

Lesson 9: Writers Need to Think of Their Audience

Supplies Needed:

- Chart paper titled “Who Do Writers Write For?”
- Markers
- Who’s My Audience? Anchor Chart

Procedure:

- Gather students and pose this question: Who might you write for this year in our classroom? Record their answers on the chart paper. Here are some possible answers/ideas:
 - a classmate
 - a brother or a sister
 - a younger student
 - a parent
 - an adult
 - a teacher
 - our principal
 - a family member
- As you review all of the answers, share with students that they could write for many different people this year. Then ask them to think about how they might write differently for a younger student than they would their principal and discuss the differences (more pictures, shorter/easier words, shorter or longer sentences, more describing words, etc). Next discuss the difference between something written for a teacher and something written for a family member.
- Discuss the word “audience” and what it means. Help them to understand that the readers of their stories are just like an audience at performances or sporting events – they are there to see and hear something put on by others.
- Share the Who’s My Audience anchor chart to see if there are any other “audiences” that were not brainstormed by the class. Feel free to add other student responses to the chart if you wish.

- Send students to their writing spots with the task of determining the audience of their current piece of writing. As you conference with students be sure to ask them who they are writing their piece for.
- After independent writing gather students and have a few students read their writing. Have the rest of the class try to determine who they think the writer is writing for and then have the writer tell them if they are correct.

Notes: _____
