



Broward County Public Schools Videoconference

Writing Traits: Ideas
Lesson: Writing Secrets
Instructor: Evelyn Nelson
BECON Distance Learning Teacher

Grade Level: Grade Four

Sunshine State Standards: LA.B.1, LA.B.2, and TH.A.1

Benchmarks: LA.B.1.2.1, LA.B.2.2, and TH.A.1.2.1

Infusion Points: Language Arts and Drama

Objective(s):

1. Students will prepare for writing by focusing on a central idea and listing supporting details.
2. Students will organize the key ideas in an informational text using a graphic organizer.
3. Students will present their adult/child scenario using basic acting skills (e.g. breath control, diction, projection, and expression).

GUEST WRITERS: Students will read their paragraphs from last week's lesson.

LITERATURE EMPHASIS:

Book Title: The Secret Knowledge of Grown-ups

Author and Illustrator: David Wisniewski

Publisher: Lothrop, Lee & Shepard Books. Morow, NY. (1998).

Story Summary: Prepare to learn the real truth behind the things that grown-ups tell you to do.

ACTIVITIES:

- Students will brainstorm a list of things that grown-ups tell them to do
- Videoconference Instructor will read story aloud to students
- Next, the instructor will introduce the [Writing Secret Script](#) graphic organizer
- Students will work in groups or as a class to select a rule that adults use and write the "real" truth behind it. Their writing should be modeled after the book.
- Each class will act out their adult/child scenario.

WRITING ASSIGNMENT:

- Students will complete their own [Writing Secret Script](#) graphic organizer, supplying an adult rule and reason along with their "real truth."
- Students will write an essay about the "real truth" behind the adult rule.
- Student writers will select classmates to act out their adult/child scenario. The student writer will read the "truth" part of his or her essay.

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- [Writing Secret Script](#) and pencil for each student

LESSON EXTENSION:

Related Book:

Title: The Secret Knowledge of Grown-ups: The Second File

Author and Illustrator: David Wisniewski

Publisher: Harper Collins. (2001)

Story Summary: “David Wisniewski has completed another daring raid into the vault of parent rules. Within these forbidden pages lurk the real reasons why grown-ups want you to brush your teeth, eat your breakfast, and clean under your bed. The truth has been hidden for centuries, but the time of mystery is over.” HarperCollins.comT