

What Young Writers Need to Know

Prewriting

- ◆ Writers think of many ideas that they do not finally use.
- ◆ During prewriting, it is more important to have ideas than to judge them.
- ◆ Writers use many different strategies for prewriting.
- ◆ Writers need to think about purpose and the audience for their writing before they write.

Drafting

- ◆ Writers sometimes use their prewriting notes and ideas as they draft.
- ◆ In drafting, writers write without concern for correct spelling, punctuation, and wording.
- ◆ When they draft, writers know they will go back later to revise their writing.
- ◆ Writers write to get their ideas down on paper.

Revising

- ◆ Writers make revisions to improve their writing.
- ◆ When revising, writers check to see that their writing meets the goals they set before they started writing.
- ◆ Writers use many different strategies for revising.

Editing/Proofreading

- ◆ Writers proofread to look for errors in spelling, capitalization, and punctuation.
- ◆ Writers use reference works such as dictionaries and writing handbooks when they proofread.
- ◆ When they edit, writers check the words and sentences they use to make sure they are correct.

Publishing

- ◆ Publishing allows writers to share their writing with others.
- ◆ Most writers do not consider their work finished until it has been shared in some way.