Title: A Dog's Life

Obje	Objectives												Time frame to Complete										
• The student will recognize and correct spelling errors, capitalization errors, punctuation errors, and word												15 - 20 minutes											
usage in a sample report in order to produce a more professional document.												NRS	EF	L									
 The student will understand and identify homophones. 												4											
Stackable Cert. Documentation		Study / Life skills	EL-Civics	Career Pathways	Police	Paramedic			<u>.</u>	Phlebotomy	Practical Nursing	Healthcare Admin	Pharmacy Tech	IMT	AMT	HVAC	Welding	Other:	Vet tech				
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Standard(s) Addressed in Lesson Write to Convey Ideas																							
Benchmark(s) Addressed in Lesson W.4.15. Use correct spelling in writing consistently.																							
W.4.16. Punctuate writing correctly using semicolons, colons, hyphens, dashes and brackets.																							
W.4.17. Use correct capitalization.																							
W.4.20. Proofread writing and edit to improve conventions and to correct dangling and misplaced modifiers, fragments and run-ons.																							
Materials A Dog's Life passage Computers Paper and pencil																							
Learner Prior Knowledge Basic vocabulary of animal terms; basic knowledge of writing conventions; knowledge of audience, purpose, and credibility.																							
Activities																							
<u>Step 1</u> Distribute <i>A Dog's Life</i> passage to students. Read the passage aloud. A student volunteer may read the passage or the instructor may read the passage to the class. Discuss with the class why this passage might be																							

passage or the instructor may read the passage to the class. Discuss with the class why this passage might be written (purpose) and who will be reading this passage (audience). Ask the class to offer reasons for insuring that a document contains professional writing conventions, including spelling (credibility).

<u>Step 2</u> Explain homophones to students. Words that sound alike, but have different spellings, often cause confusion when reading and writing. Examples include nose/knows, fair/fare, deer/dear, wine/whine. A computer's spell-check function does not always find such errors, so it is important to proofread carefully.

<u>Step 3</u> Each student will then make corrections to the printed passage. Next, students, using a computer word processing program, will key in the passage, showing the corrections they have made.

<u>Step 4</u> Each student will, according to the instructor's directions, either print the corrected passage or save the corrected document in a computer file.

Assessment/Evidence

Students will compare their written passage to the correct version of the passage.

Adaptations for Beginning Students

Beginning students may use a shorter version of the passage or may expect a higher number of errors. Such students may also be given extended time.

Adaptations for Advanced Students

Advanced students will be expected to have few or no errors and may be given a challenging time limit for completing the assignment.

Teacher Reflection/Lesson Evaluation

Students should easily perceive the importance of polished writing for creating clearer communication in a professional document.

This lesson was created by Middletown ABLE.

A Dog's Life

Passage to be corrected:

Even the expansive prairie dog communities are disappearing from the western states of are countrie smaller prairie dog groups remane. Those there prairie dogs that remane create havock for ranchers'. Ranchers horses and livestock trip in the wholes that has been dug by the prairie dogs and brake they're legs. Also the wholes make planting feilds of crops all most impossible. Gary balfour whom lives in cortes colorado has discovered a solution. Balfour own a companie called dog gone and travels to areas of prairie dog colonies. He has a vacume equipt vehical that utilizes a very wide pipe to suck the small creatures out of they're wholes. He then transfers the animuls to fewer populated areas. Instead of being distroyed the prairie dogs are aloud to rome freely.

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Corrected passage:

Even though expansive prairie-dog communities are disappearing from the western states of our country, smaller prairie dog groups remain. Those prairie dogs that remain create havoc for ranchers. Ranchers' horses and livestock trip in the holes that have been dug by the prairie dogs and break their legs. Also, the holes make planting fields of crops almost impossible. Gary Belfour, who lives in Cortes, Colorado, has discovered a solution. Balfour owns a company called Dog-Gone and travels to areas of prairie dog colonies. He has a vacuum-equipped vehicle that utilizes a very wide pipe to suck the small creatures out of their holes. He then transfers the animals to less populated areas. Instead of being destroyed, the prairie dogs are allowed to roam freely.