

Mini-lesson: Launching (12) Writing Folders
Standards: CC 1.4.1 M Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events. CC1.4.1.Q Use a variety of words and phrases. CC 1.4.1 O Include thoughts and feelings to describe experiences and events. CC 1.4.1.T With guidance and support from adults and peers, focus on a topic, respond to questions and suggestions from peers and add details to strengthen writing as needed.
Materials: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students' writing folders with a red sticker dot on one side and green on the other. Their writing should be placed in the middle of their folders. [NOTE: You may want to include alphabet charts, dictionary, or any other resource in the folder. If so, you should give lessons on how to use the other resources.]• Location for storing writing folders• Samples of finished and unfinished pieces
Connection: "Writers, you have all been writing down your wonderful ideas. Now we need a place to put your writing. Authors have a special spot to keep their writing so they know where to find it."
Teach: Show students a writing folder. Make sure to explain the sticker dots on each side (red is for done work, green for ongoing. Show examples of work that might be on each side.) "Think about a traffic light; when the light is green the cars can go. When the light is red the cars must stop. It's the same with your writing; when the piece is done it is stopped and it goes in the red side. When a piece still isn't done, it is ongoing and it goes in the green side. Just like the cars that can keep going when a traffic light is green." ELD: Demo a clearly done (words fill the page) and a clearly ongoing (detailed sketch but only a few words written) piece being put into the correct side.
Active Engagement: As a group, go through a stack of pieces and decide which side they belong on. Think aloud and call on student volunteers to explain how they know if pieces are done or ongoing.
Bridge to Independent Practice: Students should be in the practice of bringing their writing folders to the carpet, but for today you and classroom helpers pass out writing folders with their writing loosely placed in the middle. "In the middle of your writing folders you will find your pieces of writing. The first thing to do today is to go through your writing and decide if your writing is done or ongoing. If it's done, put it on the red (stop) side. If it is ongoing, put it on the green (go) side. Then go ahead and write." Check in with students to be sure papers are properly sorted. Continue helping students with their writing: "Did you read again?"

“Did you add to the picture?”
“Did you add another detail to your writing?”
“Are you ready to begin a new piece?”
“Did you use the “When I’m Done” Chart?”

Closure:
Use a student’s folder as an example of properly organized work and show to the group.