Let's Write Right Now

First Grade | Writing | 80 minutes | Standards: 1.W.3

by Linda McGrue | July 1, 2015

A good writer doesn't leave his readers waiting. Help your young authors pen some descriptive sentences and narrative paragraphs right now with this teacher-approved lesson.

Learning Objectives

Students will be able to write simple sentences and paragraphs given visual prompts.

Materials and Preparation

- Printed images of various people and objects
- Lined paper

Key Terms:

- author
- sentence

Lesson

Introduction (5 minutes)

- Gather the students together. Inform them that instead of reading a story and writing about it, they will become the author of their own short stories.
- Reassure them by stating that it will be a step-by-step process and that you will work closely with them to help them.

Get more lesson plans at www.education.com/lesson-plans/
Explicit Instruction/Teacher Modeling (20 minutes)

- Spread the printed images on a table. Select one and place it on the board.
- Direct students' attention to the picture. Have them identify what the picture is of.
- Tell them this is the picture you will use to show them what to do.
- Tell them to take a good look at the picture.
- Tell them you want them to think of words that describe the picture so that you can make a list of those words.
- Make a list of 10 and write down their suggestions.
- Go over each word and explain how it relates to the picture. Read the word list again.
- Tell the students you are going to use those words in sentences to write about the picture.
- Choose a word from the list and, as a class, create a complete sentence. Choose at least three words.
- Read the sentences that were generated. Ask students whether they all describe the picture. If a sentence does not fit, cross it out.
- Ask them which sentence should begin the story, then write a 1 by the sentence they choose.
- Continue with the rest of the sentences.
- Once all the sentences have been numbered, write them in paragraph form on the board.
- Read the story together.

Guided Practice/Interactive Modeling (15 minutes)

- Pass out two sheets of lined paper to each student.
- Tell the students to copy the list of words from the board on one sheet.
- Have them copy the story on the back of that sheet.
- Read the story together. Now it is time for them to write their own.
Independent Working Time *(20 minutes)*

- Let the students come up and select pictures to take back to their seats.
- Tell them to take good looks at their pictures, taking note of the background and all of the details they see. Tell them to think of words that describe their pictures.
- Have them start making a list, numbering 1-10. Remind them they do not have to have 10 words.
- Circulate the room and give assistance especially with spelling.
- Tell them to look at their word list and choose three words to use in a sentence. They should each write three sentences. Make sure they read the sentences to themselves to see if they make sense.
- When everyone is finished, collect the sheets.

---

**Extend**

**Differentiation**

- **Enrichment:** Have advanced students generate 15 sentences instead of 10. They can use up to all five of the new sentences in their paragraph.
- **Support:** Work with struggling students in a small group. Let them choose a picture, then have them describe it as you write down what they say. Together, formulate 1-2 sentences to go with the picture.
Review

Assessment *(10 minutes)*

- Check each sheet to assess the student's ability to generate descriptive sentences.

Review and Closing *(10 minutes)*

- Select five students to read their writing.
- Let the students explain what steps they took to complete their assignment.