**8th Grade Explanatory Essay (NJSLS W.2, W.4, W.5, W.6)**

**Directions:** Using your research is to be able to write an article about a toy from your childhood. Therefore, you will need to select a toy that has plenty of information and research available online. Oftentimes, the easiest toys to do research on, are ones that have been around for a long time (like the Slinky and Silly Putty in the History video we watched in class).

* Write informative/explanatory text to examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and analysis of relevant content.
* Introduce a topic and organize ideas, concepts, and information, using text structures (e.g., definition, classification, comparison/contrast, cause/effect, etc.) and text features (e.g., headings, graphics, and multimedia).
* Develop the topic with relevant, well-chosen facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples.
* Use appropriate and varied transitions to create cohesion and clarify the relationships among ideas and concepts.
* Use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to inform about or explain the topic.
* Establish and maintain a formal style/academic style, approach, and form. Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the information.
* With some guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on how well purpose and audience have been addressed.
* Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing and present the relationships between information and ideas efficiently as well as to interact and collaborate with others or explanation presented.