

Your Writer's Notebook

Writer's write about the world in which they live.

Writer's use a notebook to collect ideas that are important to them.

Territories

What topics do you have a lot to say about?

What is important to you?

Who are people that are part of your life?

What are the things that you love?

Ways to Generate Ideas

1. Using our writing territories
2. Making lists
3. Free Writing

Free Writing

Put your pen to the paper and write about whatever comes to mind.

Where you are

What you are feeling

What is going on around you

Memories

Dreams

As we Free Write we write about whatever comes into our minds.

It doesn't have to be perfect

It doesn't make sense

You can jump from topic to topic

As you write one sentence other things start coming into your mind...

Writing With Your Senses

My favorite place

See

- water • trees
- sand • bushes
- shells • birds
- boats • shells
- sea weed

Smell

- salty • warm
- fishy

Sound

- waves • birds
- rhythm • boats
- crashing • music

taste

- salty
- warm

touch

- little pieces of sand
- water
- sticky

My favorite Place

When I'm at the beach it's magical. The salty air sticks to my tongue and skin. I dig my hand into the warm sand. My finger tips touch every single grain of sand. It feels rough, but also smooth at the same time. I close my eyes and listen to the waves rushing in and out, in and out. It feels like the waves are singing to me.

WN entry should include the writer's **reaction**, **opinion**, **new perspective**, **questions**, **wonderings**...something personal.

9/24/10

I always wondered why I am shy. I think shyness is a stage everyone goes through once in a while, but me it doesn't happen once in a while. It happens all of the time. Maybe shyness will go away as soon as I get older, but maybe it will not. Almost every day I pray to God to take my shyness away, but he doesn't. Maybe it's a mission I have to do because it is a part of my life.

(Stephanie, 4th grade)

Adding Yourself to an Entry

The trick is to make YOU the subject not the video game/toy/trip etc.

When writers write a story they focus on the people or characters who play a role in it.

- > What did they say?
- > What did they do?
- > What did they feel?
- > How did they react?

Details about people are what make readers connect with a story.

Try it

Pick a time that you want to write about

Which part of the story feels the most important to write about?

- > What were you doing in this part of the story?
- > Were there other people? What were they doing?
- > What were you saying?
- > What were you thinking?
- > How were you feeling?