

Great Books to Learn About Reading and Writing

Works Cited

- Allen, Susan, Jane Lindaman, and Vicky Enright. *Written Anything Good Lately?* Minneapolis, MN: Millbrook, 2010. Print.
The book can be used as a straightforward alphabet book, but readers will... recognize the writing suggestions on each page. Great for territories or seeds for writing.
- Auch, Mary Jane., and Herm Auch. *The Plot Chickens*. New York: Holiday House, 2010. Print.
Henrietta the chicken is an avid library user and decides she wants to write books, too. This fun and funny picture book could be used as a manual on writing.
- Banks, Kate, and Boris Kulikov. *Max's Words*. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2006. Print.
When Max cuts out words from magazines and newspapers, collecting them the way his brothers collect stamps and coins, they all learn about words, sentences, and storytelling. Great idea - collecting words!
- Browne, Anthony. *Voices in the Park*. New York: DK Pub., 2001. Print.
The same day at the park told from four different perspectives. Creative use of fonts to help tell the story. Wonderful story to talk about voice in writing.
- Christelow, Eileen. *What Do Authors Do?* New York: Clarion, 1995. Print.
Wonderful tale that shows the journey from idea to finished book.
- Cronin, Doreen, and Harry Bliss. *Diary of a Worm*. New York: Scholastic, 2004. Print.
Written as a diary, shows students how to take ordinary ideas and turn them into great writing. Learn facts about earthworms, too.
- DeCesare, Angelo. *Flip's Fantastic Journal*. New York: Dutton Children's, 1999. Print.
Flip the dog has to write in his journal every day. But what can he do when it is a boring day, he can make something up. Using his imagination, Flip finds that he loves to write.
- Duke, Kate. *Aunt Isabel Tells a Good One*. New York: Puffin, 1992. Print.
Fun read aloud that shows the best ingredients necessary for a story. An introduction to writing fiction.
- Gerstein, Mordicai, and John Grandits. *A Book*. New York: Roaring Brook, 2009. Print.

A little girl lives in a book with her family and wants to know what the family's story is. Each person in the family tells the story from their own perspective. Fun story, great beginning and ending pages.

Haley, Gail E. *A Story, a Story: An African Tale*. New York: Aladdin Paperbacks, 1988. Print.

An African folktale - this is a story of how we got our own stories to tell.

Hanlon, Abby. *Ralph Tells a Story*. Las Vegas, NV: Amazon Children's, 2012. Print.

Although his teacher insists there are stories everywhere, Ralph cannot think of any to write. Great for showing author's chair and how sharing and honest questions can help.

Hills, Tad. *Rocket Writes a Story*. New York: Schwartz & Wade, 2012. Print.

A darling dog Rocket wants to write a story, so he collects words in his word tree, searches for inspiration, writes, and (yippee!) rewrites everyday. In the end, he shares the story with a friend.

Kirk, Daniel. *Library Mouse*. New York: Scholastic, 2008. Print.

Sam the mouse lives in the library. He decides to write books. The children love his books and want to meet the author. Fun ending!

Kloske, Geoffrey, and Barry Blitt. *Once upon a Time, the End: Asleep in 60 Seconds*. New York: Atheneum for Young Readers, 2005. Print.

Cute story of a tired father who takes only a few sentences to tell a number of classic tales in order to get the persistent listener to fall asleep. Great for teaching summary - the important parts of the story to use.

Lester, Helen. *Author: A True Story*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1997. Print.

In her life story Lester tells youngsters how she writes, why she writes, and what it's like to be an author.

Nixon, Joan Lowery., and Bruce Degen. *If You Were a Writer*. New York: Aladdin, 1995. Print.

Melia tells her writer mother she'd like to be a writer too, and as the day progresses she receives many helpful suggestions.

Nobisso, Josephine, and Eva Montanari. *Josephine Nobisso's Show, Don't Tell!: Secrets of Writing*. Westhampton Beach, NY: Gingerbread House, 2004. Print.

This book teaches the fulfilling of the directive to "Show, don't tell!" The book encourages the use of figurative language, literal expression, and helps with the understand of the noun and adjective.

Salas, Laura Purdie, and Josée Bisailon. *Bookspeak!: Poems about Books*. New York: Clarion, 2011. Print.

A delightful book of poems about books and reading. Easy poems to memorize and recite with your class.

Schotter, Roni, and Giselle Potter. *The Boy Who Loved Words*. New York: Schwartz & Wade, 2006. Print.

Selig, who loves words and copies them on pieces of paper that he carries with him, goes on a trip to discover his purpose. Shows use of appositives to explain the meanings of words in context. Delicious use of words in new and fun ways.

Schotter, Roni, and Kyrsten Brooker. *Nothing Ever Happens on 90th Street*. New York: Orchard, 1997. Print.

The story of Eva and her assignment to "write about what you know" when nothing ever happens on her street it seems an impossible task. She finds her writer voice. (I love the end - "But just wait. It'll be even better...after I rewrite it.")

Sierra, Judy, and Marc Tolon Brown. *Wild about Books*. New York: Knopf, 2004. Print.

A librarian named Molly McGrew introduces the animals in the zoo to the joy of reading when she drives her bookmobile to the zoo by mistake. The reading leads the animals to writing stories.

Wong, Janet S., and Teresa Flavin. *You Have to Write*. New York: M.K. McElderry, 2002. Print.

A book of poems that show children where writing can come from if they stop and give it a chance. Another great book when teaching about territories and ideas for writing.