body Challenge 4: 4 Draft Your Conclusion			Challenge 5: 1 Partner with a Reviewer	Challenge 5: 2 Revise
Day 29	Day 30			
Challenge 5: 3 The Final Edit!	Challenge 5: 4 Publish or Present			





What else do kids need to complete the project? The

steps in the project assume kids have ready access to the Internet and basic materials, like pencils and paper. The optional materials listed on the right may be useful to some, depending on their interest and chosen product.

Required

Paper

Pen/pencil

Internet access

Device for online research and learning resources

Optional

The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind (Book and/or film)

Dedicated notebook

Camera/video camera

Sticky notes

Markers

Applications for developing a multimedia presentation



Exploring the Essential Question

Use this tool to record your thoughts and feelings as you consider the essential question.

Name	Date

The Essential Question: What are the characteristics of the most powerful arguments, those that change the beliefs or behaviors of others?

1.	Have you ever seen effective communication succeed or fail in motivating people to do difficult things?

2. As you complete this project, use this table to record specific examples you experience or observe of people using communication successfully or unsuccessfully to motivate others to do difficult things.

Experience or Observation	Description	What role did communication play in success or failure?



Plan Your Project Milestones

Use this tool to plan completion dates for each step in the Many Hands Project.

Name _____ Date ____

Activity	Estimated Time	Complete By Date
Introduction		
Finding Your Inspiration	20–40 min.	
Challenge 1: Identify Your Project Fo	cus	
Step 1: What is the big problem?	20–40 min.	
Step 2: Complete the "5 Whys" analysis.	30–45 min.	
Step 3: Develop a claim statement.	15 min.	
Challenge 2: Research		
Step 1: Read and discover.	30–60 min.	
Step 2: Develop reasons.	30–60 min	
Step 2: Develop reasons — Test.	30 min.	
Step 3: Evaluate and select evidence.	40–120 min.	
Step 3: Evaluate and select evidence — Test	30–60 min.	
Step 4: Explain your reasoning, and link it to your claim.	40–80 min.	
Step 4: Explain your reasoning, and link it to your claim — Test	30–120 min.	



Plan Your Project Milestones

Activity	Suggested Time	Complete By Date		
Challenge 3: Consider Your Audience and Medium				
Step 1: Consider who you must reach.	20–30 min.			
Step 2: How will you reach your audience?	20 min.			
Step 3: Choose your medium.	10 min.			
Step 3 Extension: Examine Multimedia Arguments	30–90 min.			
Challenge 4: Draft Your Argument				
Step 1: Revisit Your Purpose.	5–10 min.			
Step 2: Draft your introduction.	25–35 min.			
Step 3: Draft your body.	40–60 min.			
Step 4: Draft your conclusion. 30–40 min.				
Challenge 5: Prepare to Share				
Step 1: Partner with a reviewer.	20–40			
Step 2: Revise.	30–90			
Step 3: The Final Edit!	20–40			
Step 4: Publish or Present!	20–30			

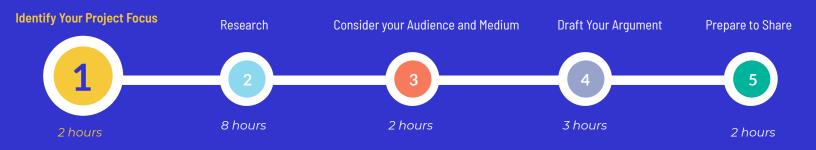


Finding Your Inspiration

Name	Date
things under harsh circums problem and they were able	find examples of people who have accomplished great tances because they were passionate about solving a to engage support from a wide variety of stakeholders. amba in The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind is one of thos
full-length film is available of	ur foundational knowledge building routine. The on Netflix, but other videos are also available online for frees s Ted Talks called, "How I Built a Windmill" and "How I
 the Wind, take notes about argumentation skills to end Does he use differend Which has more implied Could either words of 	assion Prompt: As you watch <i>The Boy Who Harnessed</i> to when and how William uses his communication and agage supporters for his cause. It appeals for different audiences? Seact: his words or actions? It actions alone have moved people to help William? The characteristics of William's choices and behaviors successful?
	term goals and the things you can do this year or this each them, how do you think being able to make an help you?



