

Provincial Outreach Program for the Early Years

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"Do you see me?" Nurturing Young Storytellers & Their Craft Through Authentic Writing Experiences

Date: March 7, 2025

Time 9:00-2:30

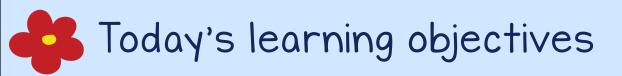
Presenter: Jacquie Anderson











Today we will share strategies, resources and ideas to build Story Workshop and Bookmaking opportunities in your classroom:

- Nurture curiosity and joy as students build their identity as storytellers
- Extension strategies for Story Workshop to deepen and expand thinking and learning
- Extend story telling and story reading into bookmaking and building a writing community











8:30-10:15 Getting started

Why story workshop?

- What might it look like?
- Stories from the Land
- 10:30 What next?
 - Extensions and opportunities
 - Connections to Ministry Documents: Learning in the Primary Years

12:45-2:30. Bookmaking









Where are we coming from?

How would you describe your prior experience and comfort level with Story Workshop?

- 1. Haven't tried it yet
- 2. Have tried it a bit
- 3. Pretty comfortable with it 4. Very comfortable and looking for extension opportunities.

What are you curious about?



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Any choice of pedagogical practice implies a conception of the learner and may, in time, be adopted by him or her as the appropriate way of thinking about the learning process. For a choice of pedagogy inevitably communicates a conception of the learning process and the learner. Pedagogy is never innocent. It is a medium that carries its own message.

Jerome Bruner



The Culture of Education-Jerome Bruner











Story Workshop is an approach to supporting young children's literacy built upon on four pillars: the sharing of stories; immersion in the arts; time for play, and a focus on meaning-making.

"What is the connection between literacy and the arts? That question took us from a practice of Writer's Workshop into new terrain, and a focus on meaning—making."

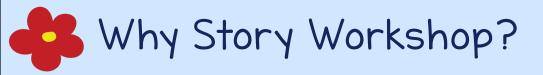
"I think you probably came to school with stories...." Then she asked the children to take a piece of paper and markers or colored pencils and use them to "create a summer memory" they could share. She let children sit where they wanted to sit, and to help themselves to the markers or pencils, which were arranged on shelves in various places in the

room.









What messages are conveyed to students in this simple activity?



Getting Started with Story Workshop





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Consider the unspoken messages to these children:

- I know you have stories to tell.
- Your stories will be listened to here.
- The things we do in school rely on your stories.
- I trust you to make choices.
- I am curious about you.
- I am ready to meet you where you are.
- I expect you to listen to other people's stories.
- I know you will find connections because I know you want to make sense of things.
- You belong here.

These messages are intentional, and the experience in the classroom is designed to deliver them. A structure that prioritizes story can do that.













- ✓ Honours the lives of children: student voice at the centre
- ✓ Inclusive and accessible
- ✓ Practices agency

"Story making creates an inclusive community, as each student has unique experiences, families, histories, and stories. No one is without a story." Compton and Thompson, p. 16







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"Through thinking routines students are enculturated into thinking, developing both their ability and their inclination to think." Ron Richhart

- ✓ Responsive
- ✓ Nurtures metaphor
- \checkmark Contributes to a learning community
- ✓ Assessment tool: nudges thinking

The inquiry teacher is regularly inquiring into his or her students as learners and asking, "what are they revealing to me?", "how might I respond?", and "what next?"

Kath Murdoch Power of Inquiry p. 135

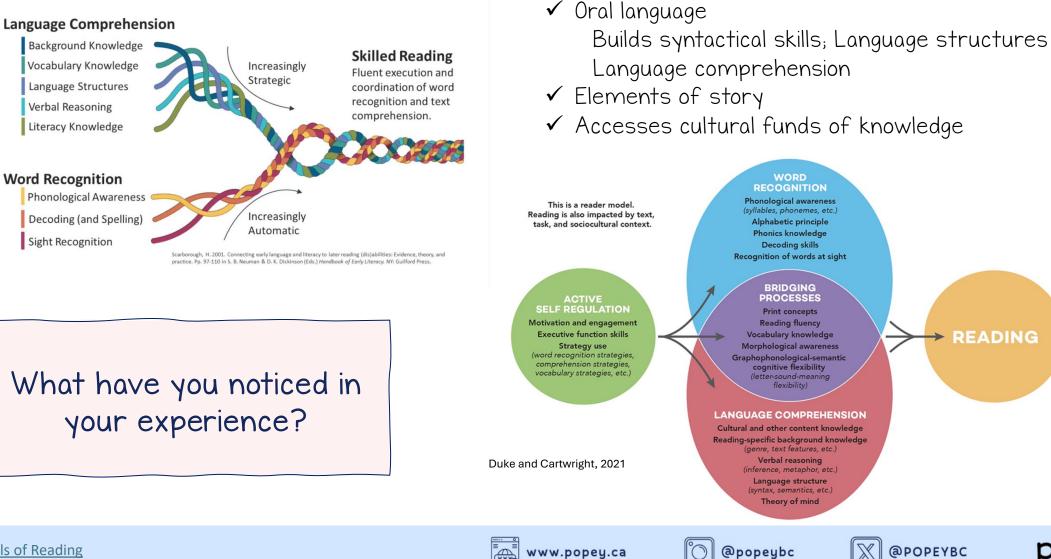








Why Story Workshop?





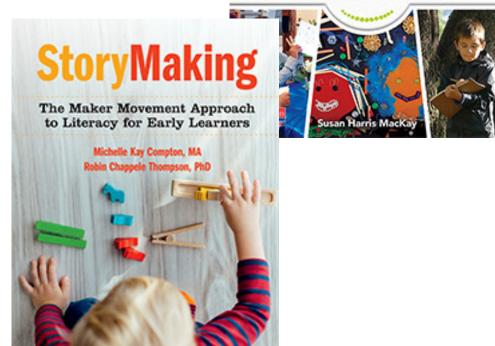
What might it look like?

