Shared Writing for the Holidays

December 17, 2015

Dr. Caroline Ramsey Musselwhite
Webinar Outcomes

- Explore what Shared Writing means
- Identify several fun shared writing activities for the holidays
Today’s Topic Location in the 5 STEPS

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What Is Shared Writing?

Shared (Interactive) Writing is a teaching process where the teacher and children collaborate to write a text together, using a ‘shared pen’ technique that involves children in the writing. The teacher has most of the responsibility as she acts as the scribe. The children are invited to write the parts that they know while the teacher fills in the unknown.

Dr. James Gentry
Erin Sheldon M. Ed

Developmental spelling, writing without standards, writing with AAC to show what we know

Shared writing: predictable sentence frames, poetry

Model many ways to write: AAC, keyboards, pencils

Shared reading: predictable, personalized, and familiar books: words, retell, pictures

Expand utterances and model new functions or purposes

Emphasize manipulating the sounds in language: beats/syllables, rhyme, alliteration

Give and take of conversation, provide time to generate messages

Breaking the code: letter names and sounds, phonics, sight words

Model and reflect key words during interaction

With: Prediction, Participation

To/For: Awareness

Alone: Mastery
Group, Shared Writing

- Gives students **fundamental understandings** about writing
  - The what, why, who and how of writing

- Offers opportunities for **MODELING, MODELING, MODELING**
  - Model writing using the students’ alternative pencils
  - Students can see their classmates write using alternative pencils
  - Do think out louds while you are writing

- Fosters **motivation**: Write about things that students CARE about
  - Something needs to happen as a result of their writing

- Facilitates **communication** during writing—attribute meaning!

*Dr. Gretchen Hanser, 2010*
Why Write Together??

- Writing is **integrally linked** to reading
- Allows for multiple **modeling opportunities**
  - Seeing peers use **AAC devices**
  - Seeing **use of print** being modeled
- Makes writing **less overwhelming**
- Can be a meaningful, **interactive** activity around print
- Results in a concrete product = **data**

*Dr. Gretchen Hanser, 2010*
It's a buffet!!
Notes to Class / Family

Writing FOR Children
• In classrooms, this is a morning message
• But it could also be a FAMILY message

Why?
• Lots of change in schedule around the holidays!
• Morning message (school) or breakfast are a GREAT way to share this!

See: Hall & Cunningham, 2003, Reading, Writing & Phonics for Kindergarten
Dear Family,

Guess what! We will go to a party tonight!

Love,

Mama
BONUS! Core Words

Dear Family,

Guess WHAT! We will GO to a party tonight!

Love,

Mama

Remember! Read it first by pointing to the words, and having students ‘say it in your head.’ Then re-tell, using AAC system.
Dear Students,

Guess what! We will see a movie today!

It will be fun!

Mr. Arnold
BONUS!! Core Words!

Dear Students,

Guess WHAT! We will SEE a movie today!

IT will be fun!

Mr. Arnold

Remember! Read it first by pointing to the words, and having students ‘say it in your head.’ Then re-tell, using AAC system.
How Can We Make It More Powerful?

• Write in front of your child, so you are **modeling** writing

• Use the same **pencil** as your child – if they use the alphabet page on the device, you can too

• Include your child in the writing, so it can be a ‘writing with’ activity
  “Hmmm. Should we write about the **party** or wrapping presents?”
How Can We Make It More FUN?

• Include a ‘friend’ in the writing
• Another peer?
• Stuffed animal?
• Elf??

Jen,
You have been so good!!
The Elf
Signing Holiday Cards

• Let your child write his or her name on cards

• REMEMBER – Scribbling is OKAY
  - Scribbling can be with a typical pencil
  - Or they can scribble with the alphabet

• The best way to help them learn the letters of their name is to let them scribble first, and you model AFTER
Qwerty Board
Making Holiday Cards

• Great chance for authentic writing
  - Again, will likely be writing with students
  - But remember to model first!

• Name signing also fits in here!

• Be sure that family members make a big deal of it - calling, skyping, bringing cards to holiday get-togethers!
Am Greeting e-Cards

Very clever videos
- Video response
- Write a card
- 35 Holiday cards!

e-Cards for Android

NOTE: Download from iPhone Store, then double the size (2x)
Fa La La La Llamas!!

Deck the halls with fun and have a Happy Holiday!
Bone Apetit!!
Christmas Cat-Astrophe!
Great for TALKING As Well As Writing!!
Shared Writing: Books

• GREAT opportunity for predictable chart books

• Take lots of pictures over the holidays that you can use in books!

• Read sample books to give ideas
Read Sample Books First!

- Look for books on Tarheel Reader

*Remember: You can change the color of the background and the text!!*
I like church.

I like singing carols.

I like our Christmas tree.

I like Santa.
Sample starters?
- I LIKE __________
- I SEE __________
- IT was __________
- I will GO __________
Shared Writing: More Books

More Complex Starters

Let's All Give a Christmas Cheer

Dwagner
Shared Writing: More Books

Let's all do a little clapping.

Let's all do a little clapping.

And give a Christmas cheer!
Now Change the Pattern

Let's all do a little jumping.

Let's all do a little twirling.

Stretching . . . Singing . . . ?????
Making Your Books:
Save As!!

Download book from Powerpoint
- add in your own pictures
- change the text if necessary

Voila!! (Almost) Instant Book!!
Making Your Books

- Light Tech Is Fine!
  - Pics glued on construction paper
  - Text on white paper, glued on

Or Use Apps You Already Know!
- Pictello

- Kid In Story
Shared Writing: Alphabet!!

• Make a holiday alphabet book!

• Or, just make a few pages

• The important thing is that your CHILD picks the letters!

• KISS (Keep It Simple, Silly!)
Goals:
• Making authentic connections to letters
• Developing background knowledge about holidays
• Making a letter book, or even just a page with several letter lists

Words We Know idea from Dr. Gretchen Hanser
Holiday Words We Know: How

1) Pick a letter, using whatever alphabet system your child uses

2) Then think out-loud, about holiday words that start with that letter

3) Write them down, going back to the starting letter on the chart
Modeling Example

1) On Kate’s alternative pencil, I might pick the letter J


3) Write J, then jingle bells

4) Keep going, trying to think of 2 or 3 words for the model letter. ‘Let’s see . . . Jack!! Our elf is named Jack!! Jack starts with J (pointing). I’ll write Jack.’
Student Picks Letter

1) It’s Kate’s turn, and she picks M

2) ‘I have a good one . . . Music! Music starts with M (pointing to M). You LOVE music!!

3) On a new page, write M, then music

4) Keep going, trying to think of 2 or 3 words for her letter. If it’s easy, find a word on the communication system. ‘Oh - movie! Movie starts with M! We always go to a movie on Christmas!! I’ll write movie on our M page!’
• This is a great **group** activity!! Fun to play during a mealtime!

• Use the AAC system only when it’s easy - don’t get caught up looking for fringe words . . . Unless it’s a word your child LOVES and you want them to find it!

• If someone picks a letter again - that’s an authentic purpose for re-reading that page!

• Don’t worry about having a picture for the words - this is about hearing the words, and making print meaningful!
Class used photo to support ideas.
Holiday Words We Know

- Open Pic Collage
- Add background photo (ex: Christmas Tree)
- Have student pick a letter
- Add words starting with that letter
Possible Next Steps

🌟 Try one or two activities
🌟 Share the handouts
🌟 Share the webinar link
🌟 Read FB posts
🌟 Plan to attend/view next week’s webinar!
Questions?
Thank You!

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