



Mini-Map for ELA.EE.W.3.2.a

Subject: ELA

Writing

Grade: 3

Learning Outcome

DLM Essential Element	Grade-Level Standard
ELA.EE.W.3.2.a Select a topic and write about it including one fact or detail.	ELA.EE.W.3.2.a Introduce a topic and group related information together; include illustrations when useful to aiding comprehension.

Linkage Levels Descriptions

Initial Precursor Emergent Writing	Distal Precursor Emergent Writing	Proximal Precursor Conventional Writing	Target Conventional Writing	Successor Conventional Writing
The student can direct attention to objects or people through intentional sound, verbalization, movement, facial expression, eye gaze, or other behavior.	The student can indicate a choice between two objects through eye gaze, physical movement, gesture, or vocalization.	The student can select a familiar topic to share about (may be from a set of options) and can use drawing, dictating, or writing to share about it.	The student can write about a specific topic using facts and details to describe the topic.	The student can select a topic and write about it using relevant tactile, visual, and multimedia information.

Emergent and Conventional Writing Testlets

This Essential Element is tested in an ELA writing testlet. Writing testlets are assessed at two levels: Emergent Writing and Conventional Writing. The Initial Precursor and Distal Precursor nodes are assessed in the emergent writing testlet in Grade 3 with one other Essential Element: ELA.EE.W.3.4. The Proximal Precursor, Target and Successor nodes are assessed in the conventional writing testlet in Grade 3 with one other Essential Element: ELA.EE.W.3.4.

Initial Precursor and Distal Precursor Linkage Level Relationships to the Target

How is the Initial Precursor related to the Target?

Writing about a specific topic using facts and details requires students to be able to attend to topics long enough to learn information about them. In the context of emergent writing, students at the Initial Precursor level can work toward writing about topics by attending to objects or people that are presented as choices. While it may be unclear to the adult if the student is actually making an intentional choice, over time it is clear that the student is able to attend.

How is the Distal Precursor related to the Target?

Selecting and writing about a topic requires students to successfully communicate a choice of topics. In the context of emergent writing, students at the Distal Precursor level work on clearly communicating a choice between two familiar, preferred objects as a topic for writing. The key is to practice communicating a choice before writing about the choice rather than communicating a choice during an activity unrelated to writing.

Instructional Resources

Writing Testlet FAQs
Instructionally Embedded Assessment
Year-End Assessment
Released Testlets
See the Guide to Practice Activities and Released Testlets .
Using Untested (UN) Nodes
See the document Using Mini-Maps to Plan Instruction .

[Link to Text-Only Map](#)

ELA.EE.W.3.2.a Select a topic and write about it including one fact or detail.