So many options!

- A particular activity, with its own boundaries
- An extension of play, with the intention of building stories around their activity
- A retelling of a meaningful read-aloud
- A summative representation of what they've been learning
- A process with discrete stages culminating in a written product
- Other ideas?



STORY WORKSHOP New Possibilities for Young Writers



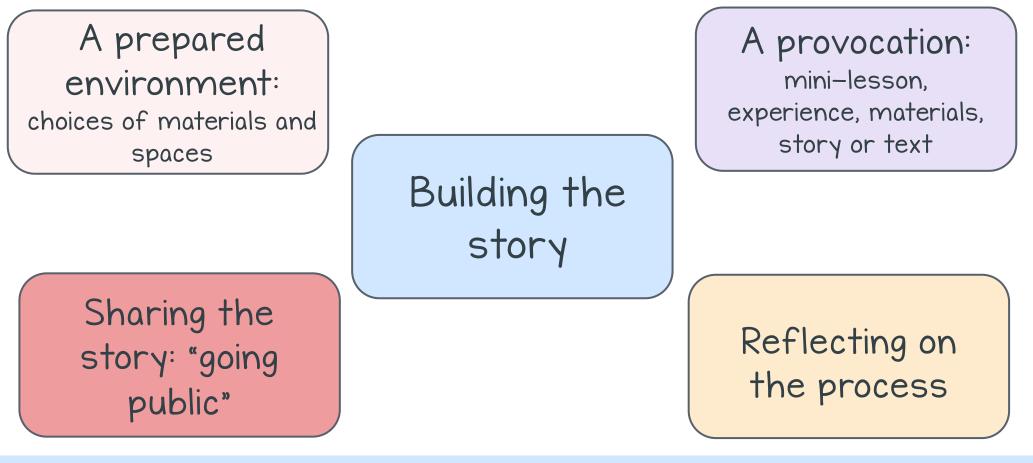
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Some consistent features:











What three words do you feel are most important when it comes to supporting your students as storytellers?

Equity	Inventiveness	Meaning making	Creativity
Voice	Innovation	Emotional literacy	Generosity
Agency	Problem solving	Compassion	Норе
Empathy	Leadership	Humour	Care
Collaboration	Engagement	Interdependence	Power
Listening	Vision	Perspective taking	Uncertainty
Imagination	Trust	Community	Reading
Inquiry	Play	Connection	Writing
Curiosity	Art	Flexibility	Self-efficacy

What questions do these words inspire you to ask?

Discuss & share your three words with your table group







Thinking with materials...look for high affordance materials

- Loose parts
- Art materials
- formal/informal
- retelling/creating

*Story workshop is different than play centres, and distinct from writer's workshop

*High affordance materials help develop the mental image for reading (Constance Kamii)

*It is a platform from which to leap!

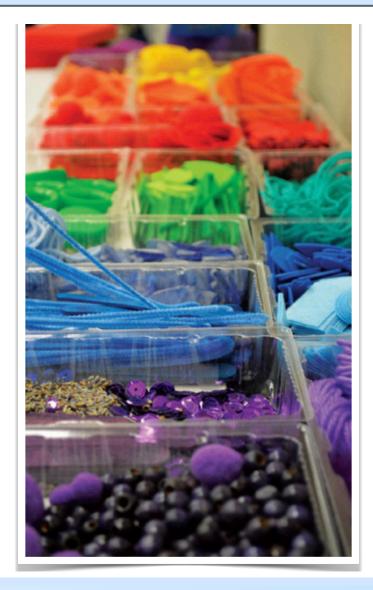








LC Loose Parts as Provocations in Story Workshop



When children interact with loose parts, they enter a world of "what if" that promotes the type of thinking that leads to problem solving and theoretical reasoning. Loose parts enhance children's ability to think imaginatively and see solutions, and they bring a sense of adventure and excitement to children's play. -Daly & Beloglovsky in

Loose Parts: Inspiring Play in Young Children



Loose Parts: Inspiring Play in Young Children—Dale and Beloglovsky

What do you need?



- Variety of loose parts
 - Man made and natural
 - Textures, shapes and sizes
- Background piece
 - Felt square
 - Construction paper
 - Neutral image
- Provocation
 - Video or story
 - Curricular content
 - Experience
- Time
 - Attention
 - Reflection or extension





What do you need?



- Materials could also be: •
 - Art materials
 - Blocks/construction
 - Wire
 - Foil
 - Paper collage
 - Clay •













Needs to be taught explicitly: guided discovery and interactive modeling • Whole group, partners, individual • Timeline will depend on how often you use it • Is an instructional routine

Teaching with intention: what am I hoping for here? Teaching with openness: what am I learning here? Teaching with reflection: where can I go from here?











The unfolding

exploration

Giving children the chance to try out the materials, observe others and gain confidence in the value of their expression.

elaboration

Story scribing and class editing places value on both the teller and the listener. Story Grammar Marker™ builds common language and scaffolding.

extension

Into writing, thematic content, story reading and art.

Build a story Tell a story Listen to a story

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What does it look like? •







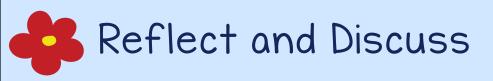




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What are you noticing or wondering about in relation to the five elements of Story Workshop?

- 1. Preparation
- 2. Provocation/invitation
- 3. Story Creation
- 4. Story Sharing
- 5. Reflections



Reflect on what we've covered and connect it to your own personal story workshop experiences and share your thoughts, questions, ideas, etc. with your table group.









