

Subject Area: English/Language Arts

Grade Level(s): 2-8

Title of Instructional Method, Strategy, or Approach: Young Writer's Workshop

Description of each Instructional Method, Strategy, or Approach:

Writer's workshop helps students build on their factual and creative writing skills. There are several programs included in this workshop. For instance, children are able to write scripts, record interviews, and create biographies. The first program allows the student become a reporter. This program has the student write factual and fictional reports. Another program called "Write On" has the student create an article for the newspaper. This program, along with several others, lets the student use his or her imagination. In another program, the student picks a picture and writes a story about that fictional character. This program integrates creativity and writing. The student will also be able to write an autobiography about themselves or choose to write a biography on a person of interest to them. On of the last programs allows the student to create captions for pictures. The student is able to pick pictures from the internet or download their own pictures. All of these programs make writing fun for students and they are also learning while doing so.

References in APA format:

Millar, Diane, Light, Janice, & McNaughton, David (2004). The effect of direct instruction and writer's workshop on the early writing skills of children who use augmentative and alternative communication. *AAC: Augmentative & Alternative Communication*, 20, 164-178.

Autism Coach, (2007). Young writer's workshop. Retrieved August 27, 2007, from Autism coach Web site: <http://autismcoach.com/index.html>

Jindrich, Jerry (2007). Young writers workshop. Retrieved August 27, 2007, from Chateau Meddybemps Web site: <http://www.meddybemps.com/9.700.html>

“How-To” Information—What will make this work in the classroom? What would a teacher need to know to implement this Instructional Method, Strategy, or Approach?

The Young Writer’s Workshop program will work in the classroom because it is fun, and the student will not get bored using it. Also, this program is on a CD-ROM which allows the student to move away from the paper and pencil approach and technology (computer, scanner, websites, etc.). Although this program *does* cost money to use, it would be very beneficial in the classroom. In order to implement this workshop, the program can be purchased on-line from the Autism Coach website. The exact address for ordering is:

<http://www.autismcoach.com/cgi-bin/shopper.cgi?add=action&key=SWRDTF-037>.

Implications for Practice/Other Considerations:

The Young Writer’s Workshop should be used in the classroom because it is fun and educational. The student is also able to use technology instead of the old paper and pen method. This program also allows the student to be creative and use their imagination while learning how to write.

Additional Links (for further information):

<http://search.barnesandnoble.com/booksearch/isbnInquiry.asp?r=1&ean=9781571103420>

<http://www.homeschoolwriting.com/Youngwriter-workshop2.html>

EIU candidate Names:

Ashley Clifton, Lauren Florio, Amy Gielow, Megan Geiss, Angela Kresher, Gina Tenuta