What Do You Think?

Directions: Read the debate “Should Kids be Allowed to Vote?” in the October/November 2020 issue. Use this sheet to fill in support for each side of the question: Should kids be allowed to vote?

Yes!
1. 
2. 
3. 

No!
1. 
2. 
3. 

Study the points on both sides of the argument. Then think about your own opinion. State your opinion in one sentence below. It can become the opening sentence for an essay on this topic.

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Directions: Think about your responses to the “What Do You Think?” part of this activity. Then follow the steps below to write an opinion essay about the debate, “Should Kids Be Allowed to Vote?”

Step 1: Choose Your Side

An opinion essay is all about expressing a view and backing it up with supporting evidence or details. So the first step is to decide what you think: Should kids be allowed to vote? Check the box next to the point of view you will support.

☐ Yes!  ☐ No!

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Step 2: Write an Introduction

The introduction is where you tell your reader what your essay is going to be about. In an opinion essay, it’s where you grab the reader’s attention and state your opinion. Start with a catchy sentence or question about the topic. *(Example for a “Yes” opinion: Kids have great ideas!)* Then state your opinion on whether kids should have the right to vote. You may use the sentence you wrote at the bottom of the “What Do You Think?” activity sheet as your opinion sentence.

Your introduction:
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Step 3: Find Your Supporting Evidence

You’ve already done most of this on the “What Do You Think?” activity sheet! Copy the reasons you listed for the side you’re taking. Include any extra details you find in the article to support your reasons.

Reason 1:

Reason 2:

Reason 3:
Step 4: Write a Conclusion

The last paragraph of your essay is your conclusion. Write one or two sentences that restate your main idea.

Your conclusion:

Now, on a separate document, use what you’ve written here to create your opinion essay.