Story Grammar Marker (SGM) ...



Each of the symbols in the visual represent a story grammar element. The **Character** icon represents a person, animal, or other being.

The **Star** was chosen as the icon for the **Setting** .The star is a good center for a semantic map or web.

The **Shoe** represents the **Initiating Event** because it is the "kick-off" of the story. The **Heart** represents the "**Feelings**" a Character has in response to the initiating event.

The **Plan** is represented by a **Hand**.

Each of the beads represents a sequence or lists of actions.

The **direct consequence** of the story is represented by a **bow** because it ties the story together.

The **Resolution** of the story is how the character feels about the Direct Consequence. It may include a moral or a lesson learned. It is represented by three small hearts.









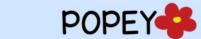








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Character







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П @РОРЕУВС





Setting	Characters
Problem	Solution











See?	Hear?	Touch?	Smell?	Taste?
Who?	What?	Where?	When?	Why?

Setting	Characters
Problem	Solution

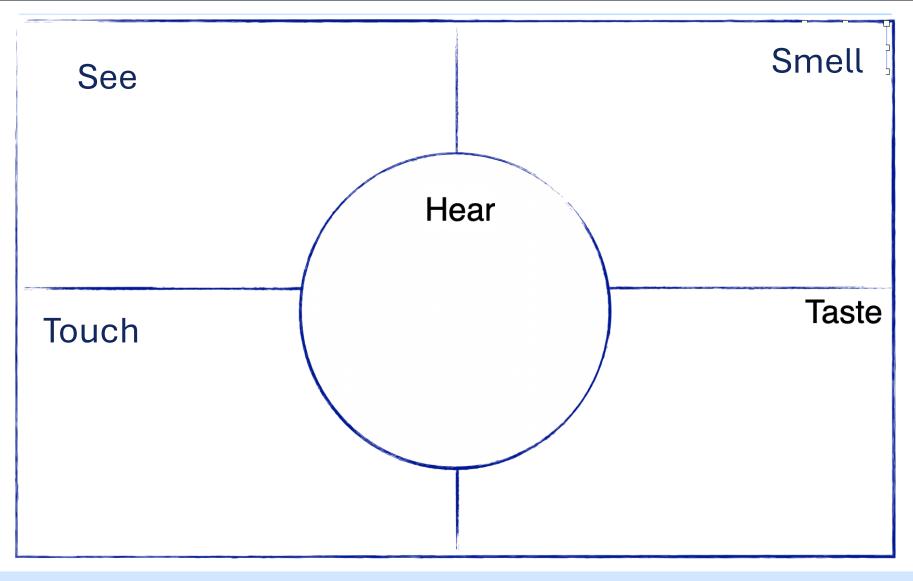












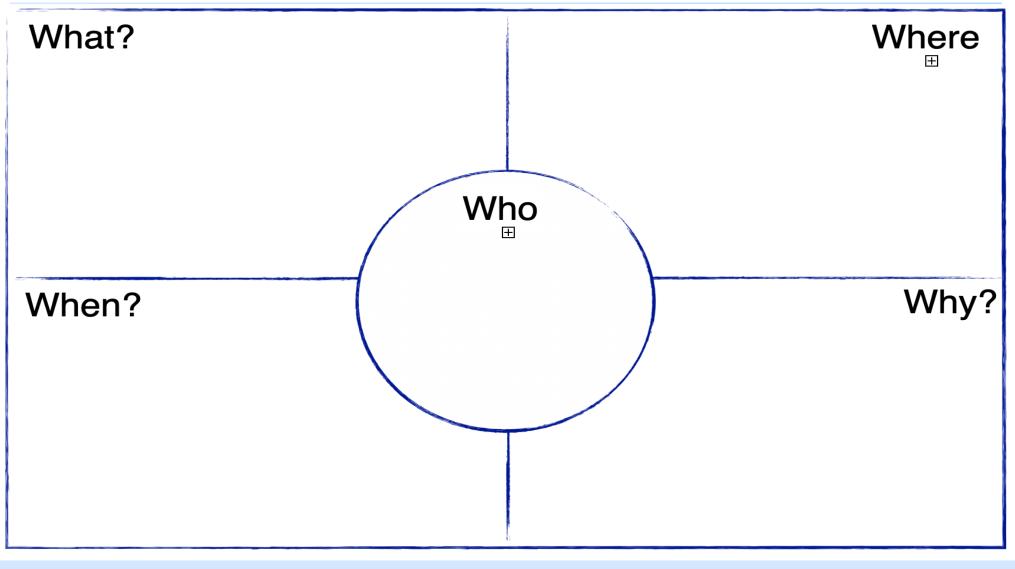




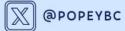






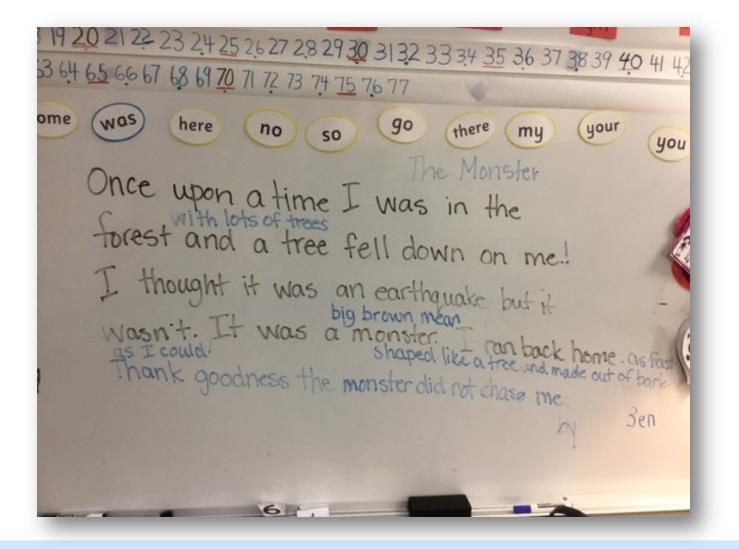












Class editing

- Details
- Elements
- Community
- Thinking
- Comprehension
- Modeling Oral Language structures

