District Argumentative Writing Assessment-6th Grade

Essential Questions: How young is too young for a smart device (phone or tablet)? When should children be allowed to have their own smartphone, if ever?

Length of time to complete: Up to 8 class periods or 4 days

Activity 1: Reading and Note-Taking

Read and view the resources provided.

As you read and take notes, think about these questions:
- What are the benefits of using smart devices?
- What are the problems with using smart devices?
- Should babies be using iPhones or tablets? How young is too young? Why?
- Do you think apps generally help babies or children learn, or are they more used as entertainment?

Activity 2: Writing

Read the following statement:
More and more babies, toddlers, and children are spending time using smartphones and tablets.

Read the articles outlined in the resources and decide which texts have the best evidence to support you side of the argument: How young is too young for smart devices?

Use a graphic organizer to plan your response.
Activity 2 Continued: Writing

Remember, a strong argumentative response includes:
• States a clear claim related to the resources and the prompt.
• Uses relevant and accurate details/evidence from three or more resources to support the argument.
• Includes analysis to back up the claim.
• Purposefully uses grade-level conventions correctly.

Activity 3: Writing, Revising, and Publishing

Begin writing your response to the prompt.

Self-revise and edit as needed. No peer editing is allowed.

Type your final document.

Be sure to check over you argumentative writing rubric before submitting.