Expository writing - starter ideas

The goal of expository writing is to explain things. Giving directions, retelling matter-of-fact events, or describing how something is done are all examples of expository writing. It is found everywhere we look, from the cooking directions on a soup can to the world's events in the daily newspaper.

Possible activities:

- write a brochure for a particular place
- write a plan for how you would go about doing something (like fund raising)
- write a letter to your teacher explaining why a particular subject is your favourite
- write a letter to a friend describing something you have seen or done
- describe a toy or game that would be of interest to other children
- write advice for other people on how to do something you have just done
- describe something (using all 5 senses) to someone from another planet, who has never seen it
- write instructions for how to survive a particular disaster of some kind
- write the questions you would ask a famous person you were interviewing
- explain a hobby or interest of yours
- write a letter to someone explaining why you admire them
- invent a new creature or place or object and describe it to others
- write a speech about some event or person
- write about something you would like to do when you grow up
- brainstorm a web of words about something, and then write a paragraph from it
- write step by step instructions for how to do something