



THE WRITING ACADEMY, LLC®



Module 1

PLACE — From Resource to Evidence



Grade 3 • Cluster 8 • Research



How does the place around a community create both opportunities and challenges?

★ Meet Our Week!

★ Daily Deck

Module Slide 2 • Learning Destination

I Will...

- Distinguish direct quotations from paraphrases.
- Credit borrowed information to its source.
- Write E2 explanations that show what my evidence proves.

I Can...

- Answer the module question using evidence from more than one source.
- Complete a first body paragraph proving how place, resources, challenges, and human choices help communities grow strong.
- **Explain to a partner** what my evidence proves.

★ The Empty Community Challenge

Day 1 • Gather & Reveal

**Look: water • wood • a shell • a road • an empty box labeled
COMMUNITY**

**Which object can build a community all
by itself?**

First Prediction: What do you think before the background is revealed?

★ Research vs. Report

Day 1 • Reveal — Anchor Chart

Report

Tells facts about a topic.

"The Nile River provided water." (a fact)

Research

Begins with a question, develops an answer, and uses selected evidence to prove that answer.

"The Nile helped a community grow because people used its water, soil, and travel route to meet several needs."
(research thinking)



Watch My Research Decisions

Day 1 • Teacher Model

R

Name the reason: people use place's resources to meet needs.

Source

Passage 15: the Nile provided water, fertile soil, food, transportation.

Q or P

Decide: quote the exact words, or paraphrase the idea?

Credit

Name the source so the reader can find it.

E2

Evidence cannot explain itself — explain meaning, importance, and proof.

★ Q, P, or E2 Freeze

Day 1 • Auditory Engagement

Q — two fingers

The source says, "A place gives people resources and challenges."

P — open palm

The website explains that every location offers both useful resources and difficulties.

E2 — point to head

This matters because people must decide how to use the help and respond to the difficulty.

★ Place Evidence Expedition

Day 2 • Attempt

Roles

Reader • Card Cartographer • Evidence Checker • Reason Reporter

Five Case Mats

Nile River • Plymouth • Poverty Point • Frontier Life • Modern Transportation

Build the chain: **PLACE → RESOURCE → CHALLENGE → CHOICE → IMPACT**. Then explain:
"This evidence helps prove that communities grow strong when..."

★ Talk It Over!

Day 3 • Discuss

How can a writer turn place-based facts into an organized paragraph that proves one reason?

What made a card relevant rather than merely interesting?

Why did some cases need more than one source?

Why is the human choice necessary?



When Should I Quote or Paraphrase?

Day 3 • Discuss (cont.)

Quote (Q) when the source's exact words are especially clear, memorable, or important.

Paraphrase (P) when the idea matters more than the wording, or several details need to be condensed.

≡ Try It On Your Own!

Day 3 • Use (Independent) — Write Body Paragraph 1

1

R topic sentence matches the first thesis (central idea) reason.

2

E1-A direct quotation with accurate quotation marks and source credit, plus at least two E2 sentences.

3

E1-B paraphrase with source credit, plus at least two E2 sentences.

4

A linking sentence connecting place and human choice.

Award & Target

Day 4 • Award & Target

Award Frame

I award myself for _____. The evidence on my paper is _____. This improved my research because _____.

Target Frame

My target is _____. I will make this change in _____ by _____. I will know the target is complete when _____.

Exit Ticket

Day 5 • Explain to Others — Place Expert Press Conference

1. Write the Week 1 R from memory.
2. Name one place, one resource, and one challenge from the sources.
3. Write one sentence explaining the human choice.
4. Label one sentence Q or P and give source credit.
5. Answer the module question in one complete sentence.

★ Evidence Support

Intervention • Small-Group Support

Reduce the source set to two carefully chosen excerpts without removing the requirement to distinguish quotation, paraphrase, and explanation.

Color-code R, E1, E2, and source credit — keep the same colors across organizer, draft, and Daily Deck.

Provide a preselected evidence pair and ask the student to choose Q or P and write E2 independently.

② Research Extensions

Enrichment • Write in your research notebook

Require a third source or a counterexample and explain how it changes or qualifies the claim.

Compare the usefulness and limits of a poem, fiction passage, simulated source, and long nonfiction source.

Integrate a quotation smoothly and create a more sophisticated transition.

✓ **My Research Progress Tracker**

Directions

This tracker is for YOU! As you research PLACE using Passage 15, Community Quest Kids, and earlier passages, look at each skill. If you can do it all by yourself, color in or check the box that matches how you feel.

Be honest with yourself — this helps you see how much you are growing as a researcher!

Let's Look at an Answer!

Prompt: Write Body Paragraph 1 proving how place, resources, challenges, and human choices help communities grow strong.

LOW

"Places help communities. The Nile had water. Plymouth had trees. This is important. Communities got strong."

What's working: Names two places and recognizes that resources matter.

What's missing: The R is too broad, the evidence has no source credit, no quotation or true paraphrase appears, and E2 does not explain how people used the resources.

Let's Look at Another Answer!

Prompt: Write Body Paragraph 1 proving how place, resources, challenges, and human choices help communities grow strong.

MEDIUM

"One way communities grow strong is when people use resources in a place. Passage 15 says the Nile provided water and fertile soil. This helped people grow food. The Pilgrims also used forests and a harbor at Plymouth. This shows that places can help people."

What's working: A usable R, two relevant examples, and some explanation.

What's missing: Accurate attribution language, one direct quotation, a genuine paraphrase, and deeper E2 that explains human choices and connects back to the thesis (central idea).

Our Strongest Answer!

Prompt: Write Body Paragraph 1 proving how place, resources, challenges, and human choices help communities grow strong.

HIGH

"One way communities grow strong is when people use the resources and possibilities of a place to meet their needs. Passage 15 explains that the Nile River provided water, fertile soil, fish, and a route for transportation. This means the river supported several needs at the same time, but people still had to farm the soil, build boats, and organize life around the flood cycle. The evidence proves that a useful place becomes more powerful when people make thoughtful choices. Community Quest Kids states, "A place gives people resources and challenges." This exact wording is important because it reminds us that every location has both help and difficulty. At Plymouth, settlers used timber, fresh water, land, and a harbor while also facing winter and illness. Together, the sources show that geography can open possibilities, but people strengthen a community by deciding how to use what the place provides."

What's working: A clear R, a paraphrase, a short direct quotation, source credit, cross-source corroboration, and sustained E2. The researcher voice remains louder than the source voice — this is our Module 1 target!