

If you do nothing else...do this!

Many times what a student writes is fine—it's just not enough. Therefore, encourage your child to include more information. However, don't tell him specifically what to add to make it longer. Rather, remind your child of the different types of details that could add interest for the reader.

Add more details

WHO: Describe what the subject looks like, acts like, and sounds like.

QUOTES: Include character dialogue or expert quotes.

LOCATIONS: Describe the setting, environment, mood, and/or weather.

EXAMPLES: Add specifics using for example, one kind is, such as, etc.



NAMES: Identify specific kinds by name using proper nouns.

SENSES: Describe relevant sights, smells, sounds, tastes, and touches.

DEFINITIONS: Before or after important vocabulary, include a simple explanation using *this means*, etc.

NUMBERS: Include dates, quantities, ages, times, prices, measurements, scores, etc.