

## Launching (Lesson 13) Planning for Writing: Visualize

**Minilesson Teaching Point:** Students will learn how to *visualize* by making a picture, or movie, in their mind of a **topic** they want to write about and be able to tell themselves the words that match the picture.

**Standard(s):**

W.K.8 With guidance and support from adults, recall information from experiences or gather information from provided sources to answer a question.

**Materials:**

- No special materials required.

**Connection:**

*“Writers, today we will learn a **strategy** that will help us plan what we will write. Today we will learn a **strategy** called **visualizing**. We see pictures in books we read and we watch movies on TV. **Visualizing** is when you make a picture or a movie in your head, in your mind, of your writing idea. Making a picture or a movie in your mind will help you know what to draw and write during **Writing Workshop**.”*

**Teach (modeling):**

*“I will demonstrate for you how we do this, how we make a movie in our minds of our stories.” Model **visualizing** through a think aloud about your topic. “I’m closing my eyes. I’m thinking about what I want to write about...Okay, I’ve got my idea. I’m making a picture, a movie, in my mind about my story. Now I am going to use my “magic” finger and draw my picture in the air.” Model picturing the character(s) and the setting of their idea.*

Possible story idea:

Sophie, my dog, and I were in the kitchen. I left pizza on the table.  
Sophie jumped on the table and ate it!

**Reminder:** Explain to students that their thinking should be in their heads, the teacher is only saying it out loud to demonstrate what it might look like.

**Active Engagement (guided practice):**

*“Writers, now it is your turn to practice this new **strategy**. First I want you to **visualize** (make a picture in your head) about what you want to write about. Draw your picture (idea) in the air. Next we are going to turn to the person sitting next to you. Remember to sit knee to knee and look eye to eye (You may have to decide who starts first).” Now tell your partner your ideas for your story.” Switch roles.*

**Bridge to Independent Practice:**

*“Writers, now that we have planned our ideas, it is time for us to go and put those ideas onto paper.”*

**Closure:**

Bring students back to the carpet and have them practice turn and talk again and share what they liked about writing today.

**ELD:** “*I liked \_\_\_\_\_.*”

**Reflection:**

Calkins, Lucy and Mermelstein, Leah. Launching the Writing Workshop.

**Resources & References: (adapted from, acknowledgments)**