



Good as Gold Writing Prompts

for Grades 1–6

To encourage your students to write in a variety of formats, try these monthly writing prompts to celebrate America and the seasons. You may need to adapt them to suit your students' abilities or provide additional guidelines, such as paragraph or page length. For example, for younger students, you might write stories as a class.

* August *

- ★ **Go Team USA!**—Write a letter, song, or poem to encourage Team USA at the 2016 Summer Olympics.
- ★ **It's Back to School!**—Imagine that someone from another country has moved to your town and is joining the class. Write five to ten facts or tips to help the new student learn about your town.
- ★ **A Gift From Our Nation**—The Statue of Liberty was a gift to the US from the people of France. It is a symbol of freedom. Imagine that you're on a US gift-giving committee. What would be a good gift for America to give to other countries? Describe the gift and what it means, and what country it should be given to.



* September *

- ★ **The Best Field Trip Ever!**—Where should the class go on a field trip? Write about a place in the US the class should visit and give three to five reasons why.
- ★ **It's Nice to Meet You!**—List five words that describe you and explain why you chose each word.
- ★ **Fabulous Fall**—From fall foliage to harvesting crops to cooler weather, the nation experiences changes in the fall. Write a poem about fall. Be sure to describe what you see and feel as the season changes.



* October *

- ★ **It's Columbus Day!**—In 1492, Christopher Columbus sailed the oceans blue. Imagine you were on the boat with Columbus. Write a diary entry about your trip.
- ★ **Take Me Out to the Ball Game!**—Baseball is America's pastime, and the World Series is this month. Write an explanation of how baseball is played to someone who has never seen the game.
- ★ **It's Halloween!**—Write a spooky story set in an abandoned castle.



* November *

- ★ **It's Election Day!**—Americans will go to the polls in November to elect a new president. Who do you think will win? Write a paragraph explaining your answer.
- ★ **Thank You, Veterans!**—Write a letter to a military service member or veteran to thank him or her for serving and helping to protect our nation.
- ★ **It's Thanksgiving!**—Plan a Thanksgiving dinner. Make a list of people you will invite, and create a menu. You can invite anyone you want! Then write a story about your turkey day celebration.



* December *

- ★ **Welcome Winter**—December 21 is the first day of winter. The coldest temperature on record in the US was in Alaska at -80 degrees Fahrenheit. (Remember: 32 degrees is when things freeze.) List five things to do to keep warm. Then list five things to do when it is too cold to go outside!
- ★ **Let's Play**—Create a new game that will sweep the nation. Write the instructions for playing and share them with your class.
- ★ **Hats On!**—You are a warm wool hat sitting in the back of the hall closet. Suddenly it's winter! Write a story from the hat's point of view about its winter adventures. Who is its owner and where does the hat go?



★ January ★

- ★ **I Have a Dream!**—Honor Martin Luther King Jr. In August 1963, he gave a speech in Washington, DC. He talked about his dream for this nation—that all people would be treated equally. Write about a dream you have for America.
- ★ **It's the Presidential Inauguration!**—Put your reporter cap on. Write a summary describing what happened at the inauguration.
- ★ **January Is Brainteaser Month!**—See if you can trick someone. Research a US state, event, or site, or a famous American. Turn your research into a quiz and write five to ten questions on your topic. See who can get all the answers correct!



★ February ★

- ★ **Celebrating US Presidents**—Mount Rushmore in South Dakota is a giant carved sculpture with the faces of four US presidents on it: George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln, and Theodore Roosevelt. Imagine if you were able to talk to these presidents. What would you tell them about America today? (Remember, it's been more than 100 years since they were president!)
- ★ **February Is Library Lovers' Month**—Write a review of your favorite book by an American author.
- ★ **Hat, Scarf, and Mittens?**—Imagine that it's a cold winter day. You're getting ready for school. Your mom tells you to wear your hat, scarf, and gloves. When you open the closet to get them, you can't believe your eyes. What happens?



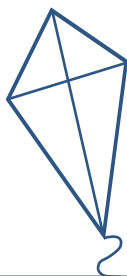
★ March ★

- ★ **It's Music in Our Schools Month!**—Listen to the words of America's national songs. Then work with your team to write the words for a new song that celebrates America.
- ★ **Spring Has Sprung**—In many states in the US, spring is the start of warmer weather and longer days. Describe how your community changes in the spring.
- ★ **Made in America**—Many products are made in America. Find five products that have labels indicating they were produced in the US. Choose one of the products and research its history.



★ April ★

- ★ **April Fools!**—Imagine that you wake up one morning to find you've shrunk to the size of a pencil. What happened? Is it a trick? Write a story about your adventure at seven inches tall.
- ★ **Celebrate the Heroes in Your Life**—April 28 is National Superhero Day. Write a letter to someone who is a hero to you and explain why.
- ★ **It's National Kite Month!**—Imagine that you are a kite that gets loose and is being swept across the country. Write a story from the kite's point of view. Describe what you see, where you go, and what you do.



★ May ★

- ★ **April Showers Bring May Flowers!**—The rose is the national flower of the US. Each state has a flower too. Write a poem about flowers and include your state flower. Be sure to describe how they look, feel, and smell.
- ★ **Athletes Around the US**—Who is your favorite American athlete? Write a paragraph about the athlete and why you admire him or her.
- ★ **Set Sail**—The longest river in the US is the Missouri River. It flows from Montana in the north to Missouri in the south. Imagine that you are captain of a boat sailing the Missouri River. Write a story about your experience.



★ June/July ★

- ★ **Stars and Stripes**—June 14 is Flag Day. The stars on the American flag represent the 50 states, and the stripes represent the 13 original colonies. Choose a state that you've never been to and read about the state. Write five to ten facts that you learn.
- ★ **Summer Vacation, Here I Come!**—Imagine that you're going camping this summer. Pick a place in the US where you will camp. Will you go to the mountains, a lake, or the woods? Who will you go with? Write a story about your adventure.
- ★ **Happy Birthday, America!**—The Fourth of July is when America celebrates its birthday. Create a birthday card for America and list five things you like about this country.

