

Situation: Most boys and girls are afraid to go to the dentist. This means many children do not visit the dentist for yearly checkups and healthy teeth.

Directions: Write a narrative about a visit to your dentist to help others understand that going to the dentist does not have to be scary.

N. Wheeler wrote this prompt for her students . You can tell by her 5th grade students' writings that the prompt was personally meaningful for them. This would be great practice for 5th and 6th.

Sample student D1 writing:

It's Not So Bad!

By: Xxxxxx

Most boys and girls are afraid to go to the dentist. I'm going to show you that it's not bad at all! Hi, my name is Xxxx Xxxxx. I'm 11 years old and my dentist is Dr. Tooth, cool name, right? Dr. Tooth is a very great dentist! He gives you toys, he explains everything, and he's funny!

First, Dr. Tooth explains everything. He shows you your x-rays and where the problem is. If something is wrong, he will not yell at you, just show you what to work on. He also explains the procedure. He tells you if you'll need a shot, how many, and what you'll feel like afterwards. Next, Dr. Tooth is very funny! He tells you jokes and has a few other things to make you laugh. One time, Dr. Tooth put on a crazy wig and fake teeth, and I couldn't stop laughing! What else makes me laugh is when he asks you questions when his hands are in your mouth. Dr. Tooth will ask, "What? I can't hear you. Speak up!" when you cannot talk. Finally, Dr. Tooth has really cool toys in his neon-colored treasure box. There is stickers, tattoos, and my favorite, toothbrushes. He has so many different colors. Some probably have more colors than the rainbow! There are neon, sparkle, pastel, and multi-colored. If you are a good patient, you get a toy, but if you are a really good patient, Dr. Tooth will let you have two! Before I went into a room, I saw a little boy kicking and screaming. I bet he didn't get a toy!

I love Dr. Tooth. He is the best dentist ever! I hope you come to my dentist. Do you see why it is not so bad to visit Dr. Tooth?