

# **Meaningful Literacy Experiences in School and at Home**

**Tara Bauer and Katie Wears**

# Thoughts and Reflections

- What kind of reading do you do with your child?
  - Do you read to your child?
  - Does your child read to you?
  - Do you read together?
  - What kind of books do you read together?
- What kind of writing do you and your child engage in at home?
  - Do you write to your child?
  - Does your child write to you?
  - Do you write together?
  - What kinds of writing do you and your child enjoy?

Reading and Writing are **Meaning  
Making** Processes ...

Instruction Needs to Support  
**Meaning** Work at ALL Grade  
Levels



# **Overview of Literacy Experiences in School**

# Philosophy of Reading and Writing Workshop

- Independence
- Choice
- Volume and Stamina
- Opportunities to practice and receive feedback
- Process and Habits: Teach the reader and the writer not the book or the piece of writing
- Authentic Purpose and Instruction: Teach something you would actually DO as a writer or reader and authentic purposes

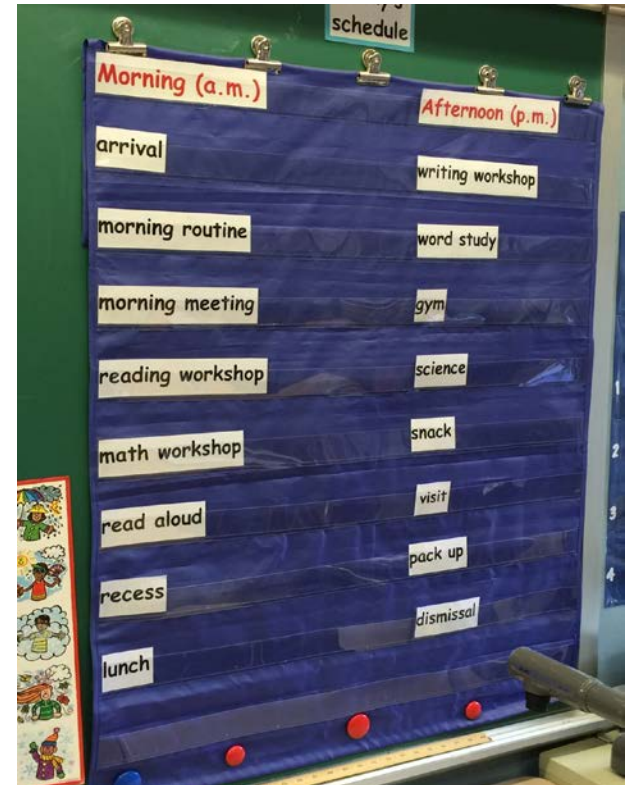


# What We Value

- A Balanced Approach to Literacy
- Lessons to Support Skill Development
- Units of Study
- Time for Independent Reading and Writing

# A Balanced Approach to Literacy

- Read Aloud
- Shared Reading
- Reading Workshop
- Word Study
- Shared or Interactive Writing
- Writing Workshop



# Lessons to Support Skill Development

- **Reading**

- Meaning – Comprehension

- Fluency

- Accuracy/Word Solving (print strategies)

- **Writing**

- Meaning

- Organization and Structure

- Elaboration and Development

- Spelling

- Conventions (punctuation, capitalization, grammar)



# K-5 Units of Study

- Common Goals
- Different Genres and Different Purposes
- Responsive and Differentiated Teaching



