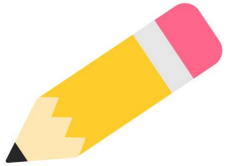

Enhancing Writing Instruction through Student Engagement and Sensorial-Based Tools

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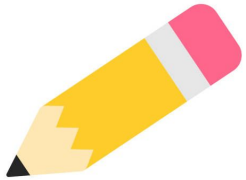
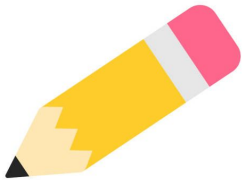
Workshop Objective

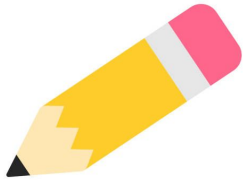


Teachers will learn about how to scaffold writing instruction and create predictable routines for learners through social engagement and sensorial-based writing strategies.

WHEN and HOW did you learn to write?



Writing Instruction Essentials



- Importance of speaking before you write it
  - Clarifying and Organizing Thoughts
  - Enhancing Comprehension and Retention
  - Facilitating Peer Interaction and Feedback
  - Building Confidence and Reducing Writing Anxiety
- Techniques for preparing students to articulate ideas effectively
  - Complete sentences
  - Sentence frames
  - Scaffolding
  - Regular opportunities to speak
  - HIGH expectations and ACCOUNTABILITY

Basic Norms for Writer's Workshop

- We will speak it before we write it

- Blazing Pencils

- Glow and Grow

Collaborative Learning Structures

- Strategies to foster engagement through discussion
  - When and how does this happen in your classrooms currently?
  - What other places could it happen?
- Implementing strategic partnering and pairing techniques
  - Embedded peer mentorship

Supporting students with disabilities and ELLs through peer modeling and mentoring

Revisiting the Purpose of Writing Instruction

- Clarifying goals and objectives of writing assignments
  - SIMPLIFY
  - CONTENT vs SKILL
    - What are you teaching? Stay focused on ONE objective
  - Teach writing as a process
    - Not all pieces of writing need final drafts
    - Not all writer's workshop needs a final product
    - Idation, creating, verbalizing is part of the process
    - Re-define final product and scaffolds within
- Aligning instruction with educational standards and learning outcomes
  - Speaking and listening standards

Sensorial-Based Scaffolding Techniques

- Using color coding, drawing, movement and songs to scaffold writing
- Scope and Sequence for Expository Writing
  - SENTENCES: 3 and 5 part sentences (movement, pictures)
  - PARAGRAPHS: Parts of a paragraph (traffic light- start with green, yellow, then red)
  - TYPES OF PARAGRAPHS: Persuasive (OREO), Standard (hamburger), etc)
  - ESSAYS (introductions and conclusions then supporting paragraphs)
  - REINFORCE AND REPEAT
- Scope and Sequence for Narrative Writing
  - Teach Structure: Beginning, Middle, End (scaffold: problem (middle), solution (end))
  - Six-Fold graphic organizer

Building Lifelong Strategies

- Application of strategies from primary to secondary
- Long-Term benefits of developing written skills
- Creating classroom (and school) community and boosting individual confidence