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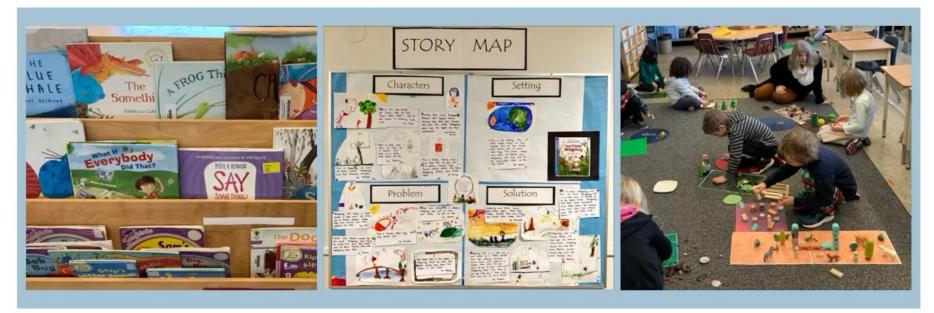






Alison Walkley, SD71

Story Elements:



Shared Stories, Story Maps, and Story Workshop





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Catherie Munro: SD71 SW to bookmaking

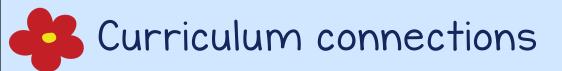
Name	Date
Title	
Six sentence	story
Begin "Once upon a time" and introduce the main character CHARACTER	
Describe where the character lives SETTING	
Describe the character's special	

Adapted from The Writing Book





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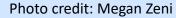
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Curriculum connections







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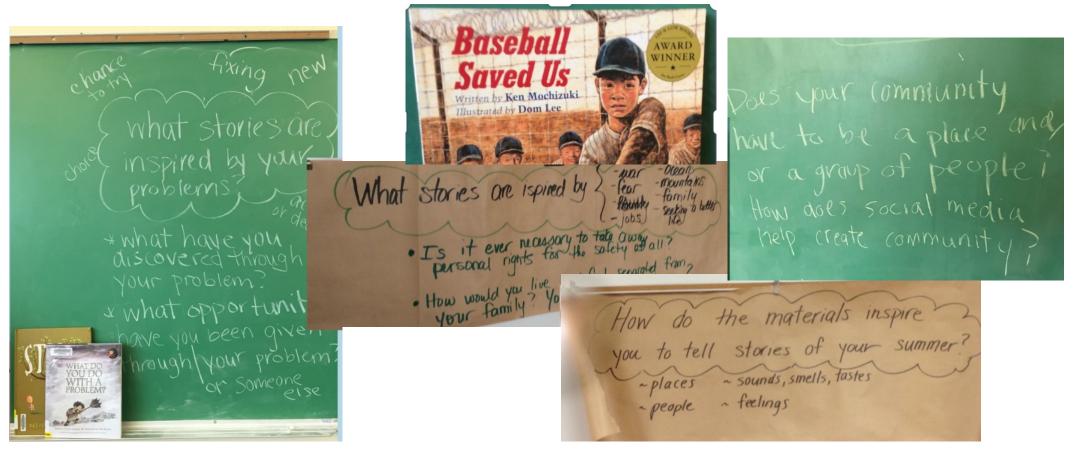








Intermediate grades







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This is my classroom. The white shell is the whiteboard near where I sit. There are people at other desks making comments about my friend. It makes me sad.





all button in the middle is the person being bullied. They ng in a mirror that is cracked. The rocks on the outside es and every time they are mean, they crack the mirror. hard to see yourself clearly when the mirror is so badly But the shells on the very outside are kind people. They here but you have to reach out and find them.





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Curriculum connections



We started low on the food chain and we were about 3-4 feet tall. We eventually learned how to make very basic tools, they were used to break bones so we could eat bone marrow, the bone marrow made our brains bigger so we could make more advanced tools. We then learned to hunt together to hunt bigger prey and we became the apex predator. Unfortunately, we started to run out of food, so we learned how to build rafts to get to new places.

My picture represents change in the brain size of the early humans. Their brain changed in size because they ate bone marrow which had a type of acid that helped them evolve their brain cells. Because of their brains evolved they were able to make more weapons and get to the top of the food chain while the homhabalis was at the bottom of the food chain.















Seeing and listening...thinking and wondering













The role of the teacher

When talking with children about their stories, use supportive language.

- Can you tell me more about...?
- I notice...
- That reminds me of...
- Your story makes me feel...
- I wonder... (where that idea came from, what will happen next, how that character felt)
- What would you like to do next?
- How do you plan to capture that story?
- What tools do you need?
- I look forward to hearing more!













Project Zero: Thinking With Materials

Thinking With Materials Resources SD23 (Central Okanagan)



HARVARD GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

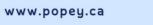


Central Okanagan Public Schools

Project Zero: Thinking With Materials

Thinking With Materials Resources SD23 (Central Okanagan)





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Foundations of Learning

Continuum of Play

For a long time, educators used the terms 'play' and 'free play' synonymously. Teacher involvement in play, however, can substantively change the nature of that play and foster academic learning.... p. 24

Inclusion

Active participation supports the healthy development and well-being of a child. It is essential that each child can participate in and throughout the learning activity and is not waiting for a different moment to begin. p. 31

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Literacy

All children's voices need to be heard and honoured in a classroom. Their stories, their passions and interests, and their questions guide our instruction and create a strong and supportive community of learners.