Challenge 1: **Identify Your Project Focus**



Step 1: What is the big problem?

- Describe the BIG Problem
- Choose a Specific Angle

Step 2: Complete the "5 Whys" analysis.

The 5 Whys Analysis Tool

Step 3: Develop a claim statement.

Draft Claim Statement



Describe the BIG Problem

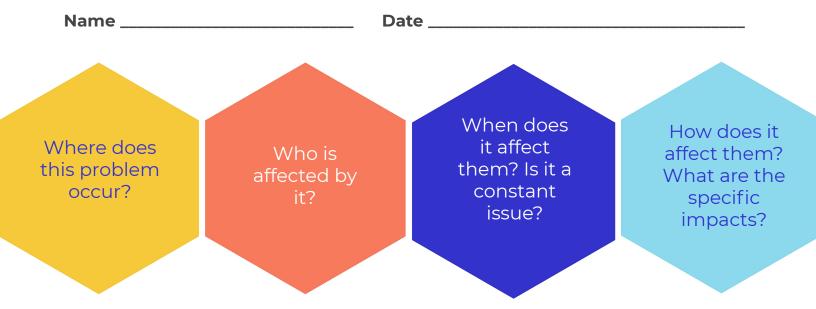
Use this tool to determine an issue or specific problem you will tackle at home or in your community that you feel passionate about.
Name Date
Remember and Reflect.
1. As you consider your day-to-day experiences at home, is there something that you or other family members struggle with that you'd like to see change? (Example: My brother spends most of his free time playing video games and stopped playing outside like we used to.)
2. As you consider your day-to-day experiences in your community, have you come across a situation that has troubled you? (Example: I have observed people wasting packaging, especially plastic cups, straws, and shopping bags, and it makes me worry about pollution.)
3. Has a particular recent event or news story stayed with you? (Example: When I hear about a natural disaster that leaves a lot of people homeless, it makes me feel overwhelmed, and I want to do something to help.)

Choose a Problem:

After reflecting on personal, local, national, or global problems that are on your mind, select one that is most important to you right now.

Choose a Specific Angle

Use this tool to determine and describe your specific angle on the problem in vivid detail. Here are questions readers might like to have answered throughout your description.



Write a Vivid description. Describe your problem with as many vivid images as possible using concrete sensory details — things the audience can see, hear, taste, smell, and touch. If possible, describe one person's experience with the problem.

Think about specifics. After reflecting on the specifics of the BIG problem (for example, food waste), can you narrow your focus to a specific issue that you really want to tackle (for example, food wasted by consumers at home)?



Use this tool to record your 5 Whys analysis. Remember, you might find that you will return to these questions as you continue your research.
Name Date
What is the problem?
Describe: Write several sentences showing the impact of the problem. Make sure this is concrete, so readers can see, hear, taste, smell, and feel the problem first-hand with their mind's eye. Later, you might turn this description into an attention-grabbing hook for your intro or use it as an example in your argument.
What is the cause of this problem?
Hypothesize: In one sentence, why do you think this problem exists?

Continued on next page.





The 5 Whys Analysis Tool (Cont.)

Use this tool to record your 5 Whys analysis. Remember, you might find that you will return to these questions as you continue research.

Name	Date	
Ask 5 Whys: Let's	analyze the root cause of the problem.	
7		
. Question:		
Answer:		
2. Question:		
Answer:		
3. Ouestion:		
5. Question:		
Answer:		
Allower.		



The 5 Whys Analysis Tool (Cont.)

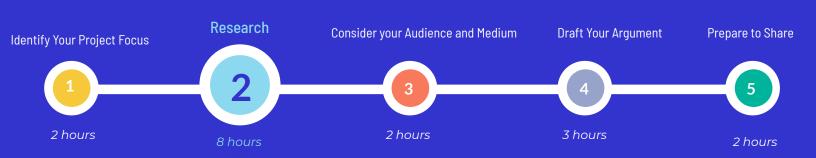
Use this tool to record your 5 Whys analysis. Remember, you might find that you will return to these questions as you continue research.

