

Middle School Big Talk Homework

We have been working on Persuasive texts, looking at giving reasons to support beliefs and using emotive language. In our Inquiry topic last term, we learned about things we can do to stay healthy and our discussions have included the need for regular exercise. Our next Big Write will take place on Thursday May 2nd. Students will be asked to write a Persuasive text recommending a physical activity that they think is good for health. In preparation for this Big Write, we would appreciate if you could spend some time talking to your child about what they might like to include in their writing.

Some prompting questions:

- What sport / physical activity do I like to do? Why do I like doing it?
- What sport / physical activity would I like to do? Why would I like to try it?
- Is this an individual or team activity?
- Where do you do this activity?
- How is it healthy for you? (This could include physical, mental and emotional health.)
- How do you feel when you do this activity? After this activity?
- How can I begin and end my writing in an interesting way?
- What persuasive language can I use in my writing?

Some examples of the sorts of things they may write:

I think playing basketball is a great way to stay healthy. You have to run a lot when you play basketball and that helps get your heart beating faster and helps you to become fitter. You need to have good ball handling skills to be able to throw, catch, dribble and shoot the ball. The more you practise, the better you get. Basketball is a team event so it is good for you socially as you get to play with other people. After a game of basketball you can feel tired and sore but it is worth it. You feel good, even if your team didn't win, if you tried your best and had fun. I strongly recommend everyone thinks about playing basketball.

Walking is a good activity to do. You can walk by yourself or with family or friends. You can walk your dog. You can walk anywhere! You can walk around the streets near your house or go somewhere like the beach or countryside. You can walk outside and get fresh air and sunshine. Walking is free. You can walk long distances or short distances. You can walk quickly or slowly. Walking helps develop your fitness. Walking can help relieve stress. Walking is good for everyone. Give it a go – what have you got to lose?

