

Literacy Design Collaborative

Elementary Template Tasks (BETA)

May 2014

Literacy Design Collaborative (LDC) [template tasks](#) aim to help teachers craft Common Core-aligned tasks that engage students in writing in response to reading. When filled in, a template task becomes a teaching task that sets up a context for teaching the specific skills and demands embedded in the Common Core standards. The teaching task serves as the foundation of a literacy-saturated instructional module.

The [original collection](#) of LDC template tasks was designed for use in grades 6-12. Numerous teachers, literacy coaches, and administrators soon after took the initiative to use the LDC framework at the elementary level, and created and successfully used their own template tasks for grades K-5 based on the original collection. The LDC community of practice has since identified the need for a consistent, comprehensive, and vetted collection of LDC template tasks to make available to all elementary teachers.

This “beta” collection of elementary template tasks has been collectively designed and revised by a working group of elementary LDC teachers, coaches, and other practitioners, and it includes 22 template tasks, respectively, for grades K-1, 2-3, and 4-5. LDC is making the entire collection available with the goal of having elementary LDC users “beta test” these template tasks in the pursuit of gathering feedback and suggestions for revision over the next several months before this collection is finalized and published.

Please provide any feedback you have about these template tasks to LDC by either by sending an e-mail to questions@ldc.org or by using this form: <http://ldc.org/about-us/contact2>. LDC will examine your feedback and consider your suggestions when these template tasks are revised a final time before being published.

A few notes about this template task collection:

- A set of “sample” teaching tasks using these templates will soon be released as an addendum to this document.
- These template tasks “build in” the same Common Core *Reading* and *Writing* standards – for the appropriate grade levels – as the 6-12 collection. Additionally, elementary template tasks “build in” Common Core *Language* standards 1-4. See here for more about that as well as more about LDC template tasks generally: <http://ldc.org/sites/default/files/LDC-Template-Task-Collection-2.0.A.pdf>
- Separate argumentation, informational/explanatory, and narrative rubrics for these template tasks are currently being revised and finalized for “beta testing” as well. They will soon be released as an addendum to this document. In the meantime, elementary teachers may use draft elementary rubrics that can be found here: <http://ldc.org/how-ldc-works/modules/what-task/rubric>
- All template tasks and additional “demands” in this collection are available for use in LDC CoreTools where the appropriate grade-level Common Core standards are automatically built in and the existing draft rubrics are provided. Please go here to build modules in LDC CoreTools using these template tasks: <https://coretools.ldc.org/>

Elementary Template Tasks (BETA) – Grades K-1

Summary of K-1 Template Tasks in this Collection

Grades K-1	Opinion/Argumentation	Informational or Explanatory	Narrative*
Identify	ELA, science, social studies	ELA, science, social studies	
Define		ELA, science, social studies	
Describe		ELA, science, social studies	ELA, science, social studies
Explain	ELA, science, social studies	ELA, science, social studies	
Discuss		ELA, science, social studies	
Compare-Contrast	ELA, science, social studies	ELA, science, social studies	
Cause-Effect		ELA, science, social studies	

LDC Elementary Template Tasks (BETA) – Grades K-1 (OPINION)

	“After Researching” / Shared Research	”After Reading”
K-1 Opinion Template Tasks		
Explain	<p>K-1 Task 1: [Insert question] After researching _____ (informational text/s), _____ (draw/write/dictate) _____ (product) in which you answer the question and explain _____ (content). Support your opinion with evidence from your research. (Opinion/Explain)</p>	<p>K-1 Task 2: [Insert question] After _____ (reading or listening to) _____ (literary or informational text/s), _____ (draw/write/dictate) _____ (product) in which you answer the question and explain _____ (content). Support your opinion with evidence from the text/s. (Opinion/Explain)</p>
Compare-Contrast	<p>K-1 Task 3: [Insert optional question] After researching _____ (informational text/s), _____ (draw/write/dictate) _____ (product) in which you _____ (compare and/or contrast) _____ (content). Support your opinion with evidence from your research. (Opinion/Compare-Contrast)</p>	<p>K-1 Task 4: [Insert optional question] After _____ (reading or listening to) _____ (literary or informational text/s), _____ (draw/write/ dictate) _____ (product) in which you _____ (compare and/or contrast) _____ (content). Support your opinion with evidence from the text/s. (Opinion/Compare-Contrast)</p>
Identify	<p>K-1 Task 5: [Insert optional question] After researching _____ (informational text/s), _____ (draw/write/dictate) _____ (product) in which you identify your opinion about _____ (question). Support your opinion with evidence from your research. (Opinion/Identify)</p>	<p>K-1 Task 6: [Insert optional question] After _____ (reading or listening to) _____ (literary or informational text/s), _____ (draw/write/dictate) _____ (product) in which you identify your opinion about _____ (question). Support your opinion with evidence from the text/s. (Opinion/Identify)</p>

