

Launching (Lesson 5)

Using Writing Notebooks: Your Notebook Has Parts

Minilesson Teaching Point:

Students will learn about the parts of their **writing notebook**.

NOTE: This lesson is written for teachers using notebooks/journals. If you use writing folders with your students, see the alternate lesson (L5.b). If you use a single piece of paper each day, you will need to explicitly teach how to use the writing folder and manage paper and/ or paper choice. However, parts of this lesson and Lesson 5.c may be adapted for managing Writing Folders to hold student work.

Standard(s):

Materials:

- Notebook/journals for each student (NOTE: Choose the type of writing paper or notebook/journal that works best for their classroom. Paper choice may change throughout the year)
- Pencils or other writing tools (make sure you have taught how to use them)
- Large version of writing notebook for teacher modeling
- Red and green dot stickers (one of each color for each student)
- “I Have Stories” poem
- “How to Hold A Pencil” song

Connection:

*“Yesterday we learned how to hold a pencil, today we will learn about a new tool. We will learn about our **Writing Notebooks**. Books are special and have many different parts.”* Review part of a picture book. Point out the **front, back, pages, author, title, spine**, etc. *“Our notebook is special and has many important parts.”*

Teach (modeling):

“Each of us will have our very own notebook. Yours will look just like mine, only smaller. I want to tell you about all the parts.” Point to the front cover. Talks about the **title** (for example, “**Writing Notebook**”). Point to the **author** (your name). Show the back of the book, and the show the writing pages. *“It is important to remember all the parts because we want to keep our writing organized. To help me remember where the first page is, I will put a green dot sticker on the bottom of the first page. When grown-ups drive, a green light means ‘go.’ In our notebooks the green dot means that it is the beginning of our books. Then there are a bunch of other papers. I need to know when to stop. When grown-ups drive, they know to stop when they see a stop sign or a red light. I will know where to stop in my notebook (or where the last page is in my notebook) because I am going to put a red dot sticker on the bottom of the last page. Each day I will write in my notebook. I will start at the green dot on the first day and write on one page a day until I get to the red dot. That means I will need a new notebook.”*

