Write On!: Celebrating the Writer in YOU!
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Shernon Killingsworth Roberts
University of Central Florida
Skrobert@mail.ucf.edu

Agenda

- What is the National Day on Writing?
- Exploring the National Gallery of Writing
- Real life deserves real writing
- Creating a draft
- Where do we go from here?: Celebrating YOU!

The Potential within YOU!

“Everyone has a story.
Kurt Vonnegut quote
The quote from about brain surgery...”
The National Day on Writing

- Sponsored by the NCTE, the National Council of Teachers of English
- Huge project to include all ages and all learners! Author proximity is a tremendous factor in motivation to write.
- The Gallery of Writing was created to make public the many worthy pieces of authors everywhere! Publishing is important!

The National Gallery of Writing?

- http://www.ncte.org
- Creating a way to share your writing and students’ writing
- Feeling proud seeing your name in print

“Writers make stories for people to live in as carpenters make houses. While living within the story world, readers have access to insights, experience and perceptions that they would otherwise not have available. A story illuminates what it is to be human…”

-- Ralph Peterson & Maryann Eeds

Grand Conversations
Making Lists!

- What do I know about?
- "I got nothin'!"
- Even asking parents and friends what you do know about can be very helpful!
- Try collaborative writing or exercises.

Things I’ve Said Goodbye to

- Try brainstorming the possibilities.
- Exclude nothing. Leave no idea unexplored.
- Consider the first intense responses.
- Consider the hilarious!
- Consider that temporary and the permanent!

Try a sense chart to pump up the experience

| SEEING | HEARING | TASTING | TOUCHING | SMELLING |
The whole point of stories is not solutions, or resolutions, but a broadening, and even heightening of our struggles.

-- Robert Coles, The Call of Stories

Time to DRAFT

☐ Try this approach by Leif Fearn
☐ One sentence at a time
☐ Jot down narrator’s name/ “I”, indication of age, indication of place, and perhaps, a time of day or season to start the discourse...
☐ Now, just take it one sentence at a time.
☐ Let sentences take over and write...

Pump up the draft

Add alliteration or consonance to at least three of the concepts on the sense chart.
Pump up the draft

Start inserting ideas off the your sense chart into your draft.

Traditional language arts modes

- Writing
- Reading
- Speaking
- Listening

The modern way of considering language arts modes?

- Listening and Speaking
- Viewing and Visually representing
- Reading and Writing
“Books can be vehicles for sparking utopian and hopeful imaginings. This is as true for children’s literature as it is for adult literature. When there are no examples of stories for young people that fundamentally question the world as it is and dream it as it might be, resignation, defiance, or the quest for personal success become the only imaginable options unless the young have other sources for generating hope.”

— Herbert Kohl, 1995