[K-1 OPINION RUBRIC GOES HERE]

LDC Elementary Template Tasks (BETA) – Grades K-1 (INFORMATIONAL OR EXPLANATORY)

	“After Researching” / Shared Research	”After Reading”
K-1 Informational or Explanatory Template Tasks		
Identify	<p>K-1 Task 7: [Insert optional question] After researching _____ (informational text/s), _____ (draw/write/dictate) _____ (product) in which you identify _____ (content). Support your response with evidence from your research. (Informational or Explanatory/Identify)</p>	<p>K-1 Task 8: [Insert optional question] After _____ (reading or listening to) _____ (literary or informational text/s), _____ (draw/write/dictate) _____ (product) in which you identify _____ (content). Support your response with evidence from the text/s. (Informational or Explanatory/Identify)</p>
Define	<p>K-1 Task 9: [Insert optional question] After researching _____ (informational text/s), _____ (draw/write/dictate) _____ (product) in which you define _____ (concept, term) and explain _____ (content). Support your response with evidence from your research. (Informational or Explanatory/Define)</p>	<p>K-1 Task 10: [Insert optional question] After _____ (reading or listening to) _____ (literary or informational text/s), _____ (draw/write/dictate) _____ (product) in which you define _____ (concept, term) and explain _____ (content). Support your response with evidence from the text/s. (Informational or Explanatory/Define)</p>
Describe	<p>K-1 Task 11: [Insert optional question] After researching _____ (informational text/s), _____ (draw/write/dictate) _____ (product) in which you describe _____ (content). Support your response with evidence from your research. (Informational or Explanatory/Describe)</p>	<p>K-1 Task 12: [Insert optional question] After _____ (reading or listening to) _____ (informational text/s), _____ (draw/write/dictate) _____ (product) in which you describe _____ (content). Support your response with evidence from the text/s. (Informational or Explanatory/Describe)</p>
Explain	<p>K-1 Task 13: [Insert optional question] After researching _____ (informational text/s), _____ (draw/write/dictate) _____ (product) in which you explain _____ (content). Support your response with evidence from your research. (Informational or Explanatory/Explain)</p>	<p>K-1 Task 14: [Insert optional question] After _____ (reading or listening to) _____ (informational text/s), _____ (draw/write/dictate) _____ (product) in which you explain _____ (content). Support your response with evidence from the text/s. (Informational or Explanatory/Explain)</p>
Discuss	<p>K-1 Task 15: [Insert optional question] After researching _____ (informational text/s), draw/write _____ (product) in which you discuss how _____ (content) contributes to an understanding of _____ (content). Support your response with evidence from your research. (Informational or Explanatory/Discuss)</p>	<p>K-1 Task 16: [Insert optional question] After _____ (reading or listening to) _____ (literary or informational text/s), draw/write _____ (product) in which you discuss how _____ (content) contributes to an understanding of _____ (content). Support your response with evidence from the text/s. (Informational or Explanatory/Discuss)</p>
Compare-Contrast	<p>K-1 Task 17: [Insert optional question] After researching _____ (informational text/s), _____ (draw/write/dictate) _____ (product) in which you _____ (compare and/or contrast) _____ (content). Support your response with evidence from your research. (Informational or Explanatory/Compare-Contrast)</p>	<p>K-1 Task 18: [Insert optional question] After _____ (reading or listening to) _____ (literary or informational text/s), _____ (draw/write/dictate) _____ (product) in which you _____ (compare and/or contrast) _____ (content). Support your response with evidence from the text/s. (Informational or Explanatory/Compare-Contrast)</p>

