

Ross Elementary

Quarter 3 Grade Improvement Opportunity

Facts

- Grade improvement is only for quarter 3 grades, which are the most recent grades completed at the time school closures occurred.
- All students will have the opportunity to complete an optional assignment to earn three to five numeric points toward their **final** quarter 3 grade.
- Grade improvement is only available in **ELA, Math and Science for grades 1-8**. It is available in all subjects for high school.
- **Assignment DUE DATE: May 4 – 11.**
 - Assignments will not be accepted after 11:59 p.m. on May 11.
- Updated quarter 3 report cards will be posted online in PowerSchool, emailed by request and available for pickup May 18 – 22.

Assignment to Complete and Submit to your Teacher

Directions for Assignment:

- Read the writing prompt.
- Read the *Time for Kids* articles (included below).
- Complete the graphic organizer (included below) using the information you read in the articles.
- Using the graphic organizer, write an essay on the **Write Your Essay** handout (included below).
- Submit your **completed graphic organizer and essay** to your ELA teacher between **May 4 – May 11**.

***If you do not have access to a printer, you may draw the graphic organizer on your own sheet of paper. You may also use your own sheet of paper when writing your essay.**

How Do I Submit the Assignment? You may do ONE of the following AND send to your teacher:

- Take a picture of your graphic organizer **and** essay.
- Complete your assignment on the computer.
- Print the handouts and complete the assignment.

Where Do I Submit the Assignment?

- Send your assignment through Class Dojo **or** send your assignment to your teacher's email.

Quarter 3 Grade Improvement Opportunity
Grades 3 - 5

Writing Prompt (Read first.)

You have just read two articles about the coronavirus from *Time for Kids*. Write an **opinion essay** that explains why you think staying home is beneficial for students. Use textual evidence from both articles in your essay. Follow the conventions of standard written English.

Be sure to:

- use evidence from both passages.

Next Steps

- Read the *Time for Kids* articles below.
- Make sure you are thinking about the writing prompt while you read.
- Complete the graphic organizer.
 - Only write about the writing prompt.
- Use the graphic organizer to write your essay.
- Proofread your essay and make changes if needed.
- Submit your assignment to your teacher.

CORONAVIRUS QUESTIONS?

TFK's Rebecca Mordechai spoke with Dr. Juan Dumois. He's an infectious-disease specialist at Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital, in Florida.



1. The coronavirus causes an illness called COVID-19. What are its symptoms?

Symptoms include fever, coughing, and shortness of breath.

2. What should I do if I have these symptoms?

If you're sick, tell a trusted adult. Symptoms can be treated. It may take a few days to a week to feel better.

3. How does the virus spread?

If you're near someone who coughs or sneezes, you can inhale the virus. If they cough or sneeze on a surface, you can pick up the virus by touching it. Avoid getting the virus by washing your hands.

4. How dangerous is the virus to kids?

Children seem to be much less affected than adults. If kids do get sick, they're less likely to have severe symptoms.

5. What can I do to stay healthy?

Before touching your face, wash your hands for 20 seconds—that's "Happy Birthday" two times—with soap and running water, or use hand sanitizer. There are also things you can do to strengthen your immune system. That helps the body fight off infections. Your immune system can be made stronger if you eat a healthy diet. Getting enough sleep is also important.

6. What should I do if I'm feeling anxious about COVID-19?

Don't be shy about talking to a parent, a teacher, or to another trusted adult. Feeling out of control can also make you anxious. But you can have some control by following safety and health guidelines.

7. What are some common myths about the virus?

One myth is that wearing a mask is all you need to protect yourself from COVID-19. Washing your hands properly and frequently is more helpful.

8. What can schools do to protect students?

Schools should make hand sanitizer available. That's really important. Hand sanitizer needs to be rubbed on both hands, and it should take at least 15 seconds to dry. Doorknobs and desks should also be wiped down at least once a day, or ideally after each class.

Responses have been edited for length and clarity.

COVER: XIA YUAN—GETTY IMAGES

> WORLD

PROTECTING THE PUBLIC

What is being done to stop the spread of the coronavirus?

By Shay Maunz

As the new coronavirus travels around the world, communities are taking steps to stop its spread.

The new virus was first found in China in December. Since then, the virus has spread quickly. It causes the disease COVID-19. By March 12, cases had been found in 116 countries. Nearly 130,000 people have tested positive for it.

Most people get only mildly sick from COVID-19. But more than 4,700 have died. Many were over the age of 80. COVID-19 can be serious for people who are elderly or who have medical conditions. But most people make a full recovery.

In China, the government has put strict rules in place to limit the disease's spread. Nearly 60 million people have been

told to stay home. This is called quarantine. This seems to be working. The number of new cases in China has been falling.

Italy is seeing the largest outbreak of COVID-19 outside China. On March 9, Italian officials banned most people from travel within Italy until at least April 3. They've told the country's 60 million people to leave home only when necessary.

COVID-19 IN THE U.S.

In the United States, about 1,300 cases of COVID-19 are confirmed. On March 11, President Donald Trump announced major restrictions on travel Europe to the U.S. will be halted for 30 days. This is to fight the **pandemic**.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says older adults and people with medical conditions should stay home and avoid crowds.

When a person tests positive for COVID-19, officials retrace his or her movements from before the diagnosis. They reach out to everyone who came in contact with the person. Those people are asked to go into quarantine for 14 days.

"Absolutely, we see a light at the end of the tunnel, but how quickly we get there depends on what countries do," Dr. Maria Van Kerkhove says. She's with the World Health Organization.

Scientists are racing to create a COVID-19 medicine and vaccine. According to U.S. health official Alex Azar, it could be 12 to 18 months before the vaccine's ready.

A-Z Power Word

pandemic *noun*: an outbreak of disease that spreads very quickly and affects a large number of people throughout the world



OFFICIAL RESPONSE Vice President Mike Pence is leading the U.S. government's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Here, he speaks during a March 6 news conference.



Name _____

ELA Teacher _____

Writing Prompt

You have just read two articles about the coronavirus from *Time for Kids*. Write an **opinion essay** that explains why you think staying home is beneficial for students. Use textual evidence from both articles in your essay. Follow the conventions of standard written English. (beneficial = resulting in good)

O.R.E.O Graphic Organizer (Grades 3 - 5)

Type: Opinion

O – After carefully reading “Coronavirus Questions” and “Protecting the Public”, it is obvious that staying home is beneficial for students.

R – For example, students should not be returning to school this year because _____

E – The article states, “ _____

-----start a new paragraph and indent-----

R – In addition, _____

E – The article states, “ _____

O – In conclusion, it is obvious that staying home is beneficial for students.

Next Steps:

- Write your essay.
 - Rewrite your sentences and the sentence stems from your graphic organizer. You should have two paragraphs.
 - Read your final written essay.

Writing Prompt Reminders

O – Opinion (topic sentence)

R – Reason number 1 (in your own words)

E – Evidence (copy from the article)

R – Reason number 2 (in your own words)

E – Evidence (copy from the article)

O – Opinion (concluding sentence)

- Your reason number 1 and number 2 should answer the writing prompt. Your entire essay should answer the writing prompt.
- Your reason number 1 and number 2 should not be the exact same.
- Your **evidence** should be copied straight from the article.
 - Your evidence should make your reasons true.
 - Your evidence should include “quotation marks”.
 - Your evidence is the only thing you can copy from the article.
- Your conclusion sentence is just restating the topic sentence.
- You should include information from both articles.
 - Reason one = Article 1
 - Reason two = Article 2
- Make sure you indent both paragraphs.