

Playground Safety

Have you noticed students visiting the nurse frequently for falls, cuts, and even a broken bone during recess?

In this task, you are seeking to answer the question, "How can we make our playground safer or have fewer injuries during recess?" You are to work with a partner and act as an expert on safety who has concerns about the number of injuries occurring during recess. You are expected to identify the causes and create solutions to improve student safety at recess. This could include big changes, like changes to equipment, or small changes.

Then, you and your partner will create a letter or presentation to be given to the third grade teachers, Mrs. Webb, and Mrs. Fuchs to convince them of the changes to be made to keep students safer at recess.

You will know you are successfully finished when your letter or presentation clearly shows and explains at least 3 solutions to improve recess safety, according to the checklist you have been provided.

Challenges you may face are playground equipment already on the playground and a limited budget for new materials. If purchases would need to be made, be sure to include how the money would be raised to pay for them and why that is necessary.

Resources available are articles on playground safety, graphic organizers, a computer, paper, and general classroom supplies. If other materials are needed, please let me know. The completion date is Friday, September 27th, so the teachers and administrators can review your plan over fall break. ☺

Checklist:

- _____ My partner and I brainstormed at least 3 ways our playground could be made safer. These changes are realistic.
- _____ My partner and I read articles to learn more about playground safety.
- _____ My partner and I used this information and our own ideas to help us create our solutions.
- _____ My partner and I created a persuasive product to show how to improve safety at recess.
- _____ My partner and I checked our product for capital letters, punctuation, and usage.
- _____ My partner and I included at least 3 solutions to the problem in our product
- _____ My partner and I explained each of our solutions.
- _____ If a solution includes any purchases, we explained how to raise the money needed.
- _____ My partner and I shared our responsibilities and worked together.

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Playground Safety PBL Rubric

	Distinguished	Proficient	Apprentice	Novice
Planning	Brainstorming had plentiful amount of ideas. Every solution related to the problem.	Brainstorm had a satisfactory level of ideas. Solutions were generally related to the problem.	Brainstorm had a limited number of ideas for the solution.	Brainstorm was unsatisfactory and solutions were not related.
Content	Had more than three solutions that thoroughly addressed how to solve the problem. Solutions were realistic and creative.	Had three solutions that briefly explained how to solve the problem.	Included a limited number of solutions and did not explain how to solve the problem.	Did not include solutions that were related to the problem.
Work Habits	Carefully followed all directions. Took part in and completed the task. Shared ideas and responsibilities. Took risks by trying new things.	Followed all directions. Took part in and completed the task. Was sometimes helpful and shared ideas.	Did not follow all directions. Did some of the task and did not share responsibilities well.	Required much teacher prompting for directions to be followed. Did not take part in some parts of the task. Was not helpful.
Writing	Solutions presented in a logical order and many appropriate details were used. Topic-specific vocabulary was used when needed. Made few or no spelling, grammar, capitalization, or punctuation errors. Errors did not prevent the reader from understanding.	Solutions presented in logical order and some appropriate details were used. Made few spelling, grammar, capitalization, or punctuation errors. Errors did not prevent the reader from understanding.	Solutions presented in somewhat logical order and few appropriate details were used. Made several spelling, grammar, capitalization, or punctuation errors.	Solutions not presented in a logical order. Very few or no appropriate details were included. Made many spelling, grammar, capitalization, or punctuation errors.
Presentation Creativity and Originality	Solutions and ideas were unique. Design was interesting and visual aids were included.	Some ideas were unique. Creativity and visuals were limited.	Few original or creative ideas. No visuals were provided.	Ideas were not original. No visuals were provided.

Name: _____

Problem & Solution Graphic Organizer

Identify at least 3 problems and explain them in detail. Then, identify a specific solution to solve that problem in detail. Use complete sentences.

Problem #1:

Solution:

Problem #2:

Solution:

Problem #3:

Solution:

Problem #4:

Solution:

Problem #5:

Solution:

Feedback:

Name: _____

Cause and Effect Graphic Organizer

Use this organizer to identify the causes and effects of injuries occurring on the playground.

Cause:

Effect:

Cause:

Effect:

Cause:

Effect:
