

TEACHER TO TEACHER RESOURCE: WRITING WORKSHOP

1. **Writer's notebook:** A place to write, risk free. It is not graded, but can be collected to provide accountability or a quick check of student progress. Mainly, it is for the student to gather ideas, try things out, and develop the habit of writing often.
2. **Whole Group Mini-lessons:** At the beginning of writing workshop time, bring the whole class together for a short lesson to introduce a new structure or to teach something the whole class needs to learn.
3. **Independent Writing:** Time for students to work on topics of their choice, writing for a unit of study, research, drafting, revising, editing, illustrating, publishing.
4. **Writing Conferences:** The teacher meets with students individually to listen to and discuss the student's writing in progress. This is usually done during independent writing.
5. **Author's Chair:** One student is invited or volunteers sit in the designated author's chair and read their writing to the whole class or a small group. The audience then responds to the author.
6. **Publishing:** Students publish their finished writing by making books, posting on a blog, posting on a bulletin board, compiling into a class anthology, submitting to a newspaper or other venue, etc.
7. **Celebrations** may be arranged to highlight published authors.
8. Once a piece has been published, the student begins work on another piece (often an idea which has been entered into the writer's notebook).