The Write Beginning: Instruction That Starts with the End in Mind and Guide Students to Become More Effective Writers

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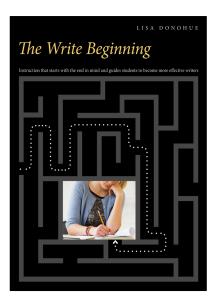
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Focus Area: Professional Development

Key Learning

Area: English



Summary

This practical book offers a simple approach to developing an assessment-based writing process with students – by beginning with the end. It shows teachers how to introduce students to new forms of writing by using successful writing samples that help students appreciate the features that make them effective.

The Write Beginning explores the features of successful writing in different forms around the four areas of learning:

- Knowledge features of specific forms of writing
- Thinking ideas contained in the writing
- Communication the way writing is expressed through voice, word choice, sentence fluency, spelling, grammar, etc.
- Application personal connections the writer makes

Teacher prompts to guide student thinking about text forms, writing traits and connections to reading strategies are offered throughout the book.

The Write Beginning argues that when young writers use success criteria as a guide, they are able to develop a clear understanding of their targets and set realistic goals for themselves. The book illustrates how teachers can use the success criteria as a framework for providing descriptive feedback to students, as a way of guiding their learning and as a means of helping them to set goals. The students apply the feedback as they revise, rewrite or rework their writing. The success criteria can also be used as a foundation for developing student-friendly assessment tools (rubrics).

This comprehensive approach to teaching writing includes graphic organisers, sample rubrics, checklists and student samples for easy classroom implementation.

Other Resources

- The Write Voice: Using Rich Prompts to Help Student Writing Come Alive (PBP3028)
- Keepin' It Real: Integrating New Literacies with Effective Classroom Practice (PBP6715)
- 100 Minutes: Making Every Minute Count in the Literacy Block (PBP6685)

