The prompt recipe

40 minutes · Ages 6 to 8 · Prompt writing · Free to print and share

Goal

Students write clear descriptions using a simple recipe: what it is, what it looks like, one fun detail.

Vocabulary

- prompt
- describe
- detail
- improve

Materials

- Recipe card on the board
- Paper and crayons

Warm-up (5 minutes)

Play "robot sandwich": students give the teacher step-by-step instructions to make a sandwich, followed exactly. Laugh at the mistakes.

Activity

1. Show the recipe: 1. What it is ("a dragon"). 2. What it looks like ("small, purple, yellow scarf"). 3. One fun detail ("who loves pancakes").
2. Model a weak prompt ("a dog") and improve it with the recipe.
3. Students write a prompt for a character. A partner draws exactly what is written, nothing more.
4. Compare drawings to the writer's idea. The writer improves one part of the prompt and the partner redraws.
5. Rule for real AI tools: never include names, schools or other personal details.

Talk about it

- What changed when you added details?
- What happens if a prompt has too many ideas at once?
- Why should we keep personal details out of prompts?

Check for understanding

Students write one prompt that uses all three parts of the recipe.

No devices?

The whole lesson is unplugged.

Going further

With a teacher typing, try the best prompts in an AI drawing tool and compare.

Safety: students never type names, schools or other personal details into any tool. kidsgamearcade.com/schools · © 2026 SOEngineered LLC. Free to print and share for teaching; not for resale.