



## Informative Report

Dear Parents,

In the coming weeks, our fifth grade class will craft informative reports. The students will learn to start with a captivating topic sentence, develop it with well-researched facts and vivid details, and include illustrations for clarity. Using a mix of compound and complex sentences, they'll effectively communicate the topic's content. Finally, the students will conclude by summarizing the topic, leaving a lasting impression. Report writing fosters research skills, expands knowledge, and teaches organizational skills applicable to various genres.

### **Ideas for Home Support**

As your child practices writing these informative reports at school you might consider practicing at home with the following ideas:

- Encourage your child to explore their interests and passions, such as historical events, scientific discoveries, biographies of famous individuals, or environmental issues and research information on those topics.
- Take a trip to the library with your child and help them find books, encyclopedias, or other resources related to topics of interest to them.
- Practice illustrating topics of interest with your child. They could include visuals such as photographs, maps, charts, or diagrams to enhance understanding.
- Assist your child in organizing the information they've gathered into an outline for their research report. Help them identify main ideas and supporting details, and arrange them logically within the outline.

Thank you for all your support!

Sincerely,

## Informative Report Rubric

### 5th Grade

Genre Chart Informative: Report	4 Exceeded Goal	3 Accomplished Goal	2 Just Beginning	1 Hasn't Started
<b>Includes an engaging introductory paragraph</b>	Has an engaging and creative introductory paragraph	Has an engaging introductory paragraph	Engaging introductory paragraph is weak or off-topic	Does not engage the reader
<b>Categorizes information into headings</b>	Information is logically categorized into headings	Information is categorized into headings	Limited headings are used	No headings are used
<b>Develops details for the topic with facts, quotes, and examples</b>	More than six details of the main idea are creatively told	Five or six details about the main idea are told	Four or less details are told	Very few details are told
<b>Includes an illustration or graph</b>	Uses well-chosen illustration or graph	Uses an illustration or graph	Uses an illustration or graph that is not relevant	Does not use an illustration or graph
<b>Uses precise content language</b>	Uses precise content language several times	Uses precise content language	Uses very little precise content language	Does not use precise content language
<b>Uses compound and complex sentences</b>	Uses well-placed and creatively constructed compound and complex sentences	Uses compound and complex sentences	Uses simple and compound sentences	Uses simple sentences only
<b>Has a concluding paragraph that summarizes the main points</b>	Ending paragraph is creative and summarizes the main idea	Ending paragraph summarizes the main idea	Has an ending paragraph but it is weak or does not summarize the main idea	No organized conclusion
<b>Correct conventions support the meaning</b>	No errors or minor errors in spelling, punctuation, and grammar	A few errors, but they do not interfere with meaning	Frequent errors that distract the reader	So many errors that it is hard to read

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Comparing Narrative and Informative

Write a **N** for Narrative and an **I** for Informative after each passage. Explain your reasons.

<p>Banana slugs might sound silly, but they're actually pretty cool creatures you can find in forests! These slugs are named after their yellow color and their long, slimy bodies. They love munching on plants and decaying matter, helping to break down dead leaves and wood. Even though they move slowly, banana slugs are essential to keeping the forest clean and healthy. So, next time you're exploring the woods, keep an eye out for these bright yellow critters—they're nature's little recyclers!</p>	
<p>Reasons:</p>	
<p>Once upon a time in a bustling city, a young girl named Lily discovered a mysterious old book hidden in her attic. As she flipped through its dusty pages, she found herself transported to a magical world filled with talking animals and enchanted forests. With the help of her newfound friends, Lily embarked on a thrilling adventure to save the kingdom from an evil sorcerer. And in the end, she learned that courage and kindness were the most powerful magic of all.</p>	
<p>Reasons:</p>	

## List of Fifty States

Alabama	Louisiana	Ohio
Alaska	Maine	Oklahoma
Arizona	Maryland	Oregon
Arkansas	Massachusetts	Pennsylvania
California	Michigan	Rhode Island
Colorado	Minnesota	South Carolina
Connecticut	Mississippi	South Dakota
Delaware	Missouri	Tennessee
Florida	Montana	Texas
Georgia	Nebraska	Utah
Hawaii	Nevada	Vermont
Idaho	New Hampshire	Virginia
Illinois	New Jersey	Washington
Indiana	New Mexico	West Virginia
Iowa	New York	Wisconsin
Kansas	North Carolina	Wyoming
Kentucky	North Dakota	

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

**What I Know and What I Would Like to Know**

<b>What I Know</b>	<b>What I Would Like to Know</b>

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

### What I Know and What I Would Like to Know

<b>What I Know</b>	<b>What I Would Like to Know</b>
<p>They have salt flats.</p> <p>There are lots of mountains.</p> <p>The Olympics were held there.</p>	<p>What makes Utah significant?</p> <p>Why would someone visit the state?</p> <p>What national parks are located there?</p>

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Notes for Informative Report

Choose three of the five areas to research.

**State:**

### Geography

**Guiding questions:** Are there rivers or other bodies of water? What is the location? Bordering states? Other physical features (forests, mountains, deserts, valleys, caverns?)

**Notes:**

### History

**Guiding questions:** When was the state founded? How did it become a part of the United States? How have the state's economy and industries evolved over time? Who were some key figures in the state's history?

**Notes:**

### Famous People from the State

**Guiding questions:** Presidents? War Heroes? Athletes? Authors? Inventors?

**Notes:**

### Climate

**Guiding questions:** Average rainfall? Average temperatures? Does it snow? What effect does the climate have on resources or industries?

**Notes:**

### State Symbols

**Guiding questions:** What is the state bird? Why is it significant? What is the state flower? Why was it chosen? Is there a state animal? What does the state flag look like and what does it represent?

**Notes:**

**Industries**

**Guiding questions:** Farming? Dairy products? Mining? Auto industries? Oil? Manufacturing?

**Notes:**

**Education**

**Guiding questions:** What is the state rank for education? How much of the state budget goes to education? What challenges do they have? How are their colleges and universities rated?

**Notes:**

**Significance**

**Guiding questions:** Why is this state important? What makes the state unique? How does it contribute to the country?

**Notes:**

**Quote to use:**



## Notes for Informative Report Model

Choose three of the five areas to research.

**State:**

### Geography

**Guiding questions:** Are there rivers or other bodies of water? What is the location? Bordering states? Other physical features (forests, mountains, deserts, valleys, caverns?)

**Notes:**

Regions - Rocky mountains, Colorado Plateau, and Great Basin.

Rocky Mountains - smallest geographic region in Utah, 12,000 above sea level, great skiing,

Colorado Plateau - largest geographically, five national parks, 6 nat. Monuments, several state parks, large reserves of coal, oil shale, sand, natural gas and uranium.

Great Basin - Most of Utah and parts Nevada, Great Salt Lake, Bonneville Salt Flats, massive lake

### History

**Guiding questions:** When was the state founded? How did it become a part of the United States? How have the state's economy and industries evolved over time? Who were some key figures in the state's history?

**Notes:**

### Famous People from the State

**Guiding questions:** Presidents? War Heroes? Athletes? Authors? Inventors?

**Notes:**

### Climate

**Guiding questions:** Average rainfall? Average temperatures? Does it snow? What effect does the climate have on resources or industries?

**Notes:**

### State Symbols

**Guiding questions:** What is the state bird? Why is it significant? What is the state flower? Why was it chosen? Is there a state animal?

What does the state flag look like and what does it represent?

**Notes:**

### **Industries**

**Guiding questions:** Farming? Dairy products? Mining? Auto industries? Oil? Manufacturing?

**Notes:**

Includes mining, oil, ranching, and natural drilling

Key role = mining and tourism.

Largest open mine pit, large # of workers They mine many minerals

State and national parks used a lot. 2011 = 690 million from tourism at NP's

2002 Winter Olympics helped increase it.

### **Education**

**Guiding questions:** What is the state rank for education? How much of the state budget goes to education? What challenges do they have? How are their colleges and universities rated?

**Notes:**

### **Significance**

**Guiding questions:** Why is this state important? What makes the state unique? How does it contribute to the country?

**Notes:**

National Parks sets it apart - 43 state parks and 5 national parks. Parks attract many tourists.

Many activities = camping, wakeboarding, hang gliding, ATV rides, golf, RV camping, nature walks, colorful birds, various plants, reptiles and geography.

Zions, Grand Staircase, Colorado river

**Quote to use:** "This is the place." = Brigham Young

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Topic \_\_\_\_\_

## Source Documentation

### **Internet Sources**

#### Source #1

Author name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Title of web page or article: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of the website: \_\_\_\_\_

Publication date or the date you accessed the website: \_\_\_\_\_

URL (full web address): \_\_\_\_\_

#### Source #2

Author name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Title of web page or article: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of the website: \_\_\_\_\_

Publication date or the date you accessed the website: \_\_\_\_\_

URL (full web address): \_\_\_\_\_

### **Print Sources**

Author(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Title of book/article: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of the journal, newspaper, or magazine: \_\_\_\_\_

Publisher: \_\_\_\_\_

Publication date: \_\_\_\_\_

Page number(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Topic \_\_\_\_\_

