



Writer's Workshop

Writer's Workshop is a simple way to organize opportunities for young people to express themselves through writing. It's built on a process similar to that which aspiring professional writers might use, including sharing writing with peers, conferencing and editing, and developing a writing portfolio over time. The workshop setting encourages children to view themselves as writers capable of becoming more skilled by writing frequently, for extended periods of time and on topics of their own choosing.

To power up your Writer's Workshop, include all five stages of the writing process:

Prewriting

Students use this stage to brainstorm ideas, consider the audience and purpose for writing, and use graphic organizers to develop and connect ideas. For ideas to help students get started, see the Y4Y [Prewriting Activities](#) tool.

Drafting

Students work independently at this stage. Support students individually as they write, offering praise and suggestions while being mindful of children who might be "stuck" or struggling with the task.

Revising

Show students how to revise their draft to make it more clear and coherent. Model by reading your own writing, and do a think aloud about ways you could improve it. For example, you might reorganize some information, add missing details, make the language more interesting or add a catchy title. Reading their work aloud to classmates during peer conferences helps students understand what revisions are needed. A helpful resource for this step is the Y4Y [Revision Conference Planner](#).

Editing

Show students how to edit their writing so that it's free of errors in grammar and usage. Y4Y has two helpful tools: [Peer Editing Checklist](#) and [Editing Tips for Students](#).

Publishing

Having an authentic audience beyond the classroom gives student writing more importance and helps students to see a direct connection between their lives and their literacy development. Encourage students to publish their work in a variety of ways, such as a bulletin board, letters to the editor, website or other community outlet.