Name	_ Date		
5 Whys: Let's analyze the root	cause of the prok	olem.	
4. Question:			
Answer:			
5. Question:			
Answer:			



Use this tool to develop a	specific opinion or claim about your problem or solution
Name	Date
What is your init	ial claim?
research. Your argument	d a working draft of your claim, you can do more effective doesn't necessarily have to provide a solution. You might problem that they previously ignored.
young people will spend	Because of excessive video game playing, far fewer their youth engaging in other interests as previous his is a huge problem for our health and our cultural life.
-	Solution Claim: To reduce time on video games, kids kly day off with their friends, so they don't suffer from fear
Your Draft Claim Statem	nent:





Step 1: Read and discover.

Read and Discover

Step 2: Develop reasons.

- Develop Reasons to Support Your Claim
- Test Your Claim and Reasons in the Real World!

Step 3: Evaluate and select evidence.

- Evaluate Your Sources
- Gather Evidence
- Learn by Testing Your Solution in the Real World!

Step 4: Explain your reasoning, and link it to your claim.

- Link Evidence to Your Claim
- Learn by Testing your Evidence and Message in the Real World!

Use this tool to get an overall sense of what research is available on this topic. You will do a deeper dive once you have determined your reasons. This is just to gather a broad list of sources, some of which you will eliminate later.

Name	Date
Name	Date

Find information on your topic in a variety of formats.

Source Type	Who is talking about the topic? What are the headlines?	Is this an authoritative or trustworthy source?
Traditional Journalism: Newspapers or Magazine Articles		
Videos		
Web Sites/ Organizations		
Infographics		



Use this tool to deterr	mine specific plans for your research.	
Name	Date	
What reasons do you	must you prove to support you have for supporting this claim? Where mighther examples to support those reasons?	
•	use kids are playing so many video games, struments than before.	fewer kids play
	ns and Questions: Video game design, how t y sports less or more than before?	to make video
Your Reason:		
Your Reason:		
Your Reason:		
Potential Search Ter	ms and Questions	





Test Your Claim and Reasons in the Real World!

Use this tool to plan your real world test and record your learning.
Name Date
Plan the experiment.
1. What question would you like to answer with this experiment?
2. Describe who will participate and where and when will you conduct the test?
Try it in the real world!
3. What observations, reactions, or behaviors gave you the most insight into how you claim or reasons help to motivate people or solve the problem?
Reflect. As you consider these insights and feedback, reflect on what this has taugh you about making your communication effective in motivating people?



Use this to	ol to ensure you	r research al	lows you t	o explore v	various pres	sentation
formats so	you can see gre	at models in	action.			

Name	Date
Naille	Date

Find trusted information in different formats.

As you finalize your research, evaluate the source. Does it come from a reputable or authoritative source?

Title and source of newspaper or magazine article, book, website, journal, video, multimedia presentation, interview	Notes about purpose, audience, author	Why should we trust this source?



Use this tool to research and gather ev	vidence about your problem.
Name	Date

Discover what others are saying about the problem:

Read to discover what others who care about this problem have learned. Read from various points of view so you can improve your thinking through diverse perspectives.

- 1. Quickly review at least 5–10 potential sources.
- 2. From those, select at least 3 sources to read closely to gather evidence.
- In your notebook or on a separate sheet of paper, take notes on each of your three sources. Answer the following questions:
 - What is the title and source?
 - What is the author's main idea? In other words, what is their opinion or claim about the topic?
 - What reasons and supporting evidence do they provide? Why do they support their claim? What statistics or authorities do they share to convince us to agree? This may be a good piece of evidence for you to use!
 - Do they address any counterarguments?
 - What is the most moving, memorable, convincing, engaging, or appealing aspect of the author's writing or presentation?



Learn by testing your solution in the real world!

