

Launching (Lesson 6)

Using Writing Notebooks: Writing Expectations

Minilesson Teaching Point: Students will learn what is expected for writing in their notebooks / individual papers for writing workshop.

NOTE: Choose the type of writing paper or notebook/journal that works best for your classroom. Paper choice may change throughout the year.

Standard(s):

Materials:

- Notebook/journals for each student
- Pencils or other writing tools (make sure you have taught how to use them)
- Large version of writing paper for teacher modeling.
- “I Have Stories” poem
- “How to Hold A Pencil” song
- Sticky notes if using Notebooks / Journals

Connection:

“Yesterday we learned about the parts of our Writing Notebooks. Today we will learn how to use this new tool ...our writing paper inside the notebooks. We will learn three things we need when we write. We will need to write our names, make a drawing/picture, and do some writing (words or letters).”

Teach (modeling):

“Let’s quickly review the parts of my notebook.” Review the front, back, and the green and red dots. Deliberately show how you will find the green dot and then turn the page so you have a fresh page to write on. Show how you will write on the left side of the paper today. *“The first thing I will need to do is write my name on the paper. I want to place it somewhere important, where others can see it. I will write my name at the top of my paper.”* For those students who do not know how to write their own name, you can model how to copy their name from a nametag, write the first letter, or trace over name written by the teacher with a highlighter.

“The next thing I want to do is draw my picture. I will use the middle part of the page to draw.” Model a simple illustration for your writing.

“Finally I will need to write my words. I can either write my words under my picture/drawing or I can label my picture/drawing with words (or letters).” Model writing and reading back your writing.

“Now I want to look back at my writing and see if I have done all three things. Did I write my name at the top of the page? Did I draw my picture? Did I write words (letters) to go with my picture?”