**Writing**

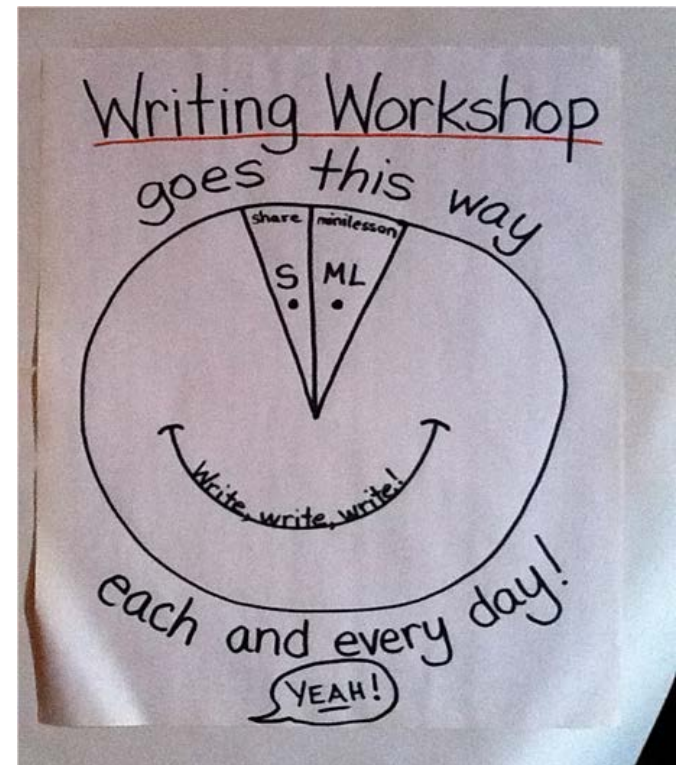
# Writing Workshop

## Purpose:

- Teach students strategies they can use when writing independently
- Support all aspects of writing

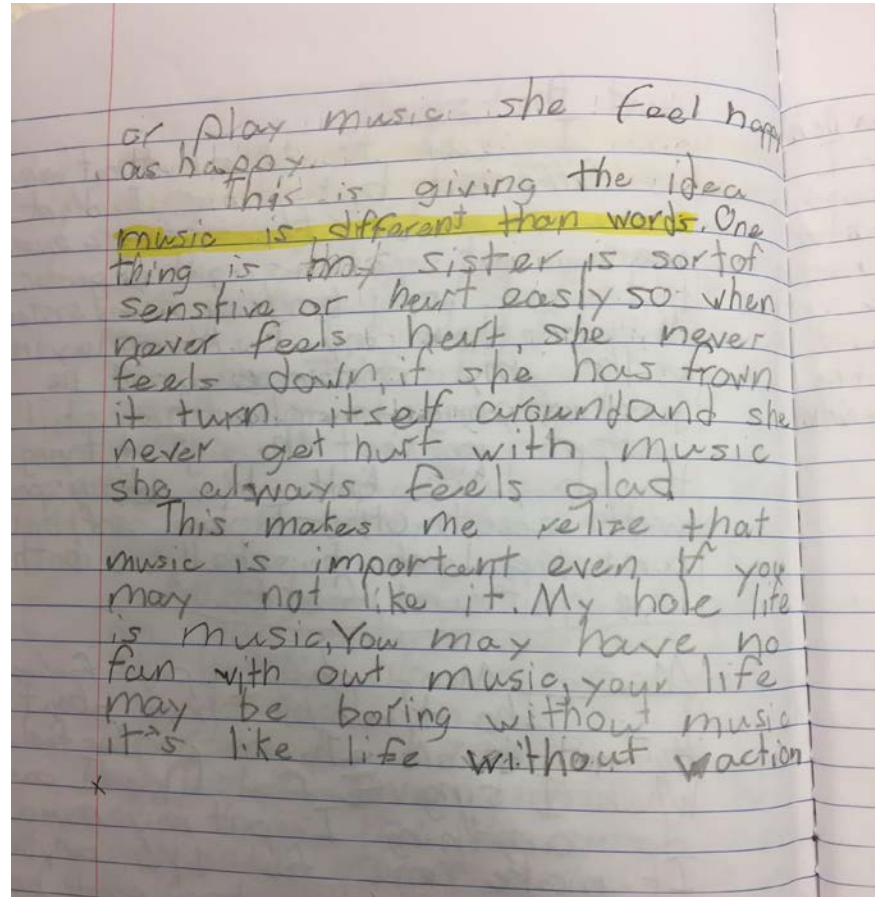
## Daily Structure:

- Mini Lesson
- Independent Writing Time
- Partner Writing Time
- Share

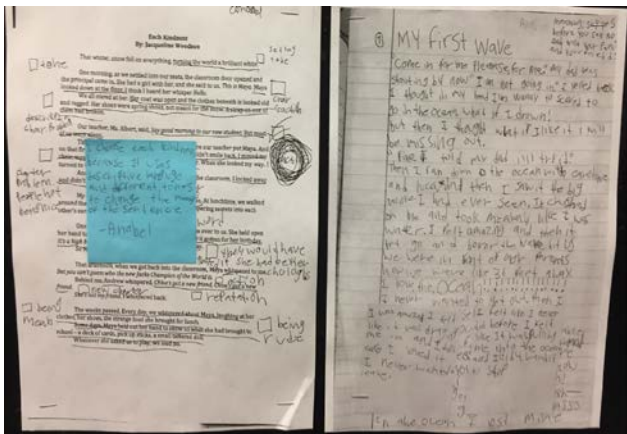
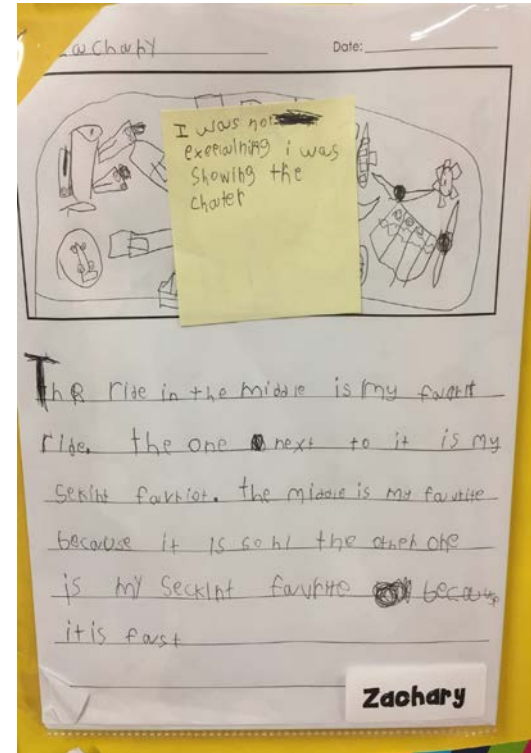
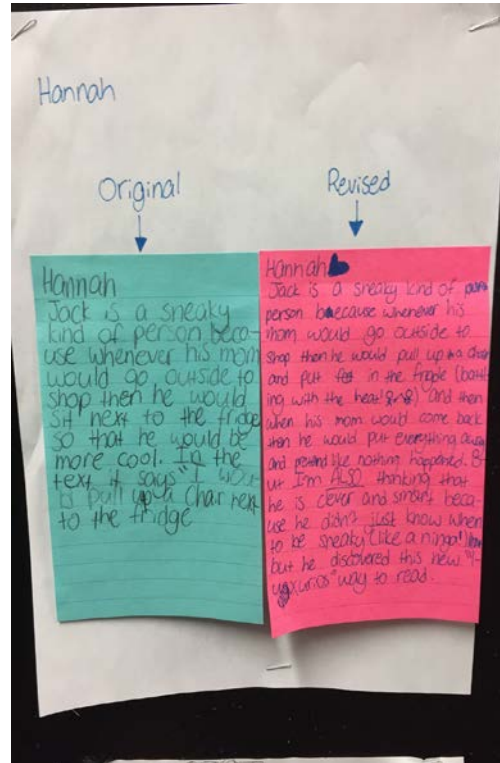