Use this tool to plan your real world test and record your learnin	g.
Name Date	
Plan the experiment.	
1. What question would you like to answer with this experiment	
2. Describe who will participate and where and when will you c	conduct the test?
Try it in the real world!	
3. What observations, reactions, or behaviors gave you the mos argument or solution is helping to motivate people or solve the	
Reflect. As you consider these insights and feedback, reflect of you about making your communication effective in motivating pe	



Use this tool to link	your evidence to your reason and back to your claim.	
Name	Date	
Develop you	line of reasoning.	
expect them to know	courtroom cannot simply present evidence to a jury and w how to interpret it without explanation, you cannot lea ed in an argument.	
Reason–Evidence–Ivalid, even if they d	relop an "evidence sandwich" for one piece of evidence, u Explanation framework. You want others to see your think sagree. Later when you draft your argument, you will app our supporting body paragraphs.	king as
•	duce the point you are making. Example: Kids are missing ivities in life because of video games.)	g out
Your Evidence (Prehours per day on vi	sent your evidence. Example: Kids spend an average of to deo games.)	NO
what you could do	If How the Evidence Supports This Reason (Example: In with an extra two hours of sports, music, reading, or family n learn a foreign language in that time. That's why video well-rounded.)	ly

Ask yourself: Does the explanation I have provided — either leading to or following my evidence — make a clear and obvious connection to my claim?





Learn by testing your evidence and message in the real world!

Use this tool to plan your real world test and record your learning.
Name Date
Plan the experiment. 1. What question would you like to answer with this experiment?
2. Describe who will participate and where and when will you conduct the test?
Try it in the real world!
3. What observations, reactions, or behaviors gave you the most insight into how you evidence or message is helping to motivate people or solve the problem?
Reflect: As you consider these insights and feedback, reflect on what this has taugh you about making your communication effective in motivating people?





Challenge 3: Consider Your Audience and Medium



Step 1: Consider who you must reach.

Identify Your Audience

Step 2: How will you reach your audience?

• Understand Their Medium and its Style

Step 3: Choose your medium.

Choose Your Medium

Step 3 Extension: Examine Multimedia Arguments

Extension! What makes great so great?



Use this tool to identify who your potential audience is and how best to reach them.

Name	Date

- 1. Beneath each group name in the table below, list the people who might care about this problem or have the power to help with it.
- 2. Answer the questions to help you think about what type of message would motivate them to take action.

Group	Why do you want them in your audience?	Why should they care about this topic?
Family		
Friends		
Community Members		
Policy Makers		
Influential Figures		



Understand Their Medium and its Style

Use this tool to identify features of your audience's preferred media type.		
Nam	Date Describe the audience you've identified. What do they care about? What do they value? What do they know about your subject?	
	do triey value: vvriat do triey know about your subject:	
2.	What is their preferred media type? Do they read the newspaper? Watch TV? Surf the Internet? Listen to podcasts? Or would they rather talk face-to-face?	
3.	How is written content typically organized in the medium they enjoy? How is it structured? What are the notable features of it? Does it use	
	headings and subheadings? Are narrative stories woven in?	
4.	How are graphics used? Do they include charts and graphs? Do they include graphic images showing processes or causes and results?	
5.	How is video, audio, or other media used? Are videos live action, animation, talking heads, voice over still images, or some other style?	



Choose Your Medium

Use this tool to make sure you understand what to consider when working in the media you've chosen. Is your chosen form the best for your argument and for this qudience? Would another form work as well or not as well?

Name	Date
Name	

Choose a form.	Consider the typical elements of this form.	What makes this a good form for your audience and message?
Essay	Formal language Citations Artful style	
Blog	Multimedia Text and links Images/video Graphs/charts	
Letter	Formal salutations Conventions of letter writing (personal, business, etc.)	
Website	Multimedia Images/video Graphs/charts Additional pages	
Speech	Volume Variations in tone Pacing	
Live Multimedia Presentation	Formal language Citations Artful style Multimedia Images/video, graphs/charts	
Video	Titles, or subtitles Animation Live action footage	



Extension!: What makes great so great?

Use this tool to gather ideas for great ways to engage audiences.

Name Date	Name	Date
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Identify what makes great arguments so great.

Why do some pieces of writing and some presentations hold our attention or stick with us longer?

Find the 3 best sources on your topic that you have read or viewed, and pinpoint exactly what makes them great. Ask yourself the following questions:

- 1. What was the name of the memorable piece?
- 2. Was it a story or visual presentation? A news article or infographic?
- 3. What aspects of the piece made it memorable? For example, did it offer a shocking statistic that really surprised you?
- 4. Did the writer or creator impress you with the way they organized their argument, making it more powerful as each point built upon the last?
- 5. Did the author or creator provide a particularly memorable conclusion to the piece?