<p>Cause-Effect</p>	<p>K-1 Task 19: [Insert optional question] After researching _____ (informational text/s), _____ (draw/write/dictate) _____ (product) in which you explain the causes _____ (content) and the effects _____ (content). Support your response with evidence from your research. (Informational or Explanatory/Cause-Effect)</p>	<p>K-1 Task 20: [Insert optional question] After _____ (reading or listening to) _____ (literary or informational text/s), _____ (draw/write/dictate) _____ (product) in which you explain the causes _____ (content) and the effects _____ (content). Support your response with evidence from the text/s. (Informational or Explanatory/Cause-Effect)</p>
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[K-1 INFORMATIONAL OR EXPLANATORY RUBRIC GOES HERE]

LDC Elementary Template Tasks (BETA) - Grades K-1 (NARRATIVE)

	"After Researching" / Shared Research	"After Reading"
K-1 Narrative Template Tasks		
Describe	<p>K-1 Task 21: [Insert optional question] After researching _____ (informational text/s), write _____ (product) in which you describe _____ (content). Support your response with evidence from your research. (Narrative/Describe)</p>	<p>K-1 Task 22: [Insert optional question] After reading _____ (literary or informational text/s), write _____ (product) from the point of view/perspective of _____ (content). Support your response with evidence from the text/s. (Narrative/Describe)</p>

[K-1 NARRATIVE RUBRIC GOES HERE]

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Elementary Template Tasks (BETA) – Grades 2-3

Grades 2-3	Argumentation	Informational or Explanatory	Narrative**
Identify or Determine*		ELA, science, social studies	
Define		ELA, science, social studies	
Describe		ELA, science, social studies	ELA, science, social studies
Explain	ELA, science, social studies	ELA, science, social studies	
Discuss		ELA, science, social studies	
Compare-Contrast	ELA, science, social studies	ELA, science, social studies	
Cause-Effect		ELA, science, social studies	
Identify-Argue	ELA, science, social studies		

* 'Identify' is the CCSS term for 2nd grade and 'determine' is the CCSS term for 3rd grade

** Additional narrative template tasks will be added at a later date

Text may include words and pictures, as well as other forms of visual media.

LDC Elementary Template Tasks (BETA) – Grades 2-3 (OPINION/ARGUMENTATION)

	“After Researching”	“After Reading”
2-3 Opinion/Argumentation Template Tasks		
Explain	<p>2-3 Task 1: [Insert question] After researching _____ (informational text/s), write _____ (product) in which you answer the question and explain your reasons. Support your opinion with evidence from your research. (Argumentation/Explain)</p>	<p>2-3 Task 2: [Insert question] After reading _____ (literary or informational text/s), write _____ (product) in which you answer the question and explain your reasons. Support your opinion with evidence from the text/s. (Argumentation/Explain)</p>
Compare-Contrast	<p>2-3 Task 3: [Insert optional question] After researching _____ (informational text/s), write _____ (product) in which you _____ (compare or contrast) _____ (content). Support your opinion with evidence from your research. (Argumentation/Compare)</p>	<p>2-3 Task 4: [Insert optional question] After reading _____ (literary or informational text/s), write _____ (product) in which you _____ (compare or contrast) _____ (content). Support your opinion with evidence from the text/s. (Argumentation/Compare)</p>
Identify-Argue	<p>2-3 Task 5: [Insert optional question] After researching _____ (informational text/s), write _____ (product) in which you identify _____ (content) and state your position _____ (content). Support your opinion with evidence from your research. (Argumentation/Identify-Argue)</p>	<p>2-3 Task 6: [Insert optional question] After reading _____ (literary or informational text/s), write _____ (product) in which you identify _____ (content) and state your position _____ (content). Support your opinion with evidence from the text/s. (Argumentation/Identify-Argue)</p>

[2-3 OPINION/ARGUMENTATION RUBRIC GOES HERE]

