



WOODRIDGE
SCHOOL DISTRICT 68

Common Core Writing Newsletter

Kindergarten Unit 1

Launching the Writing Workshop

This first unit in kindergarten is all about setting students up in a writer's workshop. Students will be excited for this, and this unit will capitalize on that excitement. Students will be channeled to write all-about books and stories.

About this Unit

The first set of lessons will be devoted to introducing students to the writing workshop. The teacher will help students understand how to think up a topic, to draw it, and then to do their best approximation of writing. Students will be taught to stretch out, listen to, distinguish, and record the sounds in a word.

The second set of lessons is titled "Writing Teaching Books." Students will be writing books to teach people all about whatever they know. During this portion of the unit, children learn that they can reread what they have written, realize they have more to say, then staple on more pages to make a book. Children will begin to plan across the pages of their booklets and will elaborate more. Students will be encouraged to label more of their pictures, to represent more sounds in a word, and to make two-word labels.

In the third portion of the unit, "Writing Stories", students will learn that they can also write to capture small episodes and stories from their lives. They will draw what happened first, then touch the page and tell the story, and then they will write the story of that one time.

In the last section of this unit, students will select a few stories to publish and will learn to revise and edit as they make those stories the best they can be. With guidance, the students will make their best writing better. They'll do things such as add details to their writing, and fix up spelling.

Additional Information

Students will participate in a writer's workshop during a daily, dedicated writing time. The daily workshop is set up so that students will be presented with a mini-lesson and then be sent off to write as the teacher confers with students both individually and in small groups.

Attached to this newsletter are a grade level specific checklist and an example of proficient student writing for this unit's genre of writing. Please contact your student's teacher should you have any further questions.