

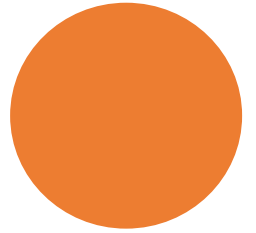
SECOND TRIMESTER WRITING PROMPT

WRITE A REPORT ON A **SCIENCE-RELATED**
TOPIC





PART ONE



I can pick a manageable topic that fits the guidelines.

I can find credible resources.

I can take high-quality notes.





AUDIENCE

Your teacher and your peers



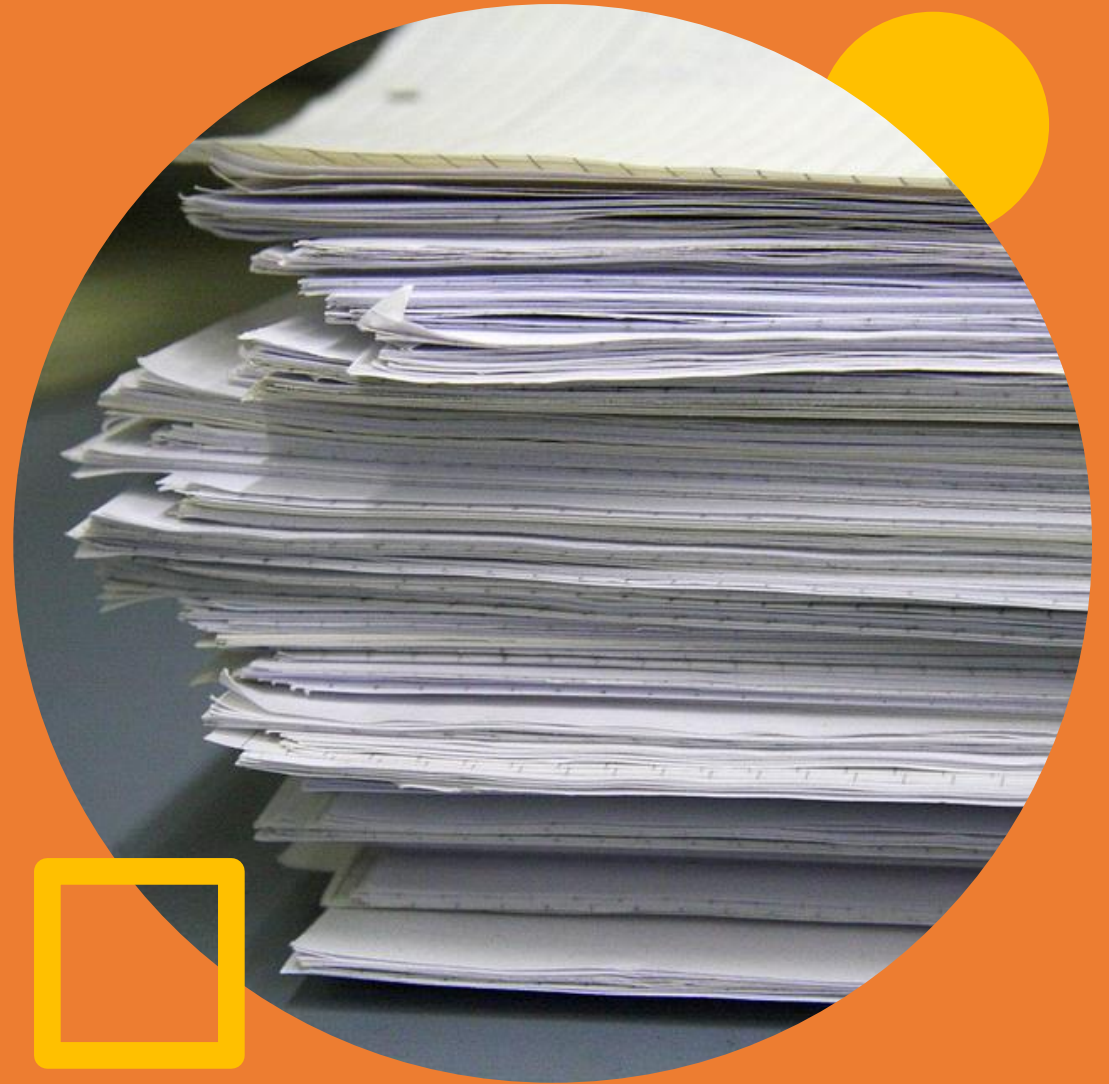


PURPOSE

Inform or explain your topic to readers





HOW LONG DOES
THIS HAVE TO BE?



