

Self-Assessment: Collaborative Research Project

Children's Book

This self-assessment focuses on our collaborative research project in creating a children's book around our literature review of the "Determinants of Obesity." Our biggest hurdle writing this book was the transition from college level writing, to writing a dialogue appropriate for kids to understand, covering the learning objective on "negotiating your own writing goals and audience expectations regarding conventions of genre, medium, and rhetorical situation."

On the point of collaboration, this project also required us to "develop and engage in the collaborative and social aspects of writing processes" by constantly editing our dialogue and presentation of the children's book. We were well accustomed to group work, however the context of writing audience-appropriate dialogue required us to check one another and see if improvements can be made.

Whereas we approached statistics variances on obesity diagnoses in relation to socioeconomic statistics as the basis for our literature review on a societal level, we had to dive into a more personal level between a child and his mother and think about how their interaction might go about, while also worrying about writing for the appropriate audience level. Some sections would end up being too long-winded, while others would be overly complicated with words that the typical child would not understand. We simply cut down and made the language of the dialogue simpler and more straightforward to read, while also replacing any difficult words with simpler terms or just cutting those words away.