**Opinion/Argument Writing**

The Day Before Giving the Assessment: *Think of a topic or issue that you know and care about, an issue around which you have strong feelings. Tomorrow, you will have the whole writing workshop to write an opinion or argument text in which you will write your opinion or claim and tell reasons why you feel that way. When you do this, draw on everything you know about essays, persuasive letters, and reviews. If you want to find and use information from a book or another outside source, you may bring that with you tomorrow. Please keep in mind that you’ll have just one writing workshop to do this, so you will need to plan, draft, revise, and edit during that time to complete it.*

The Day of the Assessment: *Think of a topic or issue that you know and care about, an issue around which you have strong feelings. Today, you will have the whole writing workshop to write an opinion or argument text in which you will write your opinion or claim and tell reasons why you feel that way. When you do this, draw on everything you know about essays, persuasive letters, and reviews. If you brought information from a book or another outside source, you may use that today. Please keep in mind that you’ll have just one writing workshop to do this, so you will need to plan, draft, revise, and edit during this time to complete it.*

Read aloud the following, written on a large piece of chart paper:

In your writing, make sure you:

* Write an introduction.
* State your opinion or claim.
* Give reasons and evidence.
* Organize your writing.
* Acknowledge counterclaims.
* Use transition words.
* Write a conclusion.