

Day 10

Using *Writing Works* pg. 10 and the Portfolio

Quick Thinking Activity

Describe what your neighborhood looks like.

Have this prompt on the board as students enter. Tell them they can describe what their real neighborhood looks like or they can pretend to live somewhere else and describe the made up neighborhood. The point is to have fun with this writing and to practice creating imaginative and exact descriptions.

Journal Activity

When I grow up, I want to live...

Discuss with students all the different countries and neighborhoods where people live. List on the board any words they may need help spelling before they start to write.

Creative Writing Activity

Write about the different kinds of housing people have. Illustrate each type.

For this writing assignment, bring in realtor brochures and newspapers showing houses for sale. Also, discuss types of housing in other areas such as Central America, Alaska, Hawaii, Africa, etc.

Ask students to pick three different types of housing to focus their writing. Using the organizer, students will list *Types of Housing* in the center square and then list different types in each surrounding square.

Looking at the first section of the portfolio which describes settings, ask students to include setting descriptions with each type of house.

Examples:

On the snowy hills of Alaska, people build ice houses designed for warmth.

Strong winds blowing across the dry deserts cannot hurt the sturdy adobes of the mid- west.

Once students have completed their organizers, give them plenty of time to write out their rough draft.

Allow students to illustrate each type of house after they have edited and revised their rough draft.



Remember:
This writing assignment can be spread out over several days.
Do not rush students through any part of the process.

Enrichment Activity

Assemble a class real estate newspaper. Make up a name for your class town and put one of each student's houses in the paper.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT

FOR HOMEWORK, INVITE PARENTS TO DESCRIBE THE HOUSE THEY GREW UP IN AND TO DRAW A PICTURE OF IT. THEN ASK THE STUDENT TO WRITE THE PARENT'S DESCRIPTION OF THEIR HOUSE.