

6th Grade Lit and Comp Plans for the week of 1/29/2024

In *Mrs. Frisby & the Rats of NIMH*, readers fall in love with some furry critters. Mice and rats are sometimes used in scientific experimentation. Your assignment this week is to write a paragraph about the pros or cons of using animals (such as mice, rats, and monkeys) in laboratory experiments. Tuesday will be a thinking/ planning day. You will actually write your rough draft for your paragraph on Wednesday, and revise it on Thursday before writing a final draft. Please be sure to spend three days planning & working.

Tuesday:

1. Think: Why do laboratories use animals for scientific experimentation in the first place? If you need to research animal testing, be sure to ask your parents to find articles and print for you. **There are some disturbing results yielded from animal testing searches.** Your parents will want to screen your search for you.
2. Make a table with two columns. Label the left-hand column pros and label the right-hand column cons. List as many pros and cons as you can.
3. You may also want to consider: What is the benefit of using animals? Why do we test animals and not humans? What is the difference between a human and an animal? Why does society consider rodents inferior to other animals like dogs, cats, and monkeys? Is it fair to perform tests on animals for the sake of human progress?
4. Discuss with your family members, their thoughts on animal testing. Is it a good thing or a bad thing?

Wednesday:

Write a paragraph discussing your personal feelings & thoughts about animal testing. Should the reader support animal testing? **Write a complete, well-thought paragraph persuading the reader that your point of view is valid and worth considering.** You should follow the format we used in the fall for paragraphs. I attached an outline for you to use to help.

Thursday:

Edit and revise your paragraph from yesterday. Ask Mom or Dad or your tutor to help you edit. Write a final copy and STAPLE to your other work from Tuesday and Wednesday. Be prepared to turn in your paragraph & rough drafts/ table on FRIDAY.