



The Kindergarten Chronicles

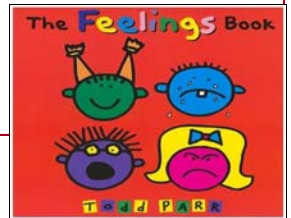
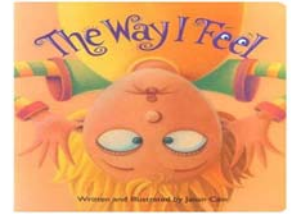
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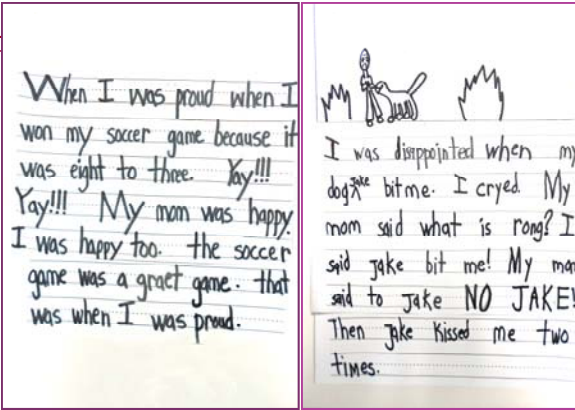
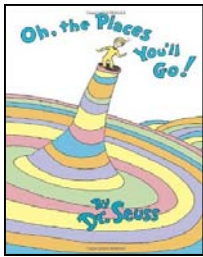
Writing in Kindergarten... making reading and writing connections



In order for students to continue their growth in narrative writing, I added a new focus during journal time this past trimester. I introduced the topic of "emotions" through reading various literature, such as *The Way I Feel* by Janan Cain and *The Feelings Book* by Todd Parr. I chose a particular emotion to focus on during writing time such as "proud". Together we defined what this emotion looks like by acting it out with our bodies and facial expressions. In addition, we determined situations in our life where we have felt "proud" so that the students learned several contexts for the word "proud". Finally, I asked students to write about a time when they were "proud". We completed this same process with other emotions such as excited, disappointed, nervous, annoyed, and angry. I truly have enjoyed the discussions and the writing that have emerged from the students going through this process. Additionally, this is an excellent way to assist students in vocabulary development.



Oh, the Places You'll Go! by Dr. Seuss is an excellent book to read for discussing moving to first grade. The theme of the story is that you truly can do anything you want to do in life! We are learning about various careers. The students will write about what they want to be when they grow up and WHY. We always need to be asking them "why" so that they include details in their writing!



W.K.5 With guidance and support from adults, respond to questions and suggestions from peers and add details to strengthen writing as needed.
L.K.6 Use words and phrases acquired through conversations, reading and being read to, and responding to texts.

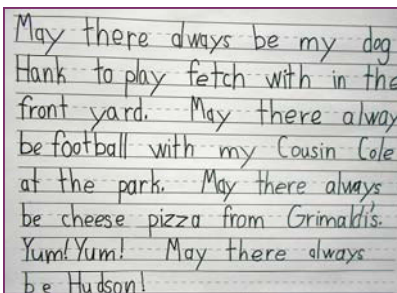


Parent Engagement: Summer Reading Bingo Board

We need to encourage summer reading with our students and parents. I am sending home a reading Bingo board this summer and inviting the students to complete it. They can bring it back to me in the fall, if they read 25 books, to get a prize! You can encourage parents to reward their child for reading by taking their child on a special date! Perhaps a trip to the park, an afternoon of swimming, or an ice cream sundae will motivate our youngsters NOT to take a vacation from reading this summer. Richard Allington reminds us that without reading during the summer months, students lose up to four months of reading growth! We cannot afford for this to happen. Cheers to summer reading!

May There Always Be...

This book is an excellent resource for a culminating writing activity in kindergarten. I had the students brainstorm things that they wish would always be in our world. We then made a class book in which each child has a page. I included a picture of each child in the book.



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