

Writing Workshop Format

Leave behind the “assign and assess” paradigm and move well beyond daily writing journals. Teach the *writing craft* – the wonderful set of skills and techniques that writers know and use to make their writing effective and enjoyable. – Marcia Freeman

5-10 minute Whole Group Mini Lesson – model skill, may include teacher writing or examples from literature (Read-Alouds)

30 -40 minutes independent writing practice using the skill on a new piece or previous piece from Writing Journal

Teacher conferences with students individually or in small groups during this practice time.

5-10 minute sharing/summary –

Ask students what they learned about themselves as a writer today. Ask students to share and celebrate their work.

Getting Started on Skills for Mini-lessons

Each of the following can entail many different lessons across the year. Use examples from your own writing and examples from literature to model. Children can use pieces previously worked on in their Journals – they do not always have to start a new piece. Teacher can direct their choices during conference / practice time.

Beginning Techniques

Ending techniques

Supporting Details/Description

Sentence Variation

Composing skills – ex. Similes and metaphors, alliteration, specificity

Revision and Editing in preparation for Publishing