

COURSE RECAP

Facing the Blank Page:

What Do I Write About?

NOVEMBER 19, 2019 // 8:00PM EST

Led by
Allison Behne



Coaching Series

LIVE
MONTHLY
MEMBER BENEFIