

Step-by-Step Autobiographies

A step-by-step plan for
creating fantastic
autobiographies!

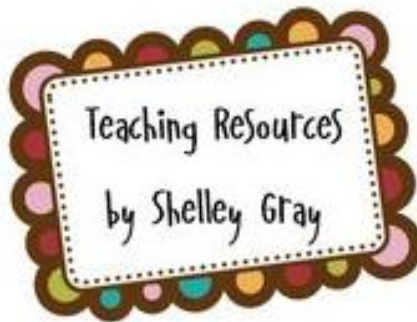


Created by Shelley Gray

Join me on Facebook for special offers, 2-for-1 deals
and more!

Just click on this link and press “follow.”

<http://www.facebook.com/teachingresourcesbys Shelley Gray>



Follow my blog, “Teaching in the Early Years,” for lots
of great ideas for your classroom, contests and more!

<http://teachingintheearlyyears.blogspot.com/>

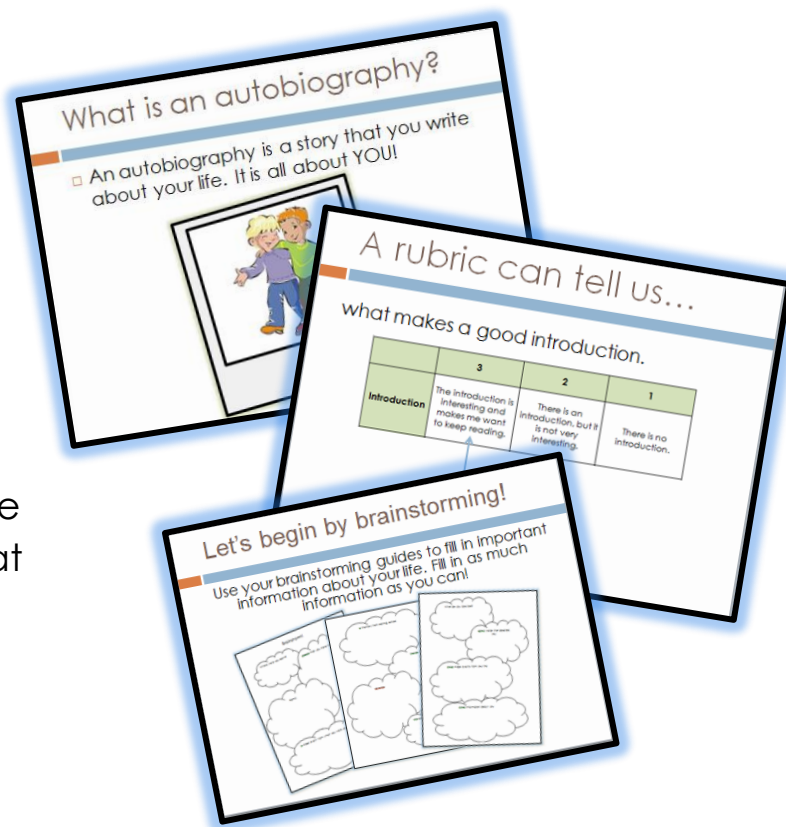


About this Resource

Autobiographies are a great way to engage students in writing about real-life events. To be successful during the writing process, most students need to be taught in manageable steps and be able to see the difference between good writing and mediocre writing. This resource will allow you to do just that!

This resource includes a PowerPoint presentation to supplement the process of teaching about autobiographies.

If you have access to a projector or interactive whiteboard, you can use the PowerPoint presentation that is found in the zipped file. If you do not have access to this technology, everything can be done without the PowerPoint.



What's included?

Step-by-Step Autobiographies includes everything you need for teaching about autobiographies and is best suited for grades 2-5 students. In this resource you will find:

a process overview so that teachers can easily prepare for each lesson.

for the teacher

Process Overview
The process of writing the autobiography should be spread over a timespan of several classes, depending on the ages and attention spans of your students. The following table will outline the entire process.

Step	What is Happening?	Coinciding Powerpoint Slides	Students need:
Introduction	Teacher introduces the definition of autobiography and explains what it is.	Slides 2 - 4	
Rubric	Teacher introduces the rubric that will be used for this assignment and outlines expectations.	Slides 5 - 10	copy of rubric
View and score sample autobiographies	Teacher shows 3 different samples; students use rubric to score them.	Slides 11-18	If you are not using the PowerPoint presentation, students will need copies of each sample; students will also need a rubric.

Students begin the brainstorming process for their own autobiography. Students will get additional information about their life from family members. Teachers will guide the process of writing the section, body paragraph. Students will self-reflect on their work.