500-700 WORDS

You will type your paper (using Google docs, MS Word, or a Rich Text File).


- Calibri 11.
- Double-space.
- No extra spaces.
- (In *Paragraph* it should show “0 pt/0 pt.”)
- Your report will end up being one and a half to two pages long.



Shield Volcanoes vs. Composite Volcanoes

by Jessica Jordan

Did you know that there are different kinds of volcanoes? In Washington there are composite volcanoes while in Hawaii there are shield volcanoes. What makes the two kinds of volcanoes alike? Even more interesting, what makes them different?



PICK A SCIENCE TOPIC

Life science

- Plants
- Animals
- Decomposers
- Bacteria
- Viruses
- Environment
- Ecology
- Recycling

Earth science

- Layers of Earth
- Atmosphere
- Geology
- Rocks
- Fossils
- Planets
- Stars

Physical science

- Chemistry
- Mixtures/solutions
- Electricity
- Magnets
- Simple machines (levers, ramps, etc.)
- Light
- Sound

TELL US YOUR TOPIC

Quick Links

* [Go to File Sharing](#)

I have set up a folder in K12 in File Sharing. Go to Quick Links on your home page. Click on “Go to File Sharing.”

Write your name and your topic on a page and save it in the “informational writing folder.”

Or you can email your topic to me. 😊

DO RESEARCH

- Find your information in *at least three credible* sources.
- One of your sources **MUST** be a “print” source, such as a newspaper, magazine, book, or encyclopedia. (Because we are a 100% online school, you can use an *online* newspaper, magazine, book, or encyclopedia.)



DO RESEARCH



Find your information in *at least three* **credible** sources.



Your other two sources can be internet sources, but they must be “credible.”




Look for .gov, .edu, or .org. (Avoid .com.)



Go to “gateway” sites like the Kitsap Regional Library (or the Smithsonian, or the Library of Congress). They will point you to good online sources.

FINDING GOOD SOURCES


- [Google Scholar](#)
- [iSeek](#)
- [Microsoft Academic](#)
- [Refseek](#)
- [OCLC.org](#)



AS YOU DO
RESEARCH,
KEEP A LIST
OF YOUR
BOOK
SOURCES!

- Author last name
- Author first name
- *Book title*
- Publication city
- Publishing company
- Publication year
- Example:

Ruechel, Julius. *Grass-Fed Cattle*. New York: Storey Publishing, 2006.





AS YOU DO
RESEARCH,
KEEP A LIST OF
YOUR NEWSPAPER
SOURCES!

- Author last name
- Author first name
- “Article title”
- *Newspaper title*
- Date published
- Page numbers
- Print.
- Example:

Corvallis, Patrick.

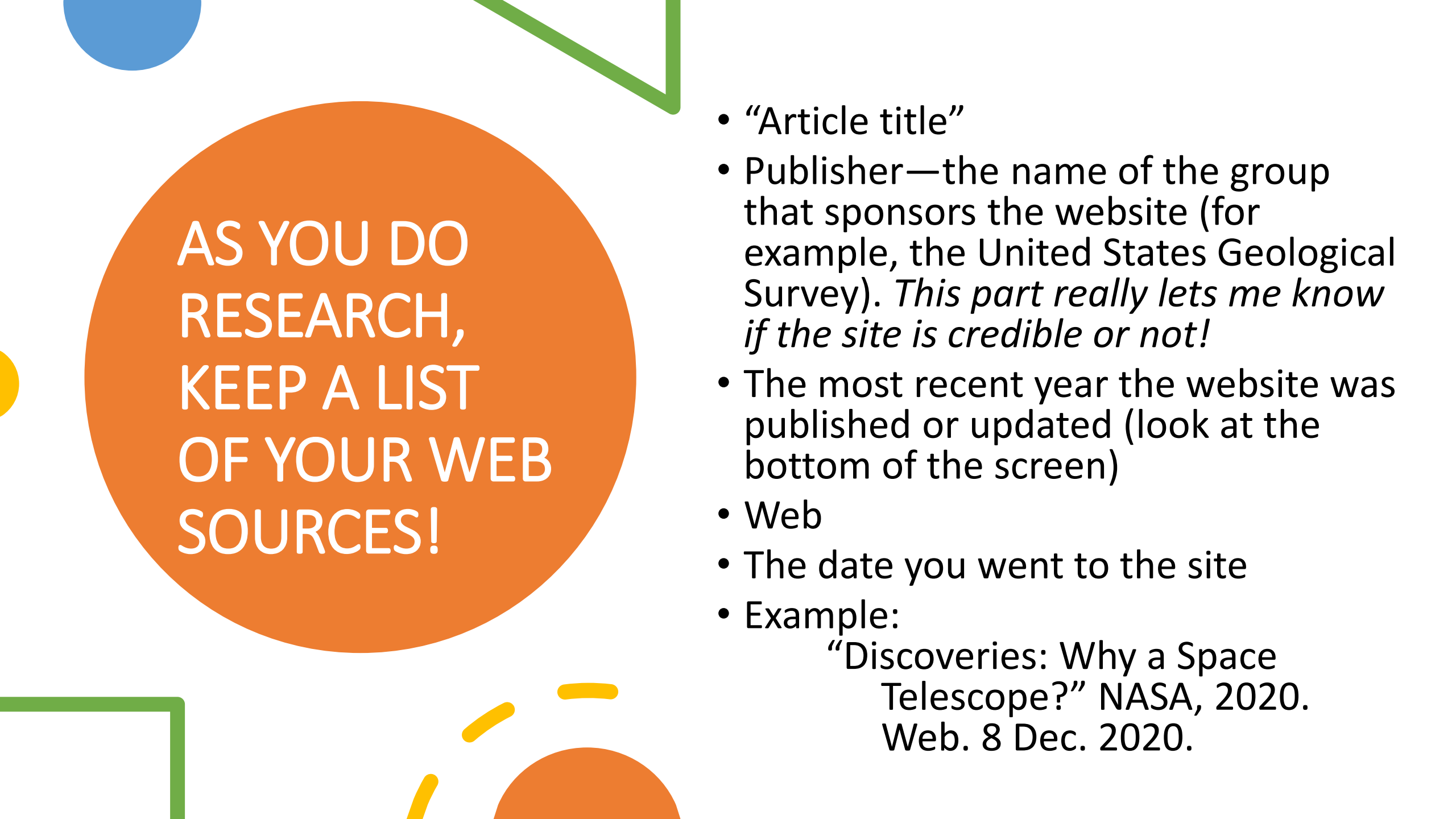
“Development Threatens
Farmland.” *Mesilla Valley
Bulletin*. 8 Apr. 2004: A3.
Print.



AS YOU DO
RESEARCH,
KEEP A LIST OF
YOUR MAGAZINE
SOURCES!

- Author last name
- Author first name
- “Article title”
- *Magazine title*
- Date published
- Page numbers
- Example:

Fellon, Brad. “Aurora
Borealis.” *Travel*. May
2004: 36-41.



AS YOU DO
RESEARCH,
KEEP A LIST
OF YOUR WEB
SOURCES!

- “Article title”
- Publisher—the name of the group that sponsors the website (for example, the United States Geological Survey). *This part really lets me know if the site is credible or not!*
- The most recent year the website was published or updated (look at the bottom of the screen)
- Web
- The date you went to the site
- Example:
 - “Discoveries: Why a Space Telescope?” NASA, 2020.
Web. 8 Dec. 2020.

READ CAREFULLY

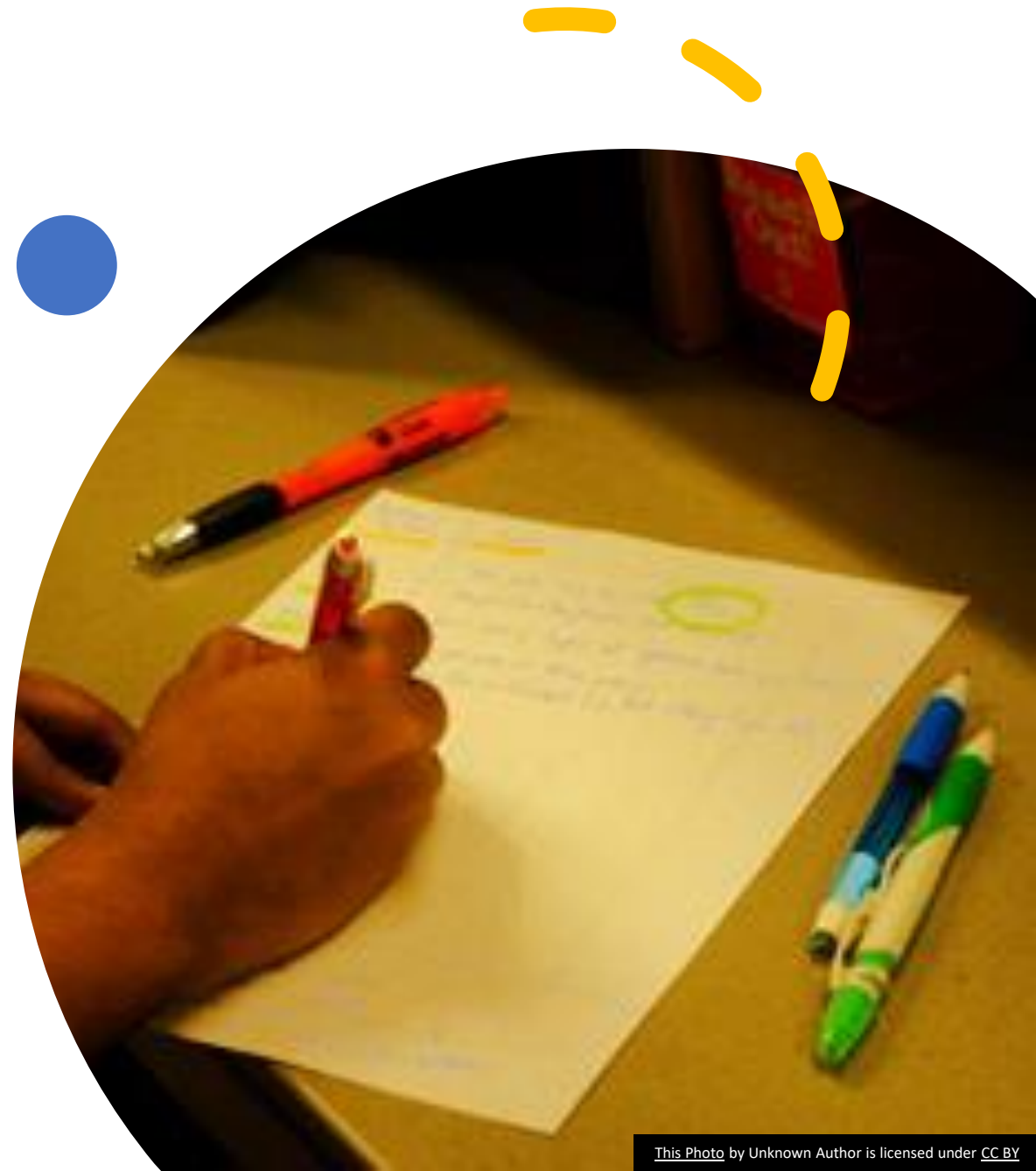
First, read the chapter or picture book or article all the way through, just to get the big picture.



TAKE NOTES ON WHAT YOU READ

Second, read the chapter or picture book or article one paragraph (or section) at a time.

Close the book (minimize the screen) and write down what you learned



TAKE NOTES—
WITHOUT
COPYING



No plagiarism!

TAKE NOTES— *WITHOUT COPYING*

Don't write complete sentences

Do use your own words

Do doublecheck:

- Did you spell everything right?
- Did you get dates and other numbers right?



TAKE NOTES— INCLUDING QUOTATIONS

Find one or two lines that are so excellent you want to share them with the whole class.

Copy those lines exactly, putting quotation marks around them.

Make sure you keep track of where you found the lines you quoted.

Harry R. Truman, who lived on Mt. St. Helens, said, ““If the mountain goes down, I'm going with it" (*Denver Observer*).

KEEP NOTES

Keep all your notes in a safe place (like a big manila envelope or big Ziploc bag).

You will need them for PART TWO of your informational writing, which we will work on in January.

