

<p><b>Mini-Lesson Teaching Point:</b> Counterclaim/Counterargument</p> <p>Learning Target (s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A counterclaim is a viewpoint that opposes a writer’s main argument.</li></ul>
<p><b>Standards:</b> <b>CC.1.4.8.1</b></p>
<p><b>Materials:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Power point – Counterclaims in Argumentative Writing</li><li>• Copy of “A Case for Chewing Gum” (from 3 Modes of Writing)</li><li>• Copies of Argumentative Essay Model: <i>Should Schools Stop Serving Chocolate Milk to Their Students?</i> <b>OR</b> teacher/student examples</li><li>• Highlighters</li><li>• Laptop</li></ul>
<p><b>Connection:</b></p> <p><i>“Writers, yesterday we looked at components of a strong thesis statement. While a strong thesis statement is a must in argumentative writing, a writer also needs to include a counterclaim. A counterclaim is a viewpoint that opposes a writer’s main argument. Counterclaims are a part of effective argumentative writing because they show that you have considered other points of view.</i>”</p>
<p><b>Teach/Model:</b></p> <p><i>“We learned that the thesis statement is the sentence that asserts, controls and structures your entire argument. However, counterclaims are a critical piece as well.”</i></p> <p>View power point – Counterclaims in argumentative writing</p> <p>Then display copy of “A Case for Chewing Gum,” and highlight/discuss the thesis statement and the counterclaim.</p>
<p><b>Active Engagement/Guided Practice:</b></p> <p><i>“I am now going to ask you to look at an example of an argumentative essay. As you are reading, highlight the thesis statement and the counterclaim.”</i></p> <p>Pass out <i>Should Schools Stop Serving Chocolate Milk to Their Students?</i> OR teacher/student examples After all students are done, discuss as a class.</p>
<p><b>Notes:</b></p> <p>Adapted from: <a href="http://prezi.com/wtbyjfm_wimn/counter-argument/essay">http://prezi.com/wtbyjfm_wimn/counter-argument/essay</a> from: <a href="http://www.northbergen.k12.nj.us/">www.northbergen.k12.nj.us/</a></p>

## Should Schools Stop Serving Chocolate Milk to Their Students?

Schools should keep serving chocolate milk. There should be chocolate milk because kids like it, it gives vitamins, and it gets kids in good habits. Many kids love chocolate milk - it makes them happy to see it in the cafeteria, their lunch box, at their kitchen table. Research shows that, overall, chocolate milk is pretty good for kids.

It is especially important that kids have chocolate milk. It turns out that more kids drink milk, when they get chocolate milk. When you interview a lot of parents, like Katie Couric did, they'll say that their kids only drink milk if they can get chocolate milk. So at least they're drinking milk. In a survey of students in this school, 84% said that they wouldn't drink any milk at all unless it was chocolate.

Surprisingly, chocolate milk turns out to have vitamins. A nutritionist from the Dairy Association, demonstrates that chocolate milk is a good source of vitamin A, D, E, and calcium. That's a lot of vitamins and they're in something kids actually like to drink. In her information session, the nutritionist is with kids who drink chocolate milk. Their bright teeth and glossy hair illustrates that kids who love chocolate milk will be that healthy. There's one more reason why chocolate milk should be served in schools. The famous nutritionist argued that chocolate milk has a lot less sugar and carbohydrates than soda and power drinks like Gatorade. So if kids get in the habit of drinking milk in school, then they'll probably skip the sodas outside of school. The chocolate milk that is served in our school, for instance, is low fat. So it is a lot better for kids than soda.

It is true that Jamie Oliver, a chef and enemy of chocolate milk, argued that chocolate milk does have added sugar. Jamie is a famous chef who is involved with lunch for kids in schools in Los Angeles. In a shocking video, Jamie shows a school bus filled with sugar to show how much sugar kids get from chocolate milk. However, there are a lot of school kids in the US, and if you divide that busload up between all the kids, it will not be such a shocking amount. And if you put it next to a bus filled with vitamins A, D, E and calcium that kids get, the picture might seem very different.

So keep chocolate milk, kids' main source of vitamins, good habits, and happiness.