Slides 19 - 20	copies of brainstorming templates
Slide 21	copy of family interview template
Slides 22 - 24	writer's notebooks
Slide 25	editing checklist
Slide 26	Depends on how the teacher chooses to have students publish the book.

Autobiographies: Introduction Notes

What is an autobiography?
An autobiography is a story that you write about your life. It is all about YOU!

What do you write in an autobiography?
You can write anything that tells about your life, such as:

- Where you were born
- Where you have lived
- Your favorite things
- Stories about family and pets
- Major events in your life
- Moments that you will remember forever

What makes a good autobiography?

- A great introduction that makes the reader want to keep reading
- Events that are in an easy-to-understand order
- Attention to detail (spelling and grammar)
- A new paragraph for each new topic
- Topic sentences at the beginning of each new paragraph

Notes for teachers that don't plan on using the accompanying PowerPoint.

a rubric that will be used for students to assess samples, as well as for the teacher to assess the final autobiographies

Autobiography Rubric

	3	2	1
Introduction	The introduction is interesting and makes me want to keep reading.	There is an introduction, but it is not very interesting.	There is no introduction.
Order of Events	The events are in an order that makes it easy to understand.	The order of events is a bit confusing and makes it kind of hard to understand.	The way that the events are ordered makes it very hard to understand.
Paragraphs	There is a new paragraph for each topic. The paragraphs begin with an interesting topic sentence.	There are new paragraphs for some of the topics. Some of the paragraphs begin with a topic sentence.	The author has not used paragraphs or topic sentences.
Content	I feel like I know a lot about the person by reading their autobiography.	I feel like I know a bit about the person writing the autobiography, but I would like to know more.	I don't really feel like I know much about the person, even after reading their autobiography.
Spelling and Punctuation	I can tell that the author has edited this for spelling and punctuation, because there are no errors.	There are some errors with spelling and punctuation, but not too many.	There are a lot of errors in spelling and punctuation. The author has definitely not checked this over!



three sample autobiographies (high, medium, low) and a scoring card; students will be involved in assessing the samples to increase their understanding of the rubric criteria and what makes a good autobiography

Sample Autobiography #1

Sample Autobiography #2

Sample Autobiography #3

	Sample #1	Sample #2	Sample #3
Introduction	3 2 1	3 2 1	3 2 1
Order of Events	3 2 1	3 2 1	3 2 1
Paragraphs	3 2 1	3 2 1	3 2 1
Content	3 2 1	3 2 1	3 2 1
Spelling and Punctuation	3 2 1	3 2 1	3 2 1
Total			

	Sample #1	Sample #2	Sample #3
Introduction	3 2 1	3 2 1	3 2 1
Order of Events	3 2 1	3 2 1	3 2 1
Paragraphs	3 2 1	3 2 1	3 2 1
Content	3 2 1	3 2 1	3 2 1
Spelling and Punctuation	3 2 1	3 2 1	3 2 1
Total			

brainstorming templates for students to use during the autobiography-writing process

Brainstorm!

Where were you born?

What do you do best?

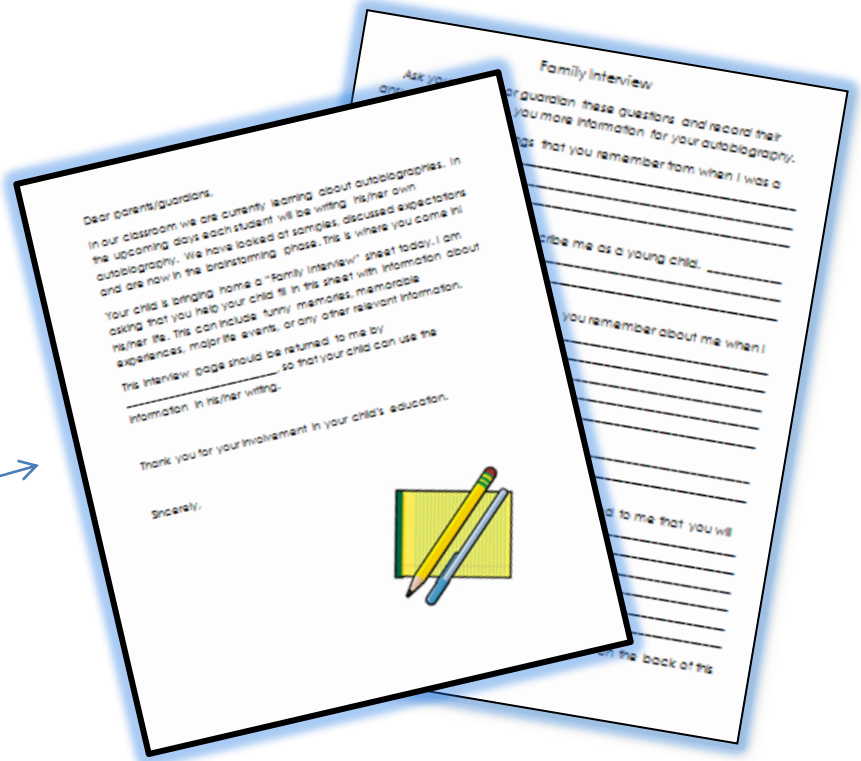
What is a memory from going to school?