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p. 43

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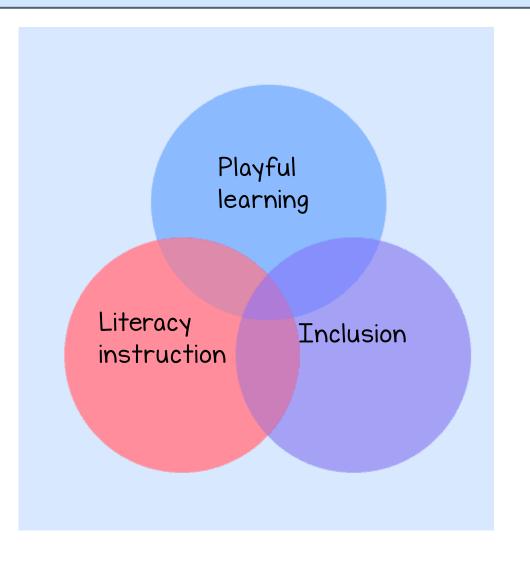
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- 1. How does an instructional routine like Story Workshop amplify the ideas in these quotes?
- 2. Where do you see yourself in these quotes?
- 3. What new view have you seen today?

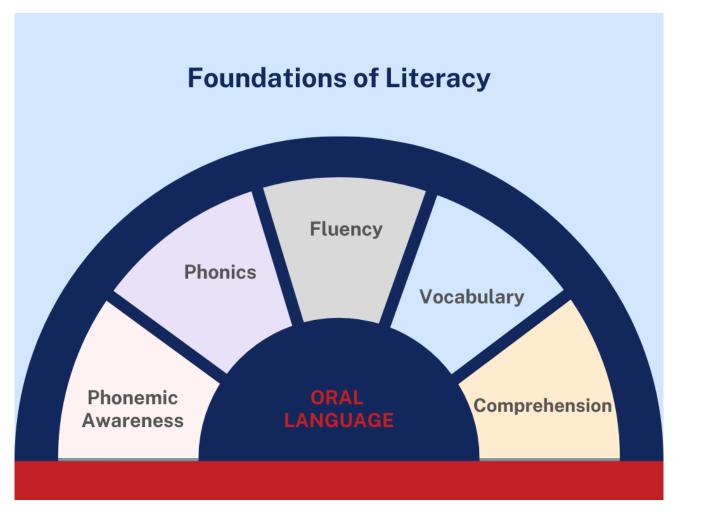








How does Story Workshop connect to the ideas in this Literacy Fan?



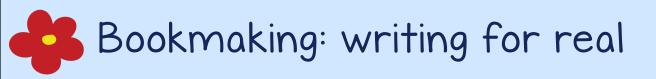
Proficiency in these foundational skills is necessary to all students to be reflective, critical and independent readers

Adapted from: A Closer Look at the Five Essential Components of Effective Reading Instruction



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Agenda:

- Gratitude
- Orienting ourselves: Who are we and where are we on the journey?
- Bookmaking: why and what?
- The Principles of Teaching Writing
- What does it look like?
- What next? Reflection









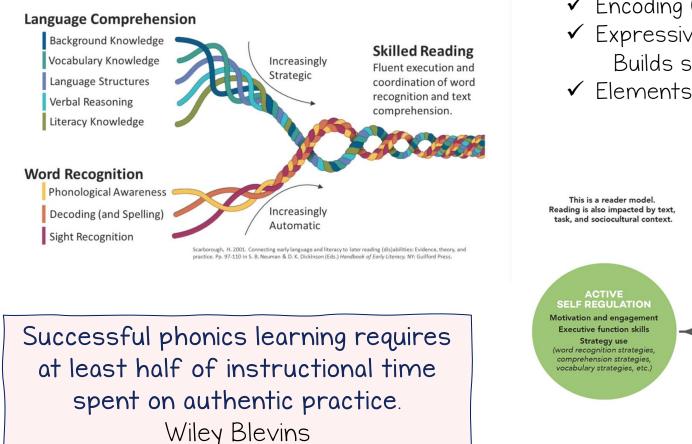








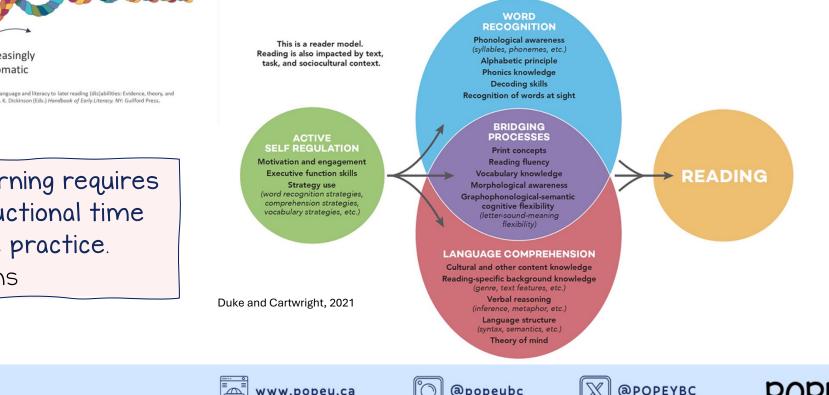




✓ Encoding (the flip side of decoding)

 Expressive language is connected to oral language Builds syntactical skills; Language structures

✓ Elements of story



Models of Reading

In order to read, one must internally speak and hear the sounds. "It's listening to a conversation in your head."



Expressive stance

Receptive stance

In order to write, one must internally hear the speech. "Communicating the conversation in your head."

