

Name _____

The Secret Knowledge of Grown-Ups

Peer Reviser _____

by David Wisniewski

Rule:

Official Reason:

The Truth:

Event 1:

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Event 2:

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Event 3:

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Wrap-Up or Conclusion:

The Secret Knowledge of Grown-Ups

Teacher Directions:

1. Read selections from the book aloud to the students. Be sure to show them the illustrations as you read.
2. Be sure to point out to the students how much time is spent on the real reason as compared to the rule and the official reason.
3. After reading the selections, have the students brainstorm a list of rules that adults have for them. The rules can be at home, school, the swimming pool, or anywhere else appropriate for the lesson. Write the rules on the board as the students call them out. Continue with the brainstorming session until you have 5-6 more rules than students in the class.
4. Devise a system for randomly calling on students to select a rule from the list. Once a rule has been chosen, erase the rule from the board.
5. Give each student a copy of the student directions and the graphic organizer. Go over the directions with them, and guide them through each step.
6. Go over the ideas and content rubric with the students, reminding them of the qualities of a paper high in ideas and content. Do the same with other traits you want the students to focus on for this piece of writing.
7. Answer questions as students work through the steps in the student directions. Give directions for writing and/or typing the rough draft and final draft.
8. After the students have finished, decide the process for sharing the writing. Below are some suggestions:
 - A. Each student reads his/her selection aloud.
 - B. Students trade and read another person's selection aloud.
 - C. Create a class book and let the students read from it during free time.
 - D. Post the selections in the room and allow the students to read them during free time.
 - E. Post the selections in the room for parents to read during Open House.
 - F. Have the students read their selections to younger students..

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Student Directions:

1. Listen as the teacher reads selections from the book aloud. Pay attention to the rule, the official reason, and the truth.
2. Choose a rule to write about. Think carefully about your selection. You will need to figure out the official reason and the actual truth to go along with it.
3. Write the **Rule** in the first box.
4. Write the **Official Reason** in the first box.
5. Write The **Truth** in the first box.
6. Write three events for the story about the truth—one in the first three large boxes.
7. In each of these boxes, add three details for each event.
8. For each detail, add some vivid language to enhance the details.
9. Elaborate on at least one detail in each of the three boxes.
10. Write a wrap-up or conclusion in the last large box.
11. Share your ideas with another student. Both of you should review each box to make sure there are plenty of details and elaboration for at least one detail in each box. Sign the other person's paper. Be sure he/she signs yours.
12. Write or type your rough draft. Be sure to review the ideas you received from your peer reviser and make the necessary changes.
13. Work with another student to revise and edit your paper. Check the paper against the rubric(s) and give suggestions for improvement. Be sure the reviser signs your paper. Work with someone who is on the same step as your or further ahead.
14. Write or type your final draft according to the teacher's directions. Be sure to review the ideas you received from your peer reviser and make the necessary changes.
15. When you are finished, work with other students to give them suggestions for improving their papers.
16. If directed so by your teacher, create an illustration to go along with your writing.