Monthly Writing Prompts



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Apple Writing Prompts

- 1. We're going on a fieldtrip to the apple orchard to pick apples! Tell me about it.
- 2. There are many delicious things you can make, bake and drink from apples. What's your favorite? Details please...
- 3. Someone has snuck into Aunt Annie's Apple Orchard! They have stolen 30 bushel baskets of apples! Who's the thief and what have they done with all those apples? Solve the mystery please!
- 4. Is it red, yellow or green? Help your teacher conduct an experiment to discover which is your classes' favorite tasting apple.
- 5. Your friend dares you to eat an apple with a worm in it. Yuk! Do you take the challenge? Write about the conversation and the conclusion.
- 6. You have a chance to interview Johnny Appleseed. Ready-set-ask away!
- 7. Plant your seeds; watch the tree grow to fruition. Tell me about the lifecycle of an apple.
- 8. You're the wicked queen or you're Snow White or you're the poison apple! Write a paragraph from that point of view.
- 9. You're walking along on a dirt road and meet up with Johnny Appleseed. Tell me about it, or write a few paragraphs of conversation.
- 10. You're bobbing for apples at a Halloween Party. Inside every apple is a surprise! When you bite into yours you discover something very special. What is it? Details please....



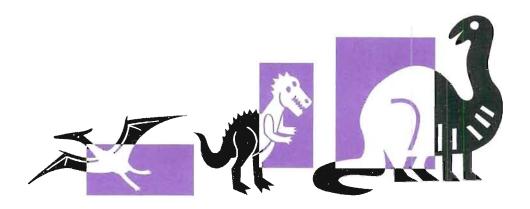
Crayon Writing Prompts

- 1. If you could be a brand new color in a box of 72 crayons, what color would you be and why?
- 2. You can re-color the entire world! What are some of the changes you would make and why?
- 3. They say that society should be more like a box of crayons because "all of the **colors** get along". Explain this idea.
- 4. Certain people in our lives "color our world with love". Tell me who colors your world with love and why.
- 5. My children are "the rainbows in my life". Which friends are the rainbows in your life and why?
- 6. Oh no! The crayons have all disappeared from school! Who's the crayon burglar and why'd they do it?
- 7. It's important to recycle. Tell me 3 things you can do with broken crayons. Expand on these ideas; don't just list them, explain them.
- 8. What color crayon describes your personality and why?
- 9. Pretend you are an outstanding artist. If you could color the walls in your room with crayons, what colors would you use and what would you draw?



School Bus Writing Prompts

- 1. You're the driver of Miss Frizzle's Magic School Bus. Where are you going and why?
- 2. Being a bus driver is a hard but rewarding job. Tell me both sides.
- 3. Something just ran out in front of the bus. You're the driver and you think you hit it. What is it? What do you do? Tell me what's happening.
- 4. Some naughty high school boys are smoking on the bus. Some papers catch fire. You can be the naughty boy, another rider or the bus driver. What do you do? What's happening? Details please...
- 5. It's the same old routine. The bus stops before the railroad tracks and listens for the train. Nothing is coming. It proceeds to cross the tracks. Then, out of nowhere a train comes sailing down the tracks. The bus stalls. What happens next?
- 6. Aliens have captured your school bus! What do they look like? Where are they taking you? Details please...
- 7. The bus has entered the Twilight Zone. You've slipped into the past or zoomed into the future. Tell me about it.



Dinosaur Writing Prompts

- 1. You are digging in your back yard planting trees and have just discovered a complete set of dinosaur bones from a never-discovered dinosaur. What does it look like? What will you name it? Where and how did you discover it? Details please!
- 2. Your dad's invented a time machine! You warp back into prehistoric time. Where do you land? What do you see? What are you going to do?
- 3. You're invited to a cookout. They're serving dinosaur meat. What does it taste like? How have they prepared it? What else goes with the meal? Details, details, details!
- 4. You're in charge of the school theme party. They've picked Prehistoric Rock. Sooooo plan that party from invitations and decorations to refreshments and tell me your plans.
- 5. You've been asked to take photographs of the new baby dinosaurs for the Rock Gazette. What does your photo shoot look like? How do you plan to get around the mother dinosaur?
- 6. Design an amusement part ride with a dinosaur theme.
- 7. Oh no! You've stayed long taking pictures at the volcanic sight and it's started to erupt! What do you do now?