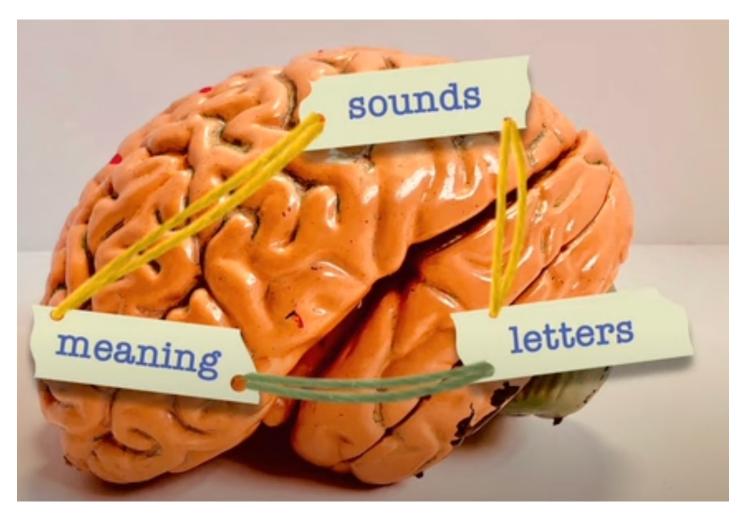


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The Reading Brain

Children need multiple opportunities to establish the neuropathways that connect the parts of the brain, and form new pathways, or shortcuts, with consolidation.







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Writer's workshop and bookmaking:

Allows for the Model-Practice-Mastery cycle of instruction (WWC)
 Explicit instruction
 Time and practice (10-40-10 lesson timeline)
 Sharing and publishing

Mentor texts

If children aren't trying to write, they're not learning to write. Teaching Elementary School Students to Be Effective Writers



Rec. 1: Provide daily (1hr) time to write (K-30 mins) Rec. 2: Teach students how to use the writing process

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Writers Workshop and bookmaking:

- builds resilience
 - overcoming the fear of the blank page
 - building stamina
 - process over product
- builds identity
 - My voice
 - ✤ My passions
 - ✤ My thinking

Beware of giving too many directions: this is a process not a procedure. What happens when we let them have the space to figure it out? Katie Wood Ray





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ROFILE SIX

OFILE FIVE

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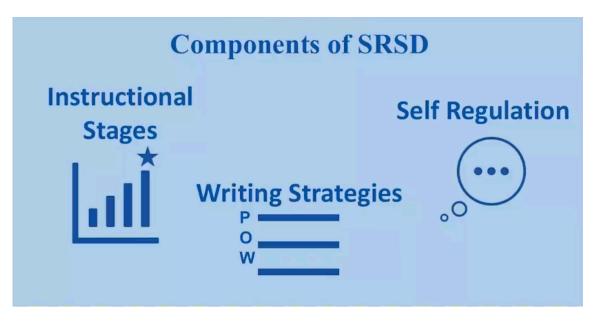
THINKING

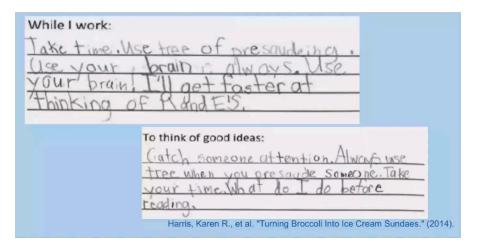


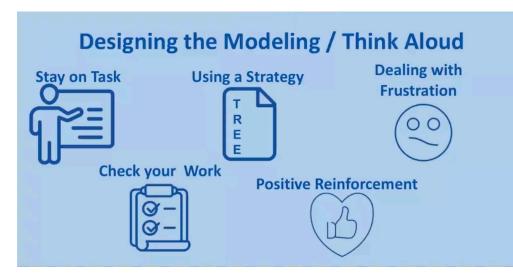
PERSONAL AND SOCIAL



<u>ThinkSRSD (Self-Regulated</u> <u>Strategy Development)</u>















Teaching writing:









S What We Know About Writing Development

- Kids need:
- Explicit and sequenced instruction that helps them progress along a learning continuum
- Critical feedback that helps them know next steps
- Extensive opportunities to write on topics they care about











What Topics Do You Care About?

Kids need extensive opportunities to write on topics they care about

Think of some of your favourite topics and the people, activities, places, things you do in your regular day—to—day life:

- * Hobbies & activities (yoga, birdwatching, baking, hiking, photography...)
- * Sports
- Places you like to go
- * People you spend time with family and friends
- * Music, movies, books...

Can you come up with a list of 1-2 things from your life that you would be KEEN to write about?









Guiding Principles of Writing Instruction

The first three are foundations:

"The basic necessities we provide our students every day in the classroom, the overand-over elements that allow for composition, thinking, creativity, and problem solving." (Bomer and Arens, 2020)

Time

• Students need time, and lots of it, to practice writing

Ownership

• Students are more motivated when they have opportunities to make important choices about their writing

Response

• Students need frequent, timely, descriptive feedback and responsive teaching







Guiding Principles of Writing Instruction

Here are some more: (Glover and Anderson, 2024)

Relationships: knowing students as people, and knowing them as writers

Engagement: choice and engagement, authentic audiences

Authenticity: doers of the "whole" behaviour

Knowledge Base: teachers need to have extensive knowledge about writing

Curricular Decision—making: teachers know their students best Mentor Authors: study what experienced writers do