LDC Elementary Template Tasks (BETA) – Grades 2-3 (INFORMATIONAL OR EXPLANATORY)

	“After Researching”	“After Reading”
2-3 Informational or Explanatory Template Tasks		
Identify / Determine*	<p>2-3 Task 7: [Insert optional question] After researching _____ (informational text/s), write _____ (product) in which you _____ (identify or determine) _____ (content). Use evidence from your research to support your response.</p> <p>(Informational or Explanatory / Identify/Determine)</p>	<p>2-3 Task 8: [Insert optional question] After reading _____ (literary or informational text/s), write _____ (product) in which you _____ (identify or determine) _____ (content). Use evidence from the text/s to support your response.</p> <p>(Informational or Explanatory / Identify/Determine)</p>
Define	<p>2-3 Task 9: [Insert optional question] After researching _____ (informational text/s), write _____ (product) in which you define _____ (concept, term) and explain _____ (content). Support your response with evidence from your research.</p> <p>(Informational or Explanatory/Define)</p>	<p>2-3 Task 10: [Insert optional question] After reading _____ (literary or informational text/s), write _____ (product) in which you define _____ (concept, term) and explain _____ (content). Support your response with evidence from the text/s.</p> <p>(Informational or Explanatory/Define)</p>
Describe	<p>2-3 Task 11: [Insert optional question] After researching _____ (informational text/s) about _____ (content), write _____ (product) in which you describe _____ (content). Support your response with evidence from your research.</p> <p>(Informational or Explanatory/Describe)</p>	<p>2-3 Task 12: [Insert optional question] After reading _____ (informational text/s) about _____ (content), write _____ (product) in which you describe _____ (content). Support your response with evidence from the text/s.</p> <p>(Informational or Explanatory/Describe)</p>
Explain	<p>2-3 Task 13: [Insert optional question] After researching _____ (informational text/s) about _____ (content), write _____ (product) in which you explain _____ (content). Use evidence from your research to support your response.</p> <p>(Informational or Explanatory/Explain)</p>	<p>2-3 Task 14: [Insert optional question] After reading _____ (informational text/s) about _____ (content), write _____ (product) in which you explain _____ (content). Use evidence from the text/s to support your response.</p> <p>(Informational or Explanatory/Explain)</p>
Discuss	<p>2-3 Task 15: [Insert optional question] After researching _____ (informational text/s), write _____ (product) in which you discuss how _____ (content) contributes to an understanding of _____ (content). Support your response with evidence from your research.</p> <p>(Informational or Explanatory/Discuss)</p>	<p>2-3 Task 16: [Insert optional question] After reading _____ (literary or informational text/s), write _____ (product) in which you discuss how _____ (content) contributes to an understanding of _____ (content). Support your response with evidence from the text/s. (Informational or Explanatory/Discuss)</p>
Compare-Contrast	<p>2-3 Task 17: [Insert optional question] After researching _____ (informational text/s), write _____ (product) in which you _____ (compare and/or contrast) _____ (content) Support your response with evidence from your research.</p> <p>(Informational or Explanatory/Compare)</p>	<p>2-3 Task 18: [Insert optional question] After reading _____ (literary or informational text/s), write _____ (product) in which you _____ (compare and/or contrast) _____ (content) Support your response with evidence from the text/s.</p> <p>(Informational or Explanatory/Compare)</p>

Cause- Effect	2-3 Task 19: [Insert optional question] After researching _____ (informational text/s), write _____ (product) in which you explain the causes _____ (content) and the effects _____ (content). Support your response with evidence from your research. (Informational or Explanatory/Cause-Effect)	2-3 Task 20: [Insert optional question] After reading _____ (literary or informational text/s), write _____ (product) in which you explain the causes _____ (content) and the effects _____ (content). Support your response with evidence from the text/s. (Informational or Explanatory/Cause-Effect)
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[2-3 INFORMATIONAL OR EXPLANATORY RUBRIC GOES HERE]

LDC Elementary Template Tasks (BETA) – Grades 2-3 (NARRATIVE)