October Writing Prompts

- 1. You are in charge of the Halloween Costume Party. From invitations to where you are going to have it, to decorations and food and entertainment I want details!
- 2. Your group is raising money for a worthy cause. They put you in charge of making a haunted house for people to walk through. A local man is letting you use his empty mansion. Go for it! Tell me what the entrance looks like, the displays inside; take me on a walk through. How will you advertise and get people there?
- 3. It's a Harvest Ho Down and you're in charge of the Barn Yard fun including a hay ride with refreshments. Details please.
- 4. You and your friends are walking home after studying late. You're going past the graveyard when you hear a blood curdling scream coming from inside the gates. What do you do?
- 5. There are 3 black cats on the prowl in the alley. Why are they there? Who do they belong to?
- 6. You and some friends decide to go "spelunking". Instead of treasure, you find 100's of bats in the cave! What's happening?
- 7. Your grandmother asks you to clean the attic. You open a closet door and find a trap door, when you lift the lid, the bottom falls out and you go down a slide into the...._____
- 8. You're camping and find that your tent is filled with spiders! How'd they get there and what are you doing about it?
- 9. Pretend you're a fly and you're caught in a spider's web? Will you escape?
- 10. You and your friends decide to go trick or treating together. They dare you to go with them to the "haunted mansion". When you ring the doorbell it gongs and a ______ answers the door dripping with _____. It grabs all of you and......



Hovember Writing Prompts

- l. You're in charge of the big Thanksgiving Feast for your family. Who is coming? How many? What will you serve? What time is everyone coming? Will you play games? How will you decorate the table and your home?
- 2. You've never baked a turkey before, so you didn't know you had to thaw it first. Your guests are due to arrive in 4 hours and the turkey is rock solid. What's your plan B?
- 3. You are one of the pilgrims on the Mayflower. What's it like? Where are you from?
- 4. You've just landed on Plymouth Rock! How does it feel? Where do you go from here?
- 5. You're an Indian friend of Squanto and ask him to go with him to see the white people. What does he say? What happens next?
- 6. You're in charge of bringing home turkey dinner! Are you grabbing your gun and heading for the woods? Or is it your purse, the card and the grocery store? Tell me about the turkey trott.
- 7. It's a beautiful fall day. You and 5 friends decide to go for a nature walk to collect leaves. It's unseasonably warm for the beginning of winter so the bears must not have been fully hibernating, because you just woke 2 up! RUN! It's a bear! Tell me what's happening when you and your friends come upon 2 huge black and hungry bears.
- 8. Night's almost upon you and your best friend. You were out collecting leaves and the time got away from you; and so did the directions. You're LOST! What do you do now?
- 9. You'll have 4 days of vacation! Tell me what your plans are.
- 10. You're on your way to grandma's for Thanksgiving dinner. Your dad decides to take a "short cut" because of all the traffic. You're lost on a very deserted strip of road and you get a flat tire. There's a spooky looking cabin in the distance, which you can barely see because it's started to snow. What do you do?