For example:

If you have internet access, search for "I am the greatest voiceover on iPhone selfies commercial." The video is linked here.

In addition to it being a funny voice over from Muhammad Ali, how else do the creators grab your attention?

- Notice the selection of selfies.
- Notice the relationship between sound and movement.
- How do these choices make the idea of selfies so appealing?



Challenge 4: Draft Your Argument



Step 1: Revisit Your Purpose.

Argument Components Checklist



Argument Components Checklist

As you complete your first draft, remember to include these components to make your argument powerful!

Introduction

- **Hook your readers** with a story, perhaps using some of your writing from your original description of the problem.
- **Transition** to your opinion or claim statement.
- State a clear, specific opinion or claim that captures your point of view about the root causes of a problem or proposes a solution.

- Hook
- Transition
- Claim Statement

Body

- Support your opinion or claim with at least 3 supporting reasons.
- Remember to include at least one piece of evidence for each reason from a trustworthy outside source.
- After you incorporate your evidence, you will need to explain your reasoning to readers or listeners, so they know why this evidence supports your opinion or claim.
- Your body paragraphs should follow a reason-evidence-explanation pattern

- Reason 1
- Evidence and Explanation (1–3 pieces)
- Reason 2
- Evidence and Explanation (1–3 pieces)
- Reason 3
- Evidence and Explanation (1–3 pieces)

Conclusion

- In your conclusion, you should **recap** how each step of reason-evidence-explanation builds to your recommendation or call to action.
- And finally, your conclusion should answer the question, "Why does this matter?"
- Recap your main points
- Call your team to action and explain "Why does this matter?"



Challenge 5: **Prepare to Share**



Step 1: Partner with a reviewer.

Review Tool

Step 2: Revise

Review Your Medium and Style



Use this tool to understand how to review an argumentative claim.

- 1. Read or view the argument first, noting things you love (2), things you understand and agree with (✓), and where you have questions(?). Write your comments on the draft.
- 2. Then, use this tool to review the suggested elements of a strong argument to ensure each element is included in the draft.

Introduction

- **Hooks the readers** with a story or vivid description of the problem.
- **Transitions** to the opinion or claim statement.
- States a clear, **specific opinion or claim** that captures a point of view about the root causes of a problem or proposes a solution.

Body

- Supports the opinion or claim with at least 3 supporting reasons.
- Includes at least one piece of evidence for each reason from a trustworthy outside source.
- Incorporates evidence and **explains** why this evidence supports the opinion or claim.
- Body paragraphs should follow a reason-evidence-explanation pattern

Conclusion

- Conclusion recaps how each step of reason-evidence-explanation builds to a recommendation or call to action.
- And finally, conclusion should answer the question, "Why does this matter?"

Hook

- Transition
- Claim Statement

Reason 1

- Evidence and Explanation (1–3 pieces)
- Reason 2
- Evidence and Explanation (1–3 pieces)
- Reason 3
- Evidence and Explanation (1–3 pieces)
- Recap main points
- Call to action and "Why does this matter?"

Continued on next page.

Use this tool to record your feedback, questions, and suggestions for the argument you are reviewing.

1. What are the strengths of the argument?
2. What was the part of the argument that made you most excited to help solve the problem?
3. What questions or suggestions do you still have about the problem? The solution?



Review Your Medium and Style

Use this tool to review where and how you showcased your most compelling evidence, ideas, and examples. If you haven't included your best, most compelling details, now is the time to add them.

Name Date	
I am creating a Introduction	Note below where special details exist or should be added.
 Hook your readers with a story, perhaps using some of your writing from your original description of the problem. Transition to your opinion or claim statement. State a clear, specific opinion or claim that captures your point of view about the root causes of a problem and proposes a solution. 	
Body	
 Support your opinion or claim with at least 3 supporting reasons. Remember to include at least one piece of evidence for each reason from a trustworthy outside source. After you incorporate your evidence, you will need to explain your reasoning to readers or listeners, so they know why this evidence supports your opinion or claim. Your body paragraphs should follow a reason-evidence-explanation pattern 	
Conclusion	
 In your conclusion, you should recap how each step of reason-evidence-explanation builds to your recommendation or call to action. And finally, your conclusion should answer the question, "Why does this matter?" 	