Differentiated Instruction: using conferences to consider varied needs

Starting with Strengths: *determining what they can already do*

Nudging: zone of proximal development

Explicit Teaching: a writing teachers responsibility is to teach

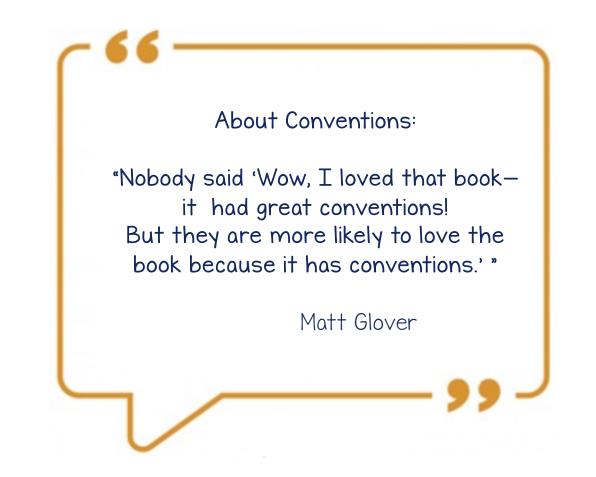
Independence: helping students learn to write without the teacher







This is where phonemic awareness, your phonics program and your writing instruction marry up and hit the road!



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"If children are not spending a significant portion of their day engaged in (reading and writing) texts that allow them to practice the strategies we are modelling, then we cannot possibly expect them to take on these strategies and use them independently."

-from Catching Readers Before They Fall















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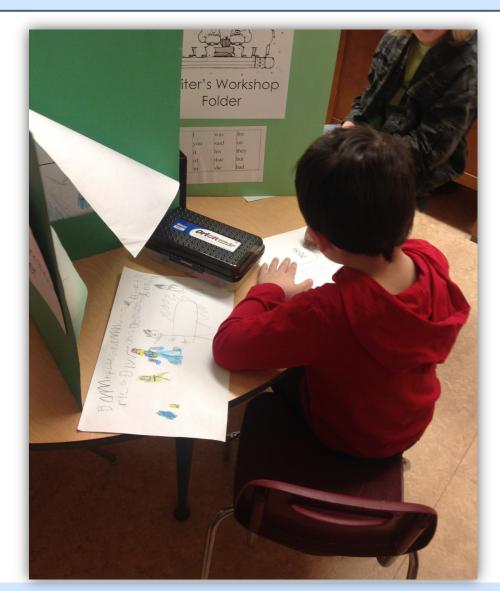
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"Children understand that when they make books they're not drawing instead of writing, and they haven't been asked to make picture books because they don't know how to write yet. They've been asked to draw pictures to make meaningalong with words-because that's what makers of picture books do."

-Katie Wood Ray











A possible progression:

Session 1: samples of genre: memoir, number books, information books, wordless books, teacher writing, etc. *(Immersion)*

- · Choice of genre, choice of paper
- What will you be doing? Co-create criteria
- Reflection and share: what is your book about? What might you add/change next time?

Session 2: author moves: details and elaborations (reading like a writer)

- what do mentor authors do? Teacher samples and picture books
- Think about your book: how could you use some of these moves?
- Co-create criteria for books.
- Reflection: what did you change, add? How is it going?









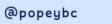
Session 3: mentor texts and conventions

- Homing in on particular conventions your students need:
 - High frequency words and letters/sounds (this is what phonics is for!)
 - Punctuation
 - Reflection: what did you do to make your writing/book better today?

Session 4: revisit criteria for books: features of books (*writing like a reader*)

- How do you know your book is finished?
- Conventions: check your words...what do you know about sounds/letters? What could help you
 in the classroom?
- Reflection: who helped you or what did you do to make your writing better today?







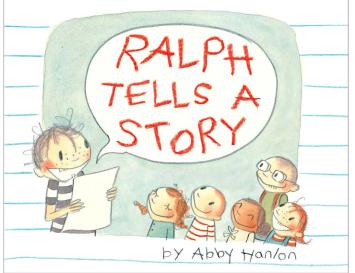




Session 5: what will you do next? Brainstorming new ideas

• Could introduce a new genre?

Session 6: <u>Ralph Tells a Story</u>; Now that you know about making books, what advice would you give kids just starting? How many different titles do we have in the class? Celebration!!



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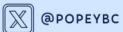


Setting the stage: invitation and negotiation



Scaffolds...



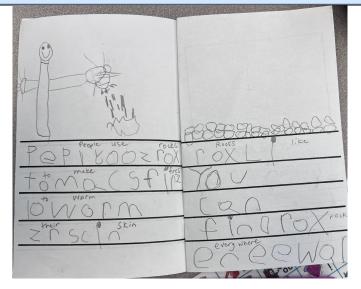






quantity...







details...

stamina...

industry...





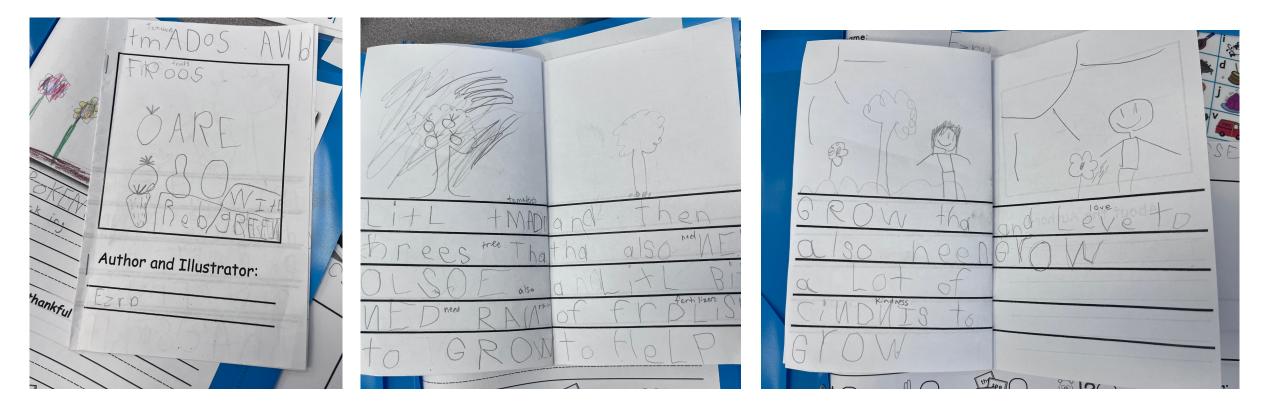


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Voice.....and the value of mentor texts! Can you hear the theme of "Plant a Seed of Kindness"?