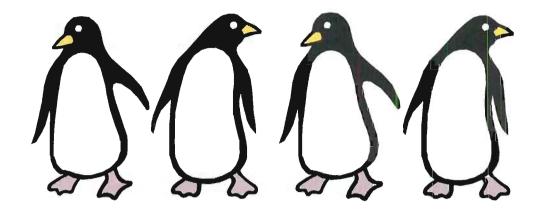
December Writing Prompts

- 1. It's the annual Holly Ball and you're in charge. I want details from the invitations, who's coming to the menu, decorations, and party games.
- 2. Santa's reindeer stopped at your house. Rudolph stomped too hard and the sled, reindeer and all came crashing in to your living room. What's happening? What do you do?
- 3. It's the biggest blizzard yet; and Santa needs your help delivering the toys in your neighborhood? How can you help?
- 4. Or...It's the biggest blizzard yet and your family's snowed in for a week! How do you celebrate Christmas with no electricity? Pretend it's the "good old days of yester-year!"
- 5. You go caroling with some friends; when you turn around to see why you're not hearing the soprano high notes of your best friend, you discover her missing! Where has she gone? What do you do? Solve the mystery of the soloist.
- 6. You're at the mall. "Santa" has just snatched 2 very wealthy children and is running away with them! What's happening? What do you do? Who really is this Santa-wanna-be?
- 7. It's rush hour traffic and everyone is in a hurry to get home for Christmas vacation. No one seems to notice the little boy and girl carrying a suitcase, followed by a shaggy dog, who are walking down the highway. What's their story? Do you stop?
- 8. Everyone's left the school for Christmas vacation. You've helped clean up and are the last one to leave. As you walk down the hallway, you notice they've been security chained and have a lock on them. You can't get out and your cell phone is dead. Plus you just locked the classroom door! You're stuck in the hallway! What do you do?
- 9. You can have anything you want for Christmas? What is it and why do you want it?
- 10. You've just won a \$5,000 dollar Christmas shopping spree at the local mall! What are you going to buy, for whom and why?



January Writing Prompts

- 1. You're skiing. You hear a rumble. Look out! It's an avalanche. What do you do? Details please.
- 2. There's a \$100 prize for building the biggest and best snow sculpture at school. Who's on your team? What does your sculpture look like? Why should you win the prize? What will you do with the money if you win?
- 3. You're ice skating and your friend falls through the ice! What do you do?
- 4. You're in charge of the Winter Frolic Games. Tell me all about it. What kinds of games will there be? How will you advertise? What will be the prizes? Who will come?
- 5. It's a snow day. No school! What will you do with your day off?
- 6. The bus is on it's way to school. The snow is coming down hard. It's almost blizzard conditions. Uh Oh! You go in the ditch. What happens next.
- 7. You're snowed in at school! It's a blizzard. No one can get home. Tell me how the overnight sleepover at school goes!
- 8. What's your favorite winter activity and why?
- 9. There are mysterious tracks all around the neighborhood snow fort and they look like they came from a huge animal. At the end of the trail is a small patch of blood. What's going on? What kind of animal or monster left those tracks? Is it really blood or just ketchup?
- 10. Frosty's hat really is magic! You tried it on and it took you to a winter wonderland! Where did you go and what did you do there?



Penguin WRITING Prompts

- 1. It would be fun to have a penguin for a pet. I'd name him/her _____ and...(Tell me about having a penguin for a pet.)
- 2. If I lived in the Antarctic with the penguins I'd need...
- 3. If I were a penguin and escaped from the zoo and came to school I ...
- 4. If my penguin were on Face Book here's what he'd have to say:
- 5. My penguin's room would look like...
- 6. If I could be a penguin for a day, this is what I think it would be like:



Martin Luther King Writing Prompts

- * "We can't do everything, but we can all do something." MLK proved that one person can truly make a difference. What's something that you're passionate about that you'd like to do to make a difference in our world.
- ❖ You're a reporter. You get to interview MLK. You have 5 questions to ask. What do you ask? What does he answer? Make it relevant for today.
- ❖ What is something that is happening in our society today that you think is really unfair that really bugs you. Why? What can you do about it?
- ❖ Write a thank you note to Dr. King. Speak from your heart.
- There's a movie that was out called "The Bucket List" In it 2 men were dying of cancer. They made a "Bucket List" a list of things they wanted to do before they "kicked the bucket" or passed away. In a notebook start your "bucket list" Number it. Have a section for PLACES you want to visit. THINGS you want to do. GOALS you want to achieve. Nothing is to wild, no dream is too big. This is YOUR bucket list. You don't have to share it if you don't want to. Add to it whenever you think or see something else.
- ❖ MLK accomplished many things with peaceful protests; marches and sit ins. Would you participate in a sit in or a march? Do you think they are affective? Why or why not?

- They say that you should "Stand for something, or you'll fall for anything." What are some of the things you are truly passionate about, that you think are worth standing up for and fighting for?
- ❖ There was much debate about whether there should be a National Holiday to honor MLK. Many people were against it as they felt that he was not a president and it put him in the ranks of George Washington. Do you think it was a good thing to have MLK Day? Why or Why not?
- ❖ MLK is a famous man, a hero to many. If you could meet any person living or go back in time and meet someone from the past, who would it be and why? Compare this person to MLK. How are they the same? How are they different.
- ❖ If MLK were alive today, what do you think he would be doing? Based on his past, what types of things do you think he would be involved in now? What projects do you think he would be for or against?
- ❖ How is President Obama like MLK? How is he different? Make a Venn diagram of the 2 famous people.
- ❖ How are Mrs. King and Mrs. Obama alike? How are they different? Make a Venn diagram of these 2 famous ladies.
- ❖ What would it have been like to be a son or daughter of MLK. Pick an important point in time and pretend you were there, that you were this man's son or daughter and write 2 paragraphs of what it was like when he gave his "I have a dream speech", or when he marched on Washington, or when your house was bombed, or when your father was arrested, or when you had to sit on the back of the bus, or when your father was assassinated, or when he won the Nobel Peace Prize etc.
- ❖ What exactly was MLK's dream? What can you do to continue to have MLK's dream come true?



February Writing Prompts

- 1. You're in charge of the Valentine Ball! Let me know your theme, decorations, everything from the menu to the invitations and the party games!
- 2. The groundhog saw his shadow! Oh no; more weeks of winter. What do you plan to do with all that "baby it's cold outside" & snuggle up time?
- 3. To help celebrate 100 Day you and 10 of your friends each have 10 wishes! What 10 things do you wish for? Elaborate!
- 4. February is the month of love and friendship. Tell me about your best friend and why she/he is your best friend.
- 5. If you could receive a valentine from a famous person, who would you like to receive it from and why?
- 6. President's Day celebrates Abe Lincoln's and George Washington's birthdays. Which president do you like best and why?
- 7. A time machine just warped you back to the time of Lincoln. You are at the same play he is when he is assassinated. You are sitting next to Booth and have a chance to stop him. Do you? Tell me about it.
- 8. The time machine warps you along with your best friend to a southern plantation. You are both slaves and are planning on running away. Details please.
- 9. You are part of Washington's best soldier patrol. You've intercepted an enemy message. What does it say? Who's it from? What do you do?

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February Writing Prompts

http://www.thinkinlikelincoln.org/Summary.html

- Is a new site with a booklet you can buy. I'm a Lincoln fan and thought the
 title Thinkin' Like Lincoln was one kids could latch on to and get excited
 about writing.
- Since there are so many correlations between Lincoln and Obama, start out by making a Venn diagram of the two.
- Get some current magazine and newspaper articles about President Obama and his family. There are also a slew of new picture books and biographies you can borrow from the library. Check out several on Lincoln and give your class 15 minutes to dive in.
- Then let them do both of these writing prompts. One is Thinkin' Like Lincoln versus Thinkin' Like Obama. The second is Thinkin' Like Lincoln versus themselves.
- After they are done, allow the students time to share their personal ones.
- Copy a picture of Lincoln, Obama's and your student's class picture's. Enlarge the head shot and let them cut them out and glue them to a paper plate.
- Have them trace their hands, cut them out and glue them to the sides holding their papers; a fun, quick and easy bulletin board. Or hang them in the hallway above or on your student's lockers. ©

"I'm thinki	<u>n like Lincoln i</u>	instead of Obama is	<u>if l</u>	
Use	instead of	_		
(Products)				
Listen to	instead of _			
(kind of mus	sic)			
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Watch	instead of			
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(son's name	s instead of daug	ghters)		
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Am a	(politic	cal party) instead of a	ı	•
Be involved in the		war instead of the		war
I'd be born i	n	instead of		
(month and	state).			





I'm sure you can think of some more that would be fun for your students. These were just a few off the top of my head.

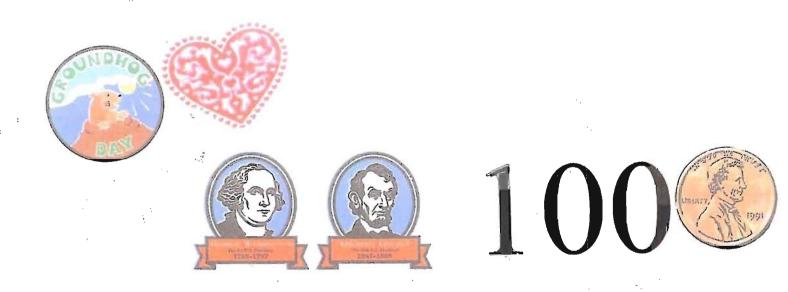
As you can see, students will have to know a bit of the historical background of each president to compare and contrast and fill in the correct answer.

Comparing themselves with Lincoln will be a bit easier and perhaps more fun. It's a great way to learn more about your students. I think they will have fun sharing their favorite kinds of music, friends, books, political parties, cars etc. with their friends.

- 2. If I had 100 dollars I would buy....(Tell me what, where, and why!)
- 3. If I could wish for 100 of something I'd wish for....(Tell me what, and why, and what happens when these things get here!)
- 3. Even if I lived to be 100-years-old I'd still...
- 4. I like ______ so much I could eat 100 of it! (Tell me what, why, and what happens after you do, or how long it will take you etc.)
- 5. I'm glad they made Valentine's Day! It's important to celebrate love and friendship because...
- 6. If I could get a valentine from anyone living or dead I'd want to receive a valentine from ______ because...
- 7. Valentine's Day is my favorite holiday. What is your favorite holiday and why?
- 8. Hey party planner! You have \$1,000 to plan the ultimate Valentine's Day Party. (Tell me about it. What does your invitation, decorations, dress, party favors, food, entertainment etc. look like? Who's coming? We need details start to glorious exhausting finish!).
- 9. If you had to design the most beautiful valentine in the world and money was no object, what would it look like, what would it be made of, and who would you send it to?
- 10. There used to be an old radio show called *Only the Shadow Knows*! So what's the deep dark secret? And why are you hiding it?
- 11. There are now 44 presidents! Who's your favorite and why?



- 12. You get an invitation to the inaugural ball. What will you wear? Who will be your date? How will you arrive? Who else will be going? What does the place look like? What band is playing? I want details!
- 13. You have just been made Queen/King of Hearts! What is your role? Where do you live? What do you wear, eat? What are your rules? Details please!
- 14. So the Valentine Fairy Godmother got a little crazy and she zapped everything red. Then her wand went on the fritz. Tell me about this colorful world that's now red and everything tastes like cherries and strawberries. How does everyone react to this? How are we going to get it to change back? Do we want it to? Write on rosy one...
- 15. Oh No! The groundhog peeked out! And he saw two snadows! His own and some other spooky creatures! But when he turned around the creature was gone and so was the groundhog! Who kidnapped the groundhog and are we doomed to live in winter forever? Tell me about it...
- 16. Lincoln's on the penny. So I give you one. Here...Take it. I'm giving you a penny for your thoughts. I want your thoughts on.....if you were in charge of the mint for a day whose faces would you put on the money, what size and color and denomination would the coins be and why?





