

Sample



SPEECH AND DEBATE

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Public Forum

Junior Scholars

Debate Guide

**GRADES
2-4**

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How to Use This Guide Book

This guidebook has been developed to instruct primary school students in the art of debate. Early Scholars' aim is to inform students, teachers, and parents about the benefits of debating and to introduce a fun and exciting way for students to express themselves.

This manual is an instructive guide that will assist primary school students in developing skills as an effective debater.

The guidebook is divided into four sections.

- The **first section** explains the rules of debate. It should be read by the teacher/ tutor and explained to students before activities begin.
- The **second section** details in class activities that may be used to increase student competency as a speaker, thinker, and debater.
- The **third section** is dedicated to homework activities that reinforce exercises done in class.
- The **fourth section** is designated for note taking. Students are encouraged to write and explore concepts they have learned in class.

By using this book, students will benefit from learning to speak in public and in front of their peers. Exercises from this book, will help in the development of cognitive and language abilities as well as in research skills. Students will gain a deeper understanding of global issues as well as hone skills in synthesizing information.

The contents of this guidebook are deemed most effective when used in a tutor-student environment. It is recommended that a teacher/tutor, explain concepts to students as they go through the guide book lessons and activities; each lesson is aligned with common core standards.

To begin, the tutor should instruct students in the basics of debate. That information may be found in the ***Introduction to Debate*** section of this guide book.

Good luck and have fun debating!

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INTRODUCTION TO DEBATE

What is debate?

Debate is a kind of formal argument. In a debate, people are not mad at each other, but they do represent different opinions about a single topic. In a debate, each side must present their reasons for being right. These reasons are called *evidence*.

What is a contention?

A main argument that you'll defend with supporting arguments.

What is an argument?

In debate, an argument involves three parts: claim, warrant, and impact. Each of these parts helps persuade the audience that your side is correct. For example, if you were asked to argue that ice cream should be eaten every day, your argument might look like this:

Claim: This is your statement about what you believe.

Example: Ice cream should be eaten every day

Warrant: This is your evidence

Example: Ice cream is not only delicious, but it has some good health benefits as well.

Impact: This is the effect of your evidence

Example: Allowing children to eat ice cream would make for happier schools and homes.

What is the difference between a statement and an argument?

A statement is just one part of the argument. To create a full argument, you must provide evidence.

What is a 4 person public format debate?

This is a debate format commonly used at the elementary, middle, and high school level. The format gives everyone a clear job to do, and an order in which to do it. Here are the roles in a typical 4 person debate, followed by the structure of how a typical 4 person debate will work:

TEAM ROLES

Debate is truly a team activity. Speakers chose a side and must work with others on their team, to develop a clear and comprehensible argument.

	Pro	Con
Speaker 1	Opens the debate with their team's opinion.	Opens the debate with their team's opinion
Speaker 2	Offers a rebuttal of the CON team's opinion.	Offers a rebuttal of the PRO team's opinion.
Speaker 3	Offers a summary of the PRO team's main points.	Offers a summary of the CON team's main points
Speaker 4	Delivers the final speech for the PRO side	Delivers the final speech for the CON side

STRUCTURE / ORDER:

This chart explains the order a typical debate follows. Each speaker is given an opportunity to defend a statement; they must do this within the time allotted.

	Pro		Con
Speech 1	Speaker 1 from the PRO side presents a 3 minute prepared speech on the PRO side of the debate. <i>For example : "I am for eating ice cream every day and here's why..."</i>	Speech 2	Speaker 1 from the CON side presents a 3 minute prepared speech on the CON side of the debate. <i>For example : "I am against eating ice cream every day and here's why..."</i>
Crossfire #1	Speaker 1 from both sides question each other about the evidence they gave for their argument.		
Speech 3	Speaker 2 from the PRO side goes against what Speaker 1 from the CON side argued. This is called making a "rebuttal." <i>For example: "You say that ice cream is unhealthy, but it actually has lots of calcium, which is good for growing bones."</i>	Speech 4	Speaker 2 from the CON side goes against what Speakers 1 and 2 from the PRO side argued. <i>For example: "Milk is actually a much better source of calcium for young children."</i>
Crossfire #2	Speaker 2 from both sides question each other about the evidence they gave for their argument		
Speech 5	Speaker 3 from the PRO side summarizes the overall argument	Speech 6	Speaker 3 from the CON side summarizes the overall argument.
Crossfire #3	All speakers get a chance to question each other.		
Speech 7	Final speech from Speaker 4 of the PRO side.	Speech 8	Final speech from Speaker 4 of the CON side.

Lesson 2

Introductory Speeches

(Present information and supporting evidence so that listeners can easily follow the organization - CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.2.1.a; CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.3.1.b)

Activity Time: 30 Minutes

Materials Needed:

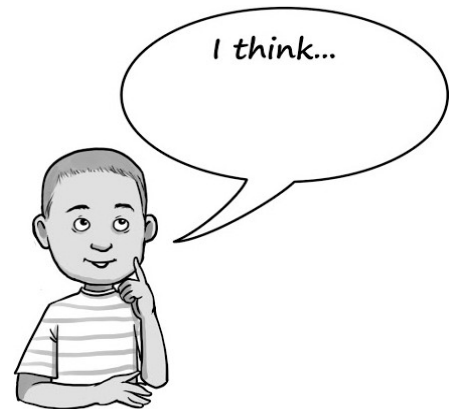
- Pen or pencil
- Paper

Today we are going to give a **speech**. The speech won't be about you; it will be about one of your classmates. You will **interview** your classmates and ask them questions about themselves. Once you have the answers, you will give a speech introducing your classmate to the rest of the class.

Activity: Find a partner. In 5 to 6 minutes conduct an interview. You can ask each other about pets, hobbies or favorite foods. Be sure to write down your answers. You can also draw pictures to help remember your partner's. When the interview is done, start to prepare your speech.

Hint: Start your speech with an introduction. Be sure to present your findings in an organized way.

Example: "Class, this is Steven Jones. Steven's favorite food is pizza. He likes to skateboard."



Vocabulary Box

Speech - A talk given by one person in front of an audience

Unison - All together/ with others

Interview - Learning about someone by asking them questions