## Source Documentations Model

### Internet Sources

#### Source #1

**Author name(s):** Not provided

**Title of web page or article:** ducksters.com/geography

**Title of the website:** Ducksters - United States Geography for Kids

**Publication date or the date you accessed the website:** March 24, 2024

**URL (full web address):** <https://www.ducksters.com/geography/state.php?State=Utah>

#### Source #2

**Author name(s):** Not provided

**Title of web page or article:** Britannica Kids

**Title of the website:** kids.Britannica.com

**Publication date or the date you accessed the website:** March 2023

**URL (full web address):** <https://kids.britannica.com/kids/article/Utah/345531>

### Print Sources

**Author(s):** Blake Hoena

**Title of book/article:** Exploring the States - Utah, The Beehive State

**Title of the journal, newspaper, or magazine:** N/A

**Publisher:** Blastoff! Readers

**Publication date:** August 1, 2013

**Page number(s):** 32

# Engaging Introduction Examples

## Fact

**The name Utah comes from the Native American Ute tribe and means people of the mountains.** Utah became a state on January 4, 1896. As the state developed, it became known for its industry and majestic geography regions. While Utah's industries and history make it a special state, it is its national parks that set Utah apart from all other states.

## Quote

**"This is the place!"** exclaimed Brigham Young when he first laid eyes on the vast and beautiful territory known today as the state of Utah. Utah became a state on January 4, 1896. As the state developed, it became known for its industry and majestic geography regions. While Utah's industries and history make it a special state, it is its national parks that set Utah apart from all other states.

## Annotations

Engaging Strategy is in bolded red

Background information

Transitional statement

## **Informative Report Model**

“This is the place!” exclaimed Brigham Young when he first laid eyes on the vast and beautiful territory known today as the state of Utah. Utah became a state on January 4 1896. As the state developed, it became known for its natural resources and majestic geographic regions. While Utah’s industries and history make it a special state, it is its national parks that set Utah apart from all other states.

### **Successful Industries**

Utah’s economy has many successful industries which include mining, oil, ranching, and natural gas drilling. But mining and tourism play a key role. Utah is home to the largest open pit mine and brings in a large number of workers seeking new job opportunities. Copper, gold, silver, zinc, and lead are mined in Utah. Different fuels are also very important. Tourism plays an important role in Utah’s economy. State and national parks are heavily visited throughout the year. In 2011, the state of Utah received over \$690,000,000 from tourism to its national parks. The 2002 Winter Olympics increased the numbers of tourists substantially. Utah’s successful industries are largely attributed to the many unique geographical features of the state.

### **Geography**

Utah is the meeting place of three well-known geographical regions: the Rocky Mountains, the Colorado Plateau, and the Great Basin, which contribute greatly to its diversity. The Rocky Mountains is the smallest geographical region in Utah. In the northern center of the state the Wasatch Range reaches heights of about 12,000 ft above sea level. The Uinta Mountains and the Rocky Mountains make Utah a great vacation spot for skiers and snowboarders. The Colorado Plateau is the largest geographical region in the state. Within this area reside five national parks, six national monuments, a national recreation area, and several state parks. The Colorado River, wind, and rain have all played a hand in the development of the terrain within these national treasures. It is the uniqueness of the parks’ spectacular terrain that intrigues tourists from around the globe.

## Significance

It is the breathtaking beauty of Utah's state and national parks that sets it apart from every other state in the country. Utah is home to 43 beautiful state parks and five gorgeous national parks. With sights unseen anywhere else in the world, many different types of tourists frequent these natural wonders. For the hearty traveler, individuals can pitch a tent and camp, wakeboard, hang-glide or ride ATVs. For people who don't really like to "rough it" or are not extremely adventurous, there is golf, RV camping, and nature walking in search of colorful birds, various plants, reptiles, and geology. Breathtaking views can be seen in the south and southeastern parts of the state in state and national parks, such as Zion and the Grand Staircase. The Colorado River, wind, and rain have all played a hand in the development of the terrain within these national treasures. It is the uniqueness of the parks' spectacular terrain that intrigues tourists from around the globe.

The state benefits greatly from these natural attractions, drawing visitors worldwide. From the Rocky Mountains to the Great Basin, Utah offers a range of unique landscapes. But above all else, are the amazing sights to be seen at the state and national parks. It truly is "the place."

# Informative Report Model - Annotated

## Utah: It's the Place to Be

"This is the place!" exclaimed Brigham Young when he first laid eyes on the vast and beautiful territory known today as the state of Utah. Utah became a state on January 4 1896. As the state developed, it became known for its natural resources and majestic geographic regions. While Utah's natural resources and \*geography contribute to the worth and beauty of the state, it is its national parks that set Utah apart from all other states.

### Successful Industries

Utah's economy has many successful industries which include mining, oil, ranching, and natural gas drilling, but mining and tourism play a key role. Utah is home to the largest open pit mine and brings in a large number of workers seeking new job opportunities. \*Copper, gold, silver, zinc, and lead are minerals mined in Utah. These things are very important, but tourism plays an important role in Utah's economy. State and national parks are heavily visited throughout the year. In 2011, the state of Utah received over \$690,000,000 in from tourism to its national parks. The 2002 Winter Olympics increased the numbers of tourists substantially. Utah's successful industries are largely attributed to the many unique \*geographical features of the state.

