Possible Teaching Points for Writing Mini-Lessons

These suggestions are intended as a starting point. Further topics for mini-lessons will emerge as students’ needs evolve over the year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROCESS</th>
<th>CONTENT</th>
<th>PRODUCT/QUALITY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| • Establishing routines  
  – why we have them  
  – how they are done  
  – generating mini-lesson topics | • Language and word study  
  – using a dictionary  
  – using a thesaurus  
  – spelling rules that work  
  – run-on sentences  
  – paragraphing  
  – speech marks  
  – punctuation | • Publishing  
  – who is the audience?  
  – publishing software  
  – formats  
  – materials  
  – frequency |
| • Stages of the writing process | • Mentor texts  
  – what they are  
  – why we use them  
  – how to use them  
  – where we find them | • Presenting  
  – who is the audience?  
  – knowing and engaging the audience  
  – range of presentation methods |
| • Writer’s Notebook  
  – what it is  
  – how to begin  
  – why we use it  
  – how to use it  
  – where to find ideas  
  – teacher monitoring | • Magazines and newspapers  
  – formats  
  – types  
  – illustrations  
  – different columns  
  – letters  
  – editors  
  – advertisements  
  – reporting  
  – captions, headlines | • Editing for publication  
  – peer and teacher editing  
  – using checklists  
  – final edits |
| • Developing ideas  
  – using mentor texts  
  – from movies  
  – from television  
  – by conferencing for ideas with peers | • Text forms  
  – letters  
  – scripts, lyrics  
  – poems  
  – reports  
  – essays | • Rubrics for assessing writing  
  – development with students  
  – levels of attainment  
  – exemplars |
| • Drafting  
  – why we do drafts  
  – draft formats  
  – first, second, and final draft expectations | • Cross-curricular writing  
  – historical diaries  
  – plays  
  – science reports  
  – math journals  
  – math problems  
  – games descriptions | • Illustrations  
  – techniques  
  – style  
  – famous illustrators  
  – page design  
  – mentor texts |
| • Revising  
  – what is revision?  
  – why we revise  
  – how to revise independently and with a partner  
  – tracking revisions  
  – preparing for a revision conference | • Family stories  
  • Photographs | • Writing on Demand  
  – why we practise it  
  – planning for writing  
  – use in everyday life |
| • Editing skills  
  – using checklists  
  – how to peer edit  
  – how to give constructive criticism | Add your own: | Add your own: |

Add your own: