

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ TEACHER \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

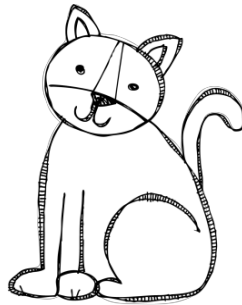
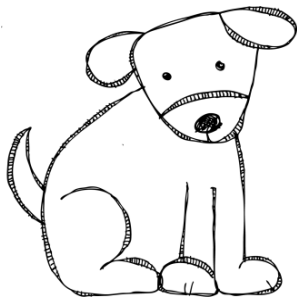
## Kindergarten CCSS District Writing Assessment –

### Opinion Writing



<b>Title:</b>	The Best Pet ( <b>CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.K.1</b> ) adapted from <i>Achieve the Core</i>
<b>Assignment:</b>	Students will participate in a class vote, discuss and explain why they think a cat or dog is the best pet, listen to a short story on how two other students feel, and talk with classmates about which is the best pet. Then students will write an opinion piece addressing the following: <b>Which is the Best Pet? A Cat or A Dog? And Why?</b>
<b>Steps to follow:</b>	<p>In order to plan and compose an Opinion essay, students will do all of the following:</p> <p><b>Part 1.</b> Participate in a class vote on which pet is best, a cat or a dog? After collecting the class vote have a class discussion about how when we feel a certain way about something we need to explain WHY we feel this way (Opinion). Call on several students to share aloud why they selected a cat or a dog. Record students' opinions.</p> <p><b>Part 2.</b> Read short passage – “<b>The Best Pet</b>”, aloud to class.</p> <p>After reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask Students – “What do you think? Which pet is best – a cat or a dog?”</li> <li>• Have students turn and talk to a partner about which pet they chose. Remind students to be sure to tell their partner WHY they picked that pet. (allow about 3 minutes for students to discuss their choices).</li> </ul> <p>When students have finished partner talk, they are to begin writing their Opinion Essays.</p> <p><b>Part 3. Opinion Essay.</b> Give out lined or unlined paper. Use your typical classroom writing process to support students in completing the writing Opinion prompt. The piece should represent first draft writing (done in a single sitting).</p> <p>The response should include a picture and whatever sentences, words, or letters the student can add. An adult may assist with sounding out or spelling words and/or transcribe the students words if desired.*</p> <p>*Please distinguish the student's independent production from those produced with adult help <b>by underlining ANY PART of the writing done with teacher support.</b></p> <p><b>Please note, specific times have been removed from each “part” of the assessment. Teachers can determine the approximate class time needed for each part based on individual classes. This being said, please do not take longer than one week to complete the district writing assessment. Until Smarter Balanced has determined if specific time allocations will be assigned to the “parts” of the performance task we will allow for teacher discretion.</b></p>

The best pet  
is ...



?  
Something  
else

Passage should be read aloud by the teacher

Bob and his friend Ann don't agree on which pet is best. Listen to find out what they each think.

### **The Best Pet**

My friend Ann says her pet is better than mine! I have a brown cat named Fluffy. Ann has a black and white dog named Spot. We each think our pet is the best.

I told Ann that cats are better pets because they are clean, quiet and very cute. Cats wash themselves with their tongues. You don't have to walk them. They use a litter box. Also, cats are sweet and quiet. I think dogs are too noisy! They bark a lot. They don't clean themselves or use a litter box. Dogs need someone to give them baths, train them and walk them. Dogs are more work.

Ann says that cats are no fun! She says that dogs are better to play with. Spot always wags his tail when he sees her. He can even do tricks. He barks when she says, "Speak". He knows how to roll over! Ann says dogs are also better because they protect their owners. Spot always barks when there is someone at the door. It makes Ann feel safe. So Ann thinks dogs are best.

I guess Ann's dog is pretty cool, but so is Fluffy. Maybe different kinds of pets are good for different people.