# Choices for Elaborating in Informational Writing

| When the writer wants to . . . 🎯 | Your feedback might include . . . 🏆 |
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| Explain a fact or collection of facts | Adding your thoughts about those facts |
| | Comparing those facts to something else ("a dolphin pod is like a family") |
| | Quoting directly from a source that explains the fact |
| | Rephrasing the fact to clarify ("In other words . . ." ) |
| | Adding a graphic that illustrates the fact(s), like a photo, diagram, chart, etc. |
| | Using an anecdote about that fact |
| Define content-specific words | Adding a definition inside parentheses |
| | Adding a definition inside commas, as an appositive |
| | Writing the definition in the next sentence |
| | Adding a graphic that illustrates and clarifies the definition |
| | Adding a textbox or sidebar with the definition |
| | Defining the words in a glossary |
| Create cohesion | Using transition words from paragraph to paragraph and sometimes sentence to sentence |
| | Designing subheadings that have similar patterns or wording |
| | In paragraphs, having your opening sentence and closing sentence say similar things |
| | Ensuring that all writing under a heading belongs there |