**Persuasive Group Activity**

**Get into groups of 3-4. Assign each person in your group a role:**

**Recorder** (writes down ideas)

**Speaker** (shares ideas with class)

**Time keeper** (watches the time and makes sure the project is done on time)

**Leader** (makes sure everyone gets a chance to share their ideas and the group stays focused)

**Directions:** Your group will choose one of the topics below. You will decide what is the best choice for your group to do and if a change is necessary. You will have 20 minutes to decide on the reasons for your decision and then 3 minutes to present your reasons to the group. Include the information below:

**1. Something positive about current program at an agency**

**2. Offer a positive change to be made**

**3. State why this change is important**

**4. Give at least two supporting details for suggesting change**

**5. Conclude with a persuasive statement**

**Scenario 1**

Your child’s school allows students to buy candy at lunch time and snack time. There are also healthy choices available but you know your son and his friends buy soda and candy every day. Should the school be allowed to sell junk food?

**Scenario 2**

The local supermarket puts all the candy on low shelves near the cash registers, which makes it easy to choose them as a snack. Fruit and healthy snacks are far away. Should the store have the healthier foods closer to the cash registers?

**Scenario 3**

A local restaurant does not have nutritional information available about its food. You would like to know if the food they serve is healthy or not. Should the restaurant make it easier to know what is put in the food?

**Persuasive Letter Format**

(adapted from www.scholastic.com)

**Heading**

* Your Street Address
* Your City, State Zip
* Date

**Inside Address**

* Addressee (to whom the letter is being written)
* Their Street Address
* City, State, Zip

**Salutation**

* Dear Mr./Ms. Last name (of addressee)

**Body**

* Introduce yourself to the reader.
* State your opinion or your feelings about something important to you.
* Be sure you are positive.
* Include facts, reasons, or examples to support why you are writing.
* Make a suggestion for a change.
* Explain two reasons why the change should be made.
* Thank the reader.
* Remind the reader where they can contact you.

**Closing**

* Sincerely yours,
* Your **Signature**
* Your name

**Persuasive Letter Example**

1851 Mission Boulevard

Oceanside, CA 92054

November 7, 20\_\_

Cesar Chavez Middle School

202 Oleander Drive

Oceanside, CA 92057

Dear Principal Sanders,

My name is Olivia Martinez. My children go to your school. I am concerned about the high calorie candy sold at the school. My children have learned at school that they should make good food choices. However, the snacks sold at the snack bar are mostly candy bars and chips. These are not very healthy.

Could the school sell more fresh fruit, yogurt, or granola bars? They cost the same or less than candy bars. They are also healthier for the children. Our children want to practice good food choices. They need better snack choices at the snack bar.

Thank you for reading my letter. If you have any questions, you can call me at (760) 555-1212.

Sincerely yours,

**Olivia Martinez**

Olivia Martinez