March Writing Prompts

- 1. You've found the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow. How much gold is in it and how will you spend it?
- 2. You've followed the rainbow to the end and found the Lucky Leprechaun. He grants you one wish. What will you wish for and why?
- 3. Would you rather have March come in like a lion or a lamb and why? Or, do you like lion or lamb-like weather better and why?
- 4. They say St. Patrick took care of the snake problem in Ireland. Are you afraid of snakes? Tell me something you are frightened of and why.
- 5. What is your favorite color in the rainbow? What color of the rainbow suits your personality and why do you think that?
- 6. Are you Irish? What nationality are you? Tell me a bit about your heritage and where you were born. A bit 'O history about you please.
- 7. You're a famous Japanese kite designer. The sky's virtually the limit! What does your kite look like? What's it made out of? How high can it fly? Where do you fly it?
- 8. Oh no! Someone's broken into the Irish National Museum and stolen the magical shillelagh! Solve the mystery!
- 9. Pretend you're a leprechaun for the day. You have magical powers. What mischief will you do?



April Writing Prompts

- 1. There's a \$1000 prize for the best April fool's joke at school. Have at it. Then tell me what you'll do with the prize money.
- 2. You're kayaking in the Amazon and see a butterfly that's never been seen before. What does it look like? You're photograph gets published in *National Geographic* and you become famous! Tell me about it.
- 3. My children are the rainbows in my world. Who are some of your close friends that are the rainbows in your life and why?
- 4. If April showers bring May flowers, what do hurricanes and tornados bring?
- 5. Some people love lightening and thunder and stormy weather. Do you? Why or why not?
- 6. Tell me how you're like a butterfly; egg to caterpillar to chrysalis to butterfly.
- 7. I love to jump in puddles and walk in light misty rain. Do you? Tell me why and how you feel when you do it.
- 8. Let's go play in the mud; ooey gooey, gloppy-sloppy mud! Let's get down and get really-really dirty! Tell me all about how it feels, looks, smells and the consequences afterwards, if there are any!
- 9. You're having a sleepover with 5 of your best friends. You're in the middle of a scary movie. It's storming and a lightening bolt hits a power line and knocks out the electricity. There's frantic pounding at the door and a scream outside... Who could that be? What do they want? Tell me what happens next.









May Writing Prompts

- 1. You have an award winning garden complete with a waterfall, fountains and hundreds of flowers. Describe it to me. What state are you in? What kinds of flowers do you have? What kind of sculptures etc.
- 2. The fairy tale has come true! Well sort of. You kissed a frog and instead of turning into a prince he turned you into a frog too! What does it feel like? What will you do?
- 3. Ok! Ok! We'll make it the reverse. You do kiss the frog and he does turn into your prince charming! What does he look like? What's his personality like? What are his hobbies and interests? Where will you go and what will you do?
- 4. If you could have a room full of flowers what would your room be filled with? Describe it to me. How does it smell? How is it set up? What kinds of flowers?
- 5. Well if prince's can be frogs how about girls being flowers. Zap! You're a flower waiting for your prince. What kind of flower are you? You're in the garden. Here comes the prince. Yes; you can talk. Get on with it.
- 6. He loves me. He loves me not. He loves me! Who are the people in your life that you care about the most and why?
- 7. Do you like frogs or toads better? Why? Or....Are you more like a frog or more like a toad? Or....Are you more like a frog or more like a flower?
- 8. Or...Here comes the witch! You have a choice! She is about to zap you. You choose. It's either a flower, frog or toad. Which one do you pick and why?
- 9. If you think these prompts are too silly, well then you dream up one for yourself. Here is the magic pencil wand. Have at it! See. It's not so easy is it?