Getting started: late primary

a sample progression

Week 1: samples of genre: memoir, information books, teacher writing, etc. (Immersion)

- Choice of genre, choice of paper: purpose, audience, passions
- What will you be doing? Co-create criteria
- Reflection and share: what is your book about? What genre did you choose and why?

Week 2: author moves: details and elaborations (reading like a writer)

- what do mentor authors do? Teacher samples and picture books. How could you use some of these moves?
- Co-create criteria for books. Introduce graphic organizers.
- Reflection: what did you change, add? How is it going?





Session 3: mentor texts and conventions

- Homing in on particular conventions your students need:
 - High frequency words and content vocabulary
 - Punctuation
 - Reflection: what did you do to make your writing/book better today?

Session 4: revisit criteria for books: features of books

(writing like a reader)

- How do you know your book is finished?
- Reflection: who helped you or what did you do to make your writing better today?

Publishing** (not everything needs to be published)

Organization

Revising



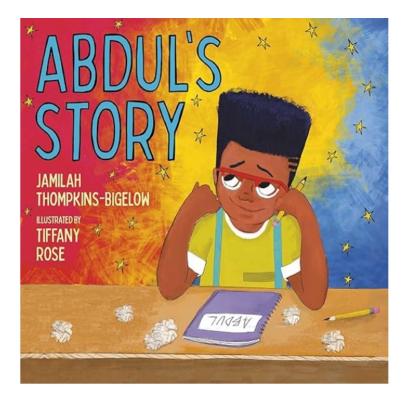






Getting started: *late primary*

- Session 5: what will you do next?
 Brainstorming new ideas
- Could introduce a new genre?
- Session 6: <u>Abdul's Story</u>; Now that you know about making books, what advice would you give kids just starting? How many different titles do we have in the class? Celebration!!



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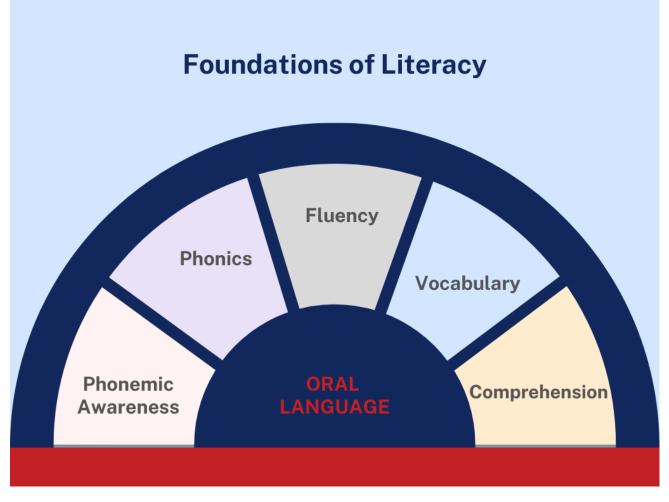




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How does Bookmaking connect to the ideas in this Literacy Fan?



Proficiency in these foundational skills is necessary for all students to be reflective, critical and independent readers







- Not everything needs to be published
- Mini-lessons: teacher leads
- Writing continuum
- Immersion, immersion, immersion:
 - learning from mentors
 - Noticing and naming
- Conferencing—responsive to student (principles of writing instruction)
 - How? When? What?
- Peer feedback-community of writers

"Getting to know your students as writers and as people is one of the most important thíngs you can do as a wríting teacher." Matt Glover

How can you see this pedagogy crossing curriculum lines?

















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Online resources

- <u>Teaching Preschool Parnters: Getting Started with Story</u> <u>Workshop</u>
- Models of Reading
- Story Grammar Marker
- Project Zero: Thinking With Materials
- Learning in the Primary Years
- <u>A Closer Look at the Five Essential Components of Effective</u> <u>Reading Instruction</u>
- Thinking With Materials Resources SD23 (Central Okanagan)
- <u>Teaching Elementary Students to Be Effective Writers</u>

Videos

- Kindergarten Story Workshop
- Learn71
- The Reading Brain: How We Learn to Read

Books

- Becoming a Better Writing Teacher; Carl Anderson & Matt Glover
- The Culture of Education, Jerome Bruner
- Loose Parts: Inspiring Play in Young Children, Daly & Beloglovsky,
- StoryMaking, Michelle Kay Compton & Robin Chappele Thompson,
- Ralph Tells a Story, Abby Hanlon,
- Engaging Literate Minds: Developing Children's Social, Emotional and Intellectual Lives, K—3, Peter Johnston, Kathy Champeau, Andrea Hartwig, Sarah Helmer, Merry Komar Tara Krueger, Laurie McCarthy;
- Story Workshop: New Possibilities for Young Writers, Susan Harris MacKay,
- Power of Inquiry, Kath Murdoch,
- What's Next for This Beginning Writer?, Janine Reid, Betty Schultze, Ulla Petersen;

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- Abdul's Story, Jamilah Thompkins-Bigelow
- Embers: One Ojibway's Meditations, Richard Wagamese,
- In Pictures and In Words, Katie Wood Ray
- The Writing Book; The Literacy Place













Thank you from the POPEY team!