# Types of Writing

- Narrative
- Informational
- Opinion



# Valuing Independence and Process



# Encouraging Writing at Home

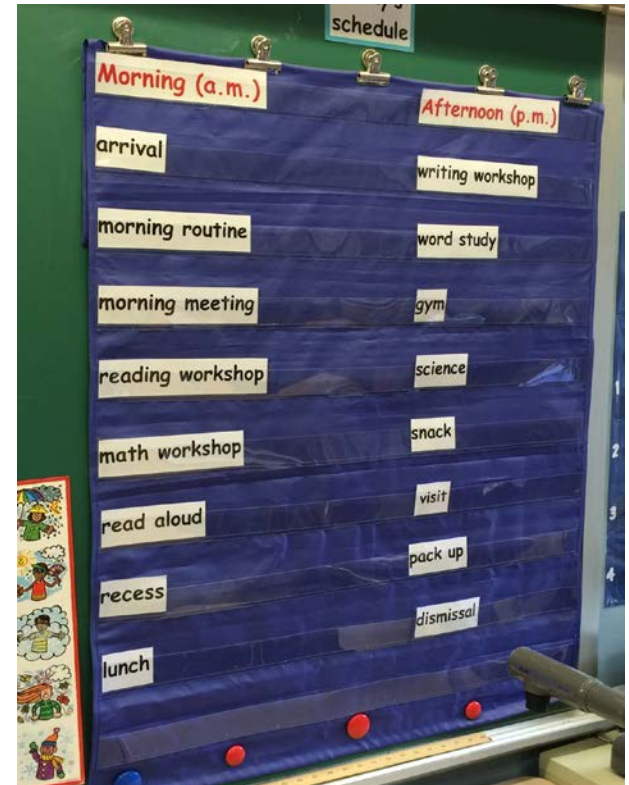
- Make it part of your day
- Find reasons to write and encourage different kinds of writing
- Support purpose: Say things like “Wow that seems important ... What can we say about it? Why don’t you write about it?”
- Make a place for writing and keep materials organized – writing center
- Tell them about yourself as a writer – what do you write about, who do you write to?
- Utilize technology
- Talk – A LOT!



**Reading**

# A Balanced Approach to Literacy

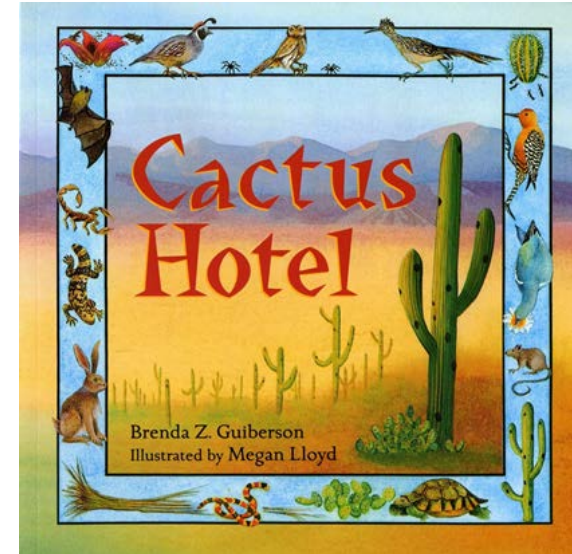
- Read Aloud
- Shared Reading
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- Word Study
- Shared or Interactive Writing
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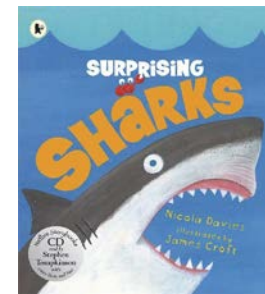
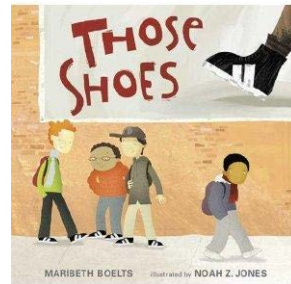
# Variety of Texts

- **Variety of genres**
  - Fiction
  - Nonfiction
  - Poetry
- **Variety of forms**
  - Picture books
  - Chapter books
  - Articles



# Read Aloud

- Purpose: Develop comprehension and conversation skills



- What: Teacher thinks aloud while reading and prompts readers to think and talk about the book before, during, and after the reading

