



Assignment: Writing to a health leader

Dear _____, _____(date)

I am _____

After reading _____

I have come to believe _____
(my opinion about you and / or your work).

The facts speak for themselves.

For example, first, you _____

Also, you _____

Teacher's Guide: Lesson 1 for Advanced Health Advocates

Activity: Writing to a Health Leader

Resource: Letter to a Leader (scaffolded)



Finally, you _____

I wonder: _____
(What would happen to people without you? Why did you start this work?)

I believe you make a difference because _____

Your work makes me want to _____

Thank you for _____.

You have helped me by _____

Yours truly,



YOUR ASSIGNMENT: Write a letter to a health leader

Your teacher has assigned you to read about health leaders who appear in one of the *Leading Healthy Change* books. The leaders are featured because they are role models who are making children's lives healthier and safer. Pick one leader and write a letter to him or her. Here are some questions that may help you get started:

- What inspires you about the leader's work?
- Why is the leader a good role model for children?
- Would you like to do the leader's job? Why or why not?
- Why is the leader's job important to people?

Your letter may appear in your school health newspaper. Healthy NewsWorks plans to publish selected well-written letters on its website. A few letters will even be printed in our next book, *Leading Healthy Change In Our Communities 2015*.

So what makes a strong letter?

- It is focused on a topic.
- It states an opinion.
- It backs up the opinion with details or facts.
- It is written clearly and uses good grammar.

* * *

TIP: You may need to **SOURCE** a fact. That means you will let readers know where you found the information. In this case, the main source will be the book chapter about your leader. But you may also want to include a fact from a different book, a magazine, a website, or the newspaper article. **HINT:** Use the words "according to" or "said" to tell the reader where the information comes from.

* * *

Use the following checklist to help make sure you have written a strong letter.

- Does your letter include the date when you are writing it?
- Does your letter start with the word "Dear"?
- Do you introduce your topic clearly?
- Do you state your opinion?
- Do you back up your opinion with at least 2 facts or details? You may need to **SOURCE** the facts you use.
- Does your letter have a closing? Examples: Sincerely, Best regards, Yours truly
- Is your name, grade, and school at the bottom of your letter?

GOOD LUCK!