

### Figure 3.6: Occasional Paper Guidelines for Elementary Students

Your occasional paper (or OP) can be about anything you have noticed in the world around you that you think your classmates will think is interesting, surprising, or even amazing.

- ☐ Brainstorm a list of possible topics with your class, a partner, or on your own.
- ☐ Select a topic and write what you have noticed about it. Be sure to include details you think no one else may notice unless you point them out.
- ☐ Your OP can be serious or funny. Just be sure it's respectful of other people.
- ☐ Make a copy of your OP that is easy to read and practice reading it aloud.
- ☐ Read your OP to a partner, small group, or your class.
- ☐ Listen carefully when your classmates read their OPs and let them know what you liked. You might also get some good ideas for how to write your next OP.