# Why read aloud in school and at home?

- Enjoyable experience
- Opportunity to “share and nurture a love of reading, to help our three-, four-, and five-year-olds to love reading, and to encourage our nine-, ten-, and eleven-year-olds to continue to love reading” – Lucy Calkins
- Conversation and comprehension skills developed
- Higher-level thinking supported because children do not have to focus on the cognitive demands of decoding the text and can devote their energy to deep thinking
- Provides readers with experiences with texts above their independent reading level

# Reading Workshop

## **Purpose:**

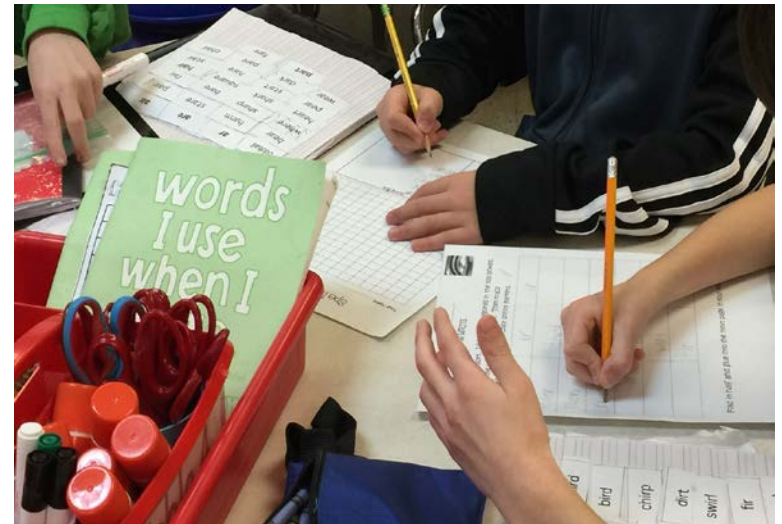
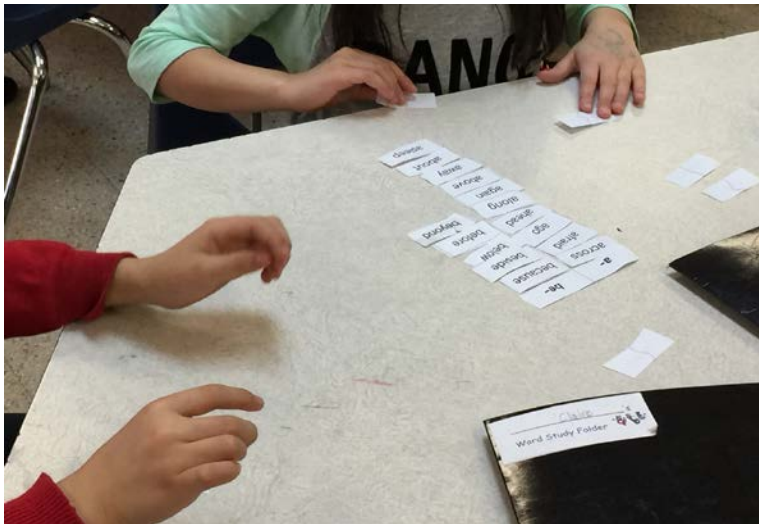
- Teach students strategies they can use when reading independently
- Support all aspects of reading

## **Daily Structure:**

- Mini Lesson
- Independent Reading Time
- Partner/Club Time
- Share

# Word Study

- Purpose: Teach students how words work so they can problem-solve words when reading and writing
  - Explicit instruction
  - Practice activities (making words, sorting, editing)



# Tips for Engaging and Motivating Readers

- Read aloud – Take time to think and talk!
- Have family read aloud times at night
- Read when your child can see you!
- Indulge your child's passions
- Take trips to the library and bookstore and make "no pressure" choices

# Tips for Engaging and Motivating Readers

- Create reading and writing spots at home
- Take books on long and short trips
- Make storytelling part of your day
- Leave “literary gifts” in your child’s reading and writing spot
- Start a parent/child book club



**Questions and  
Discussion  
Thank You!**