### Geography

Utah is the meeting place of three well-known geographical regions: the Rocky Mountains, the Colorado Plateau, and the Great Basin, which contribute greatly to its diversity. The Rocky Mountains is the smallest geographical region in Utah. In the northern center of the state the Wasatch Range reaches heights of about 12,000 ft above sea level. The Uinta Mountains and the Rocky Mountains make Utah is a great premier vacation spot for skiers and snowboarders. The Colorado Plateau is the largest geographical region in the state. \*Within this area reside five national parks, six national monuments, a national recreation area, and several state parks. The gGreat Basin covers most of Utah and parts of Nevada. The Great Salt Lake is located there. Next to the Great Salt Lake is where the Salt Flats are located. They were once a massive lake comparable to the size of Lake mMichigan. It is Utah's geography that makes its state and national parks so distinct.



## Significance

It is the breathtaking beauty of Utah's state and national parks that sets it apart from every other state in the country. Utah is home to 43 beautiful state parks and five gorgeous national parks. With sights unseen anywhere else in the world, many different types of tourists frequent these natural wonders. For the hearty traveler, individuals can pitch a tent and camp, wakeboard, hang-glide or ride ATVs. For people who don't really like to "rough it" or are not extremely adventurous, there is golf, RV camping, and nature walking in search of \*colorful birds, various plants, reptiles, and geology. Breathtaking views vistas and landscapes can be seen in the south and southeastern parts of the state in protected state and national parks, such as Zion and the Grand Staircase. The Colorado River, wind, and rain have all played a hand in the development of the terrain within these national treasures. It is the uniqueness of the parks' spectacular terrain that intrigues tourists from around the globe.

The state benefits greatly from these natural attractions, drawing visitors worldwide. From the Rocky Mountains to the Great Basin, Utah offers a range of unique landscapes. But above all else, are the amazing sights to be seen at the state and national parks. It truly is "the place."

### Annotations

Engaging introduction is in red

Headings are in red

Details with facts, quotes and examples are in green

Precise content language is in blue

Compound and complex sentences are in orange

Summary of main points is in red

Convention edits are in black

\*Edits related to the Writing Warm-Up are in black with an asterisk

## Illustration



Zion Canyon at sunset in Zion National Park as seen from Angels Landing looking south  
(Photo by Diliff)

# Revision: Informative Report

## 5th Grade

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Peer #1 \_\_\_\_\_ Peer #2 \_\_\_\_\_

Peer 1	Peer 2	<b>Genre Chart</b>
		<b>Includes an engaging introductory paragraph</b> Suggestions:
		<b>Categorizes information into headings</b> Suggestions:
		<b>Develops details for the topic with facts, quotes, and examples</b> Suggestions:
		<b>Includes an illustration or a graph</b> Suggestions:
		<b>Uses precise content language</b> Suggestions:
		<b>Uses compound and complex sentences</b> Suggestions:
		<b>Has a concluding paragraph that summarizes the main points</b> Suggestions:

Peer #1 Rubric Score \_\_\_\_\_

Peer #2 Rubric Score \_\_\_\_\_

## Editing Checklist

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Peer Editor 1: \_\_\_\_\_ Peer Editor 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Any item on the checklist without an X will need to be edited before turning in the paper.

Peer 1

Peer 2

- |       |       |  |
|-------|-------|--|
| _____ | _____ | 1. Paper includes name, date, and title                                      |
| _____ | _____ | 2. Correct punctuation in each sentence                                      |
| _____ | _____ | 3. Correct capitalization (beginning of sentences and proper nouns)          |
| _____ | _____ | 4. Correct spelling, including No Excuse Words                               |
| _____ | _____ | 5. Paragraph is indented   |
| _____ | _____ | 6. If digital, Times New Roman, 12 pt. Font, one-inch margins, double-spaced |
| _____ | _____ | 7. _____   |

*(Grammar focus for the class)*



## Editing Checklist

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Peer Editor 1: \_\_\_\_\_ Peer Editor 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Any item on the checklist without an X will need to be edited before turning in the paper.

Peer 1

Peer 2

- |       |       |  |
|-------|-------|--|
| _____ | _____ | 1. Paper includes name, date, and title                                      |
| _____ | _____ | 2. Correct punctuation in each sentence                                      |
| _____ | _____ | 3. Correct capitalization (beginning of sentences and proper nouns)          |
| _____ | _____ | 4. Correct spelling, including No Excuse Words                               |
| _____ | _____ | 5. Paragraph is indented   |
| _____ | _____ | 6. If digital, Times New Roman, 12 pt. Font, one-inch margins, double-spaced |
| _____ | _____ | 7. _____   |