



Collins Education Associates

# The Collins Writing Program

A Writing Across the Curriculum Program with Over 35 Years of Proven Results

## The Collins Writing Exchange

November 2, 2023 Issue #70

### How Is It November Already??!

*Every year, all of us think in September, "How will I make it through this year?" Let us help you! Visit our website, [collinsed.com](http://collinsed.com), for free resources and upcoming PD opportunities and refer to the assignments and tips offered in our monthly newsletters. And be sure to share this newsletter link with friends and colleagues-- Every teacher likes new ideas and ready-to-use assignments!*

### Celebration of the Month\*

#### Veterans Day November 11th

Veterans Day honors veterans of the U.S. armed forces who served during times of both war and peace. This month we are including several examples of Type Three assignments that can be used as you recognize this important federal holiday in your classroom. Feel free to use them "as is," or as models for building your own.



Grades K-2

Grades 3-5

Grades 6-12

*\* Each month we will highlight a different day or event.  
In December, we will be sharing assignments for the winter holiday season and how each family celebrates during this special time of year.  
If you have a great Collins Writing assignment, please send it to [Cheryl McDonough](mailto:Cheryl.McDonough@collinsed.com), and you may see it in our newsletter!*

### Text-Based Go-To Questions

Now is the perfect time to start working with students on



practicing text-based analysis. [Click here](#) for quick tips to get you started and a go-to list of questions you can use as you help students develop this sophisticated skill. These and other text-dependent questions can stand alone as quick and informal **Type One or Two** responses that prioritize comprehension and other reading skills, or they can be structured as **Type Three assignments using FCAs** that combine reading response with other key writing skills.

See below for just a few examples of prompts from our **Go-To List**.

**Capture  
Ideas**

**Type 1**

How well does the title support the theme of the passage? Explain in 4 lines or more.

**Respond  
Correctly**

**Type 2**

Identify two pieces of text evidence that help the author support his claim.

**Edit for  
FCAs**

**Type 3**

Explain how the character changes throughout the text.

- FCA 1: Restate and briefly summarize how the character changes (15 pts.)
- FCA 2: Cite and explain two pieces of text evidence that illustrate this change (40 pts.)
- FCA 3: Use quotation marks correctly and capitalize character names (5 pts.)

**See the Complete List of Text-Based Questions and Quick Tips**

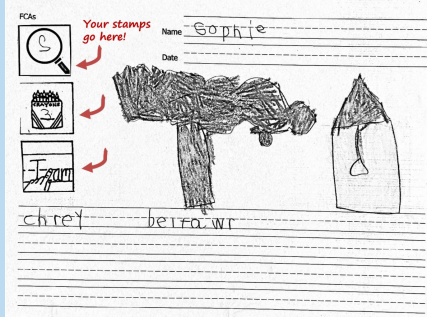


## Preview our Primary Grade FCA Stamps!

*~Available Now by Special Order~*

You asked, we listened! Use these custom-designed rubber stamps to quickly prepare Type Three writing tasks for primary writers and enable easy differentiation of FCAs from assignment to assignment or even student to student!

Here are just a few of our favorite **primary FCAs**--all available now as 1-inch rubber stamps. Which ones do you love to use in your classroom? Contact us to help you place your special order!



**Begin Custom Order Now!**

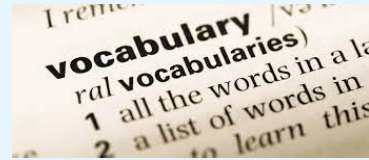
Looking for fresh, high-leverage activities to build content-based reading and writing skills?  
*Check out our newest desktop resources:*



**Desktop Guide to Sentence Expansion**



**Desktop Guide to the Ten Percent Summary**



**Desktop Guide to Collins Vocabulary Cards**

Strategies for Peer Review and Three-Step Editing



### Virtual Training Session!

Peer editing need not be painful! This online workshop will help you rethink your approach to editing so students assume more of the responsibility for this task and have tangible evidence to show for it.

[Learn More and Register Here!](#)

**See our Full Listing of Virtual Sessions and Public Workshops in Your Area Here are just a few...**

Building Blocks to Multi-Paragraph Essays



December 15th in New Jersey

Managing and Improving Writing Skills and Habits in the Primary Grades



November 13th in New Jersey

**FREE RESOURCES**

**PUBLIC WORKSHOPS**

**RESEARCH & RESULTS**

**SHOP FOR PRODUCTS**

**ABOUT THE CWP**

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