What are some words that describe you?

What are some things from your life?

What information about you?

family interview letter and template; students will interview a family member to gather more information about their lives



My edit	My Classmate's Edit	What am I looking for?
		Each sentence begins with an uppercase letter.
		There is a punctuation mark at the end of every sentence.
		I think all of the words are spelled correctly. I have circled the ones that I am not sure about.
		The introduction is interesting and makes me want to keep reading.
		The events are in an order that is easy to understand.
		There is a new paragraph for every new topic.
		Each paragraph begins with a topic sentence.
		I feel like there is a lot of information about the author in this autobiography.

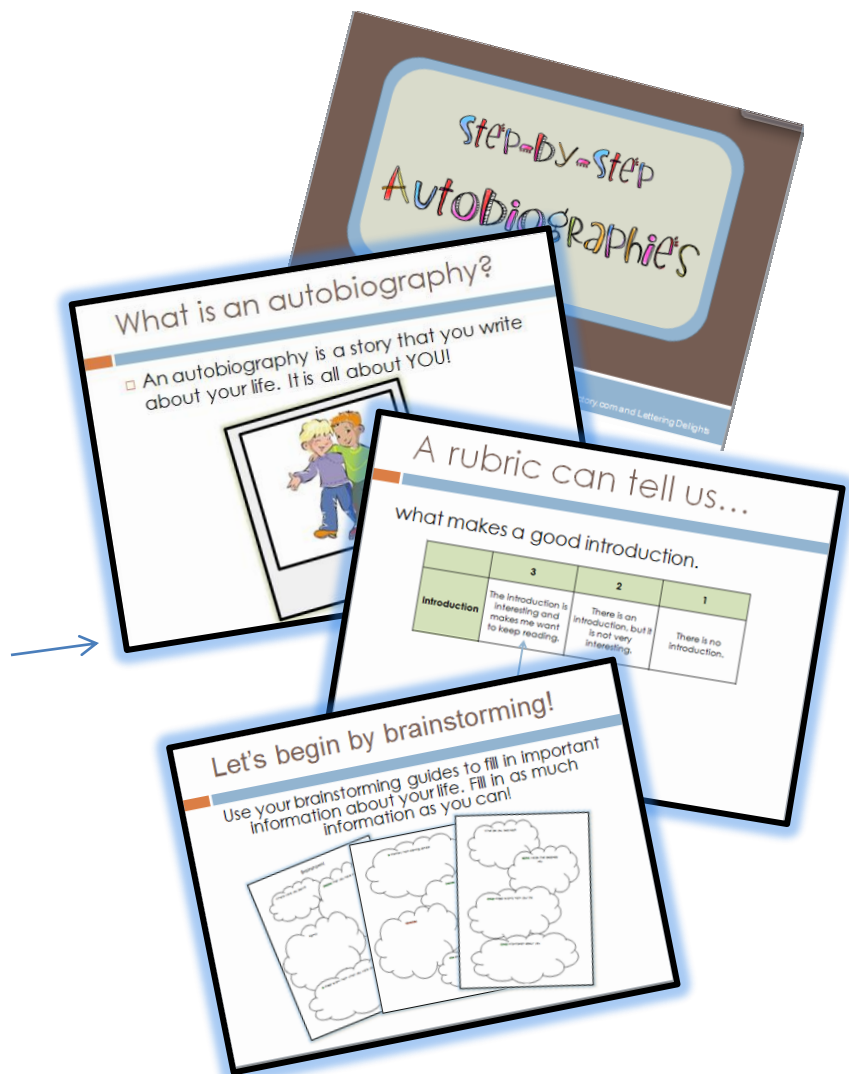


an editing checklist that will be used by each student and a peer to edit the final draft; the checklist follows rubric expectations

plus...

A PowerPoint presentation that can be used to supplement your teaching. Slides are included for every step of the autobiography and will present the matter in an engaging way.

If you do not have access to technology in your classroom, this entire process can be done without the PowerPoint.



View a full listing of products at: <http://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Store/Shelley-Gray>

or: <http://www.facebook.com/teachingresourcesbysheleygray>