

The Author's Chair



➤ The Author's Chair is a literacy strategy which is often integrated into a Reading and Writing workshop.

➤ How it works:

1. An area in the room may be designated as "The Author's Chair for sharing the work of various authors (professional as well as student and teacher work). The teacher begins by modeling how books and pieces of writing are shared. She also demonstrates and discusses questions to ask about pieces of writing.
2. The teacher explains the job of a writer/ author. She lets children know that they are also authors. She shares the work of various authors and leads discussions about the author's work and the choices they made in their writing.
3. She lets children begin sharing their work. A mini lesson is conducted on how to select your best writing to share, and how to share in the Author's Chair.
4. Student work is reviewed in conferencing. Student and teacher may discuss if any writing is ready to be shared in the Author's Chair. The child will be given an opportunity to review and practice their reading before sharing with the class.
5. An instructor may choose to use Author's Chair daily, once a week, or every two weeks.



The benefits:

- **Contributes to the feeling of a classroom community of learners.**
- **Increases students' awareness and appreciation for various authors.**
- **Increases students' understanding of the writing process, consideration for their audience, and sense of story.**
- **Offers students practice in oral language (fluency, expression and flow).**
- **Encourages critical thinking about literature.**
- **Increases students ownership of reading and writing.**
- **Research suggests that the Author's Chair directly effects reading comprehension and decoding in reading.**
- **Acts as an incentive, offers children power over their learning and pride in their reading and writing abilities.**