	“After Researching”	“After Reading”
2-3 Narrative Template Tasks		
Describe	<p>2-3 Task 21: [Insert optional question] After researching _____ (informational text/s), write _____ (product) in which you describe _____ (content). Support your response with evidence from your research. (Narrative/Describe)</p>	<p>2-3 Task 22: [Insert optional question] After reading _____ (literary or informational text/s), write _____ (product) from the point of view/perspective of _____ (content). Support your response with evidence from the text/s. (Narrative/Describe)</p>

[2-3 NARRATIVE RUBRIC GOES HERE]

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Elementary Template Tasks (BETA) – Grades 4-5

Grades 4-5	Argumentation	Informational or Explanatory	Narrative
Determine		ELA, science, social studies	
Define		ELA, science, social studies	
Describe		ELA, science, social studies	ELA, science, social studies
Explain	ELA, science, social studies	ELA, science, social studies	
Analyze		ELA, science, social studies	
Compare-Contrast	ELA, science, social studies	ELA, science, social studies	
Cause-Effect		ELA, science, social studies	
Identify-Argue	ELA, science, social studies		

LDC Elementary Template Tasks (BETA) – Grades 4-5 (OPINION/ARGUMENTATION)

	“After Researching”	“After Reading”
4-5 Opinion/Argumentation Template Tasks		
Explain	<p>4-5 Task 1: [Insert question] After researching _____ (informational text/s), write _____ (product) in which you answer the question and explain your reasons _____ (content). Support your opinion with evidence from your research. (Argumentation/Explain)</p>	<p>4-5 Task 2: [Insert question] After reading _____ (literary or informational text/s), write _____ (product) in which you answer the question and explain your reasons _____ (content). Support your opinion with evidence from the text/s. (Argumentation/Explain)</p>
Compare-Contrast	<p>4-5 Task 3: [Insert optional question] After researching _____ (informational text/s), write _____ (product) in which you _____ (compare and/or contrast) _____ (content). Support your opinion with evidence from your research. (Argumentation/Compare)</p>	<p>4-5 Task 4: [Insert optional question] After reading _____ (literary or informational text/s), write _____ (product) in which you _____ (compare and/or contrast) _____ (content). Support your opinion with evidence from the text/s. (Argumentation/Compare)</p>
Identify-Argue	<p>4-5 Task 5: [Insert optional question] After researching _____ (informational text/s), write _____ (product) in which you identify _____ (concept, term) and state your position _____ (content). Support your opinion with evidence from your research. (Argumentation/Identify-Argue)</p>	<p>4-5 Task 6: [Insert optional question] After reading _____ (literary or informational text/s), write _____ (product) in which you identify _____ (concept, term) and state your position _____ (content). Support your opinion with evidence from the text/s. (Argumentation/Identify-Argue)</p>

[4-5 OPINION/ARGUMENTATION RUBRIC GOES HERE]

LDC Elementary Template Tasks (BETA) – Grades 4-5 (INFORMATIONAL OR EXPLANATORY)

