

Raising the Writer's Voice!

Kindergarten through High School

Read well. Write well. Think well.



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but
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Learning to write is the
taming of an idea.

Here's how it works:

I WOULD ALSO LOOK FOR SOME ONE
WHO WAS LOVING. OPAL SHOWED SHE
WAS LOVING WHEN SHE SAVED HIM FROM
THE POUND.

Twist at the end idea:

Maybe it's not so hard to imagine

Writing should never be treated as simply a mechanical endeavor, but rather, as a pathway for the writer to communicate the depths of the heart and the mind.

Every writer has a unique voice!



Discovering that voice is the work of the student writer that begins in Kindergarten and continues through High school.

1. IDEAS
2. WORK
3. GRIT

The WONDER of Literacy

The ability to fluidly
Read & WRITE
Speak & Listen =
Literacy

Let's remember...
writing is NOT calculus!
WRITING is ART.

"You can make anything
by writing." ~**C.S. Lewis**

Let's Talk IDEA Making

Big ideas can be communicated through a range of writing genres in both prose and poetry.

It is vital that students discover and explore the potential of all genres.

Some writing describes, some narrates, some exposes, and some persuades. Some writing is simply meant to entertain.

All writing has the power to inform.

We want our students to bring shape to their IDEAS across many writing genres. After all, some IDEAS fit perfectly into the shape of a poem while others need the shape of an essay!


As students engage in the work of learning how the English language works, they need opportunities to become IDEA Makers.



IDEAS First!

When it comes to writing an IDEA,
Form Follows Function
is paramount!

This means that mechanics—spelling, punctuation, grammar, and style are not perfected in the first steps (Brainstorming & Drafting) of the writing process.





This is where WORK comes in!

From Kindergarten through High School, our Grade Level Collections offer all the materials necessary to put students to WORK, learning that their IDEAS matter!

IDEA making motivates students to engage in the important work of skill building. Skills are necessary to ensure success.

Our curriculum provides ongoing opportunity for students to bring shape to their IDEAS while offering developmental activities for skill building—from phonics for writing, to crafting great sentences, to writing terrific *hooks*, to vocabulary development, rhetoric, research writing, the crafting of poems and essays, and so much more!

Consistency and Persistence Build GRIT

Grit is a trait that enables writers to envision the light at the end of the tunnel.

Writing is an art form.

The painter does not simply pick up a brush and paint a masterpiece. Neither does a composer simply raise a baton for the orchestra to play a concerto not yet brought to shape outside of the mind.



Writers work through a process.

First the IDEA must swirl in the heart and mind.

Next comes the task of drafting—getting a sketch of the IDEA onto the page.

Then, the writer must learn to re-read and make red-pen marks for basic errors, plus subtractions and additions so that the IDEA is communicated as the heart and mind desire. And now, the writer must ask a reader, the mentor, to pick up the red pen and do the same.

Finally, The writer must implement the edits in the final polished draft.



So what is the VOICE of a writer?

The true writer's VOICE is always a reflection of the self.

The writer's voice is authentic, originating from curiosity and imagination and wonder.

When student writers are encouraged, over time, to tap into the reservoir of their knowledge, to spark curiosity, and imagine possibility, the authentic voice emerges.

Ultimately, it is the voice of the writer that inspires the tenacity to care, and the grit to press into the important work of writing.



Reading
+ Writing
over time

“I kept always two books in my pocket, one to read, one to write in.”

~Robert Louis Stevenson

Our curriculum enables students to be mentored by great writers.

As students read, and journal their ideas, tied to great stories, they become inspired to care about their own IDEAS. They become inspired to raise their VOICE.

Take Flight!



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READ WELL • WRITE WELL • THINK WELL