

"It was a sundy day at the zoo..."



I was a sundy day at the zoo  
when the lies were fed and Goodys.  
I was smiling and happy. I looked  
thoo the glass ee I want I see  
crea ee my mom said ee no ee I  
stotnot my foot. I had an  
upsidan smile. She took me  
home. Next time I will not  
act like that.

## First Grade—Narrative

### “It was a sundy day at the zoo...”

It was a sunny day at the zoo when the lions were fed and crocodiles. I was smiling and happy. I looked through the glass. “I want ice cream.” My mom said, “No.” I stomped my foot. I had an upside-down smile. She took me home. Next time, I will not act like that.

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Ways to Use this Sample during Writing Instruction</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ To show how a writer can write about a big watermelon topic (going to the zoo), but chooses to zoom in on one small moment (getting mad).</li></ul> |  |
| <b>Questions to Consider in Study Groups</b> <p>Why did the writer choose to write about only this moment at the zoo?</p>   |  |
| <b>Narrative Elements</b>   | Notice the attention this writer gives to his lead. Lucy Calkins says when a writer is stuck for a good beginning, you can always start with the weather! This young writer clearly understands this method and employs it in a powerful way. This narrative contains two or more appropriately sequenced events. It also has strong closure that includes a reflection. We also see not only events, but also reactions (I had an upside-down smile).   |
| <b>Narrative Strategies</b>   | The writer attempts the use of dialogue and uses details to create the mood. The writer uses literary language, such as “I had an upside-down smile.”  |
| <b>Conventions</b>  | <i>Syntax and Vocabulary</i> <p>Sentence structures are mostly simple. The first sentence is somewhat awkward, as the writer tries to convey that both the lions and the crocodiles were fed, which could be a point for revision.</p> <i>Spelling</i> <p>High-frequency words are spelled correctly, and new words are readable, represented with beginning, middle, and ending sounds.</p> <i>Punctuation</i> <p>This piece has correct capitalization and ending punctuation. In addition, the writer uses quotation marks correctly.</p> |