	“After Researching”	“After Reading”
4-5 Informational or Explanatory Template Tasks		
Determine	<p>4-5 Task 7: [Insert optional question] After researching _____ (informational text/s), write _____ (product) in which you determine _____ (content). Support your response with evidence from your research.</p> <p>(Informational or Explanatory/Determine)</p>	<p>4-5 Task 8: [Insert optional question] After reading _____ (literary or informational text/s), write _____ (product) in which you determine _____ (content). Support your response with evidence from the text/s. (Informational or Explanatory/Determine)</p>
Define	<p>4-5 Task 9: [Insert optional question] After researching _____ (informational text/s), write _____ (product) in which you define _____ (concept, term) and explain _____ (content). Support your response with evidence from your research.</p> <p>(Informational or Explanatory/Define)</p>	<p>4-5 Task 10: [Insert optional question] After reading _____ (literary or informational text/s), write _____ (product) in which you define _____ (concept, term) and explain _____ (content). Support your response with evidence from the text/s.</p> <p>(Informational or Explanatory/Define)</p>
Describe	<p>4-5 Task 11: [Insert optional question] After researching _____ (informational text/s), write _____ (product) in which you describe _____ (content). Support your response with evidence from your research.</p> <p>(Informational or Explanatory/Describe)</p>	<p>4-5 Task 12: [Insert optional question] After reading _____ (literary or informational text/s), write _____ (product) in which you describe _____ (content). Support your response with evidence from the text/s. (Informational or Explanatory/Describe)</p>
Explain	<p>4-5 Task 13: [Insert optional question] After researching _____ (informational text/s), write _____ (product) in which you explain _____ (content). Support your response with evidence from your research.</p> <p>(Informational or Explanatory/Explain)</p>	<p>4-5 Task 14: [Insert optional question] After reading _____ (literary or informational text/s), write _____ (product) in which you explain _____ (content). Support your response with evidence from the text/s. (Informational or Explanatory/Explain)</p>
Analyze	<p>4-5 Task 15: [Insert optional question] After researching _____ (informational text/s), write _____ (product) in which you analyze how _____ (content) contributes to an understanding of _____ (content). Support your response with evidence from your research.</p> <p>(Informational or Explanatory/Discuss)</p>	<p>4-5 Task 16: [Insert optional question] After reading _____ (literary or informational text/s), write _____ (product) in which you analyze how _____ (content) contributes to an understanding of _____ (content). Support your response with evidence from the text/s. (Informational or Explanatory/Discuss)</p>
Compare-Contrast	<p>4-5 Task 17: [Insert optional question] After researching _____ (informational text/s), write _____ (product) in which you _____ (compare and/or contrast) _____ (content). Support your response with evidence from your research.</p> <p>(Informational or Explanatory/Compare)</p>	<p>4-5 Task 18: [Insert optional question] After reading _____ (literary or informational text/s), write _____ (product) in which you _____ (compare and/or contrast) _____ (content). Support your response with evidence from the text/s.</p> <p>(Informational or Explanatory/Compare)</p>

<p>Cause-Effect</p>	<p>4-5 Task 19: [Insert optional question] After researching _____ (informational text/s), write _____ (product) in which you examine the causes _____ (content) and explain the effects _____ (content). Support your response with evidence from your research. (Informational or Explanatory/Cause-Effect)</p>	<p>4-5 Task 20: [Insert optional question] After reading _____ (literary or informational text/s), write _____ (product) in which you examine the causes _____ (content) and explain the effects _____ (content). Support your response with evidence from the text/s. (Informational or Explanatory/Cause-Effect)</p>
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[4-5 INFORMATIONAL OR EXPLANATORY RUBRIC GOES HERE]

LDC Elementary Template Tasks (BETA) – Grades 4-5 (NARRATIVE)

	“After Researching”	“After Reading”
4-5 Narrative Template Tasks		
Describe	<p>4-5 Task 21: [Insert optional question] After researching _____ (informational text/s), write _____ (product) in which you describe _____ (content). Support your response with evidence from your research. (Narrative/Describe)</p>	<p>4-5 Task 22: [Insert optional question] After reading _____ (literary or informational text/s), write _____ (product) from the point of view/perspective of _____ (content). Support your response with evidence from the text/s. (Narrative/Describe)</p>

[4-5 NARRATIVE RUBRIC GOES HERE]

LDC Elementary Template Tasks (BETA)

Demands

You may choose to add one or more of these D's (demands) to a template task to increase the challenge. Note that you can choose to use the demands in isolation or you can combine multiple demands.

- D1** Include a _____ (retelling, recounting, summary) in your response.
- D2** Include _____ (specific or #) _____ (key detail/s or example/s) from the text/s in your response.
- D3** What _____ (conclusion or lesson) can you draw _____ (content)?
- D4** Connect _____ (content) and _____ (content) in your response.
- D5** Include _____ (charts/tables/illustrations) to help convey your message to your readers.
- D6** Explain how _____ (key detail/s or example/s) from the text support/s your _____ (opinion, discussion, or response).
- D7** Explain how _____ (key detail/s, historical events, scientific ideas or concepts, or steps in a technical procedure) and _____ (key detail/s, historical events, scientific ideas or concepts, or steps in a technical procedure) are _____ (connected or related).