

# Minecraft Club Writing Prompts

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## Intro

Back In 2016 I participated in a Minecraft Club for Sacajawea Elementary, and I developed a curriculum for 15 minutes a day of writing about Minecraft. I've revised it a little for home use.

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Enjoy!

## Daily Writes

### Daily Starter

Last time in Minecraft I built or did:

Today my goal is:

### Daily Wrap-Up

Before I started working today, my goal was:

What I actually did was:

One thing that went well:

# Write About What You Built

For this writing prompt, you can plan something, build it, and then write about it. This example is for a house, but it could be other things too.

## If You Build a House

Use your imagination to design a Minecraft house. What will you design? Draw a picture and then describe the house.

Picture:

Description:

Make a list of 5 reasons why people will love your house.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Does the house you built look like the one you imagined? If not, how is it different?

Describe your house. (5 sentences)

# Help People Learn Minecraft

For these writing prompts, imagine somebody who has never played Minecraft. What kinds of things will they need to learn?

## Why play Minecraft?

Imagine you are talking to someone who doesn't know anything about Minecraft, and who doesn't even know why they would want to play it. Write 3-5 sentences that explain what Minecraft is, and then 3-5 sentences about why they should like it!

Minecraft is . . .

Minecraft is great because . . .

## What's the general idea?

For a new user who has never done Minecraft, but who knows the main keyboard and mouse commands, take 3-5 sentences to tell them what they should do when they first start out in Creative Mode. For example, should they build something or should they explore, or should they do both?

## (For PC) What keyboard and mouse commands do you use?

Make a list of the main keyboard commands. Next to each command, write what the command does.

Commands for moving

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

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Commands for building, inventory, etc

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Mouse commands

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## The crafting table

This section is for a new user who knows the keyboard commands and has done a little bit of building, but hasn't crafted anything before. Explain how to use it and what kinds of things you can make. Then pick one thing that is easy to make and tell them what the ingredients are.

How to use it:

The kinds of things you can make:

Ingredients for one thing to make:

## Help Friends Learn a New Mode

If you have friends who play Minecraft but they don't know about all the different modes, help them learn about it. Choose one mode that you know something about and then tell us about it. (Example: Creative mode, survival mode, adventure mode, multiplayer).

1. Describe the mode
2. What are its advantages?
3. What are its disadvantages?
4. What are some other tips and tricks people should know?

## Convince Your Parents to Let You Play

Imagine someone has told you that they don't want you to play Minecraft. It could be a friend, a teacher, or a parent or guardian. In this two-session project, you'll write a letter changing their mind!

### Session 1: Prewrite

Now, imagine all the reasons this person might not want you to play Minecraft. List five of them here:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Circle the reason you think is most important to them. Write down a way you might argue this reason. For example, if they are afraid you will spend all day doing Minecraft, you might suggest a plan for how long to spend and how to get off the computer. (3 sentences)

Now, list five reasons Minecraft is great for you! Use reasons that your person will appreciate.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Finally, circle the top three reasons you think will convince the person.

## Session 2: Write the letter

Use the prewrite to draft a short letter to the person who might not want to let you play Minecraft. Start with a greeting. Next, write one sentence explaining what you want them to do. Next, write one sentence that shows you understand their concern, and one sentence that addresses the concern. Next, write three sentences giving your reasons that Minecraft is good for you. End the letter with a salutation.

# Minecraft Adventure Story

For the next 4 sessions, you will be working on a Minecraft adventure story. Each session, do a little prewrite, and then turn the page and start writing. Write 5-10 sentences each session. This session, ONLY do character and setting.

## Character and Setting

### Prewrite: Character Planning.

Imagine you are a Minecraft avatar. What do you look like? Head? Body? What is your personality like?

Head:

Eye color:

Hair:

Name:

Personality:

Anything else?

### Prewrite: Setting

Where might your story start out? What are you standing on? What do you see around you? How is the weather? Are their friends or enemies nearby?

Which biome? (example: forest, mountain, etc)

Night or day?

Weather:

What do you see nearby?

In the distance?

## Write the Beginning

Now, use the prewrite to write the beginning of the story

## Write about Trouble

This is the second session of writing a Minecraft adventure story. Last session, we started planning our characters and setting and started writing the story. This session, we'll get the characters into some trouble.

Start by looking over last session's prompt to remind yourself about what you were doing. Next, brainstorm three ideas about what kinds of trouble the characters could get into.

(By the way, if you missed last session, don't do this one yet! Ask for last session's prompt and work on that instead).

Prewrite: Three Kinds of Trouble

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Now, pick one of the kinds of trouble and start writing! Use up the whole page if you can, but write at least 5 sentences.



## Even more trouble:

This is the third session of writing a Minecraft adventure story. There is a common pattern to many adventure stories: something bad happens, and the character tries THREE times to get out of trouble. Everything gets worse and worse until the last attempt, which might succeed (happy ending!) or fail (bad ending!).

Last session, we got the characters into some trouble. This session, the characters will try two things to get out of trouble. Next session, we'll end the story.

Start by looking over your story so far. Then do the prewrite, and start writing! Use the whole page if you can, but write at least 5 sentences. Have fun!

## Prewrite: What Goes Wrong!

Trouble (from last session):

First attempt to solve:

How it goes wrong:

Second attempt to solve:

How it goes wrong:

## Write the Middle

Now, use the prewrite to tell about what went wrong. Write at least 5 sentences.

## Write the Ending

This is the last session of writing a Minecraft adventure story. It's time to get to the ending! Last session, the characters tried two things to get out of trouble. This time, they'll try a third thing, and it will either succeed (happy ending!) or fail (bad ending!).

By the way, after the last attempt succeeds or fails, the story is almost done, but not quite. Stories usually take a minute to let the reader wind down. So make sure to include a one-sentence wrap-up at the end. There's no right or wrong way to end a story -- just think about what you can add to make it "feel" finished.

Start by looking over your story so far. Then do the prewrite, and start writing!

### Prewrite: How it ends!

Trouble (from two sessions ago):

Final attempt to solve:

What happens:

## Write the Ending

Now, use the prewrite to tell about how the story ends. Use the whole page if you can, but write at least 5 sentences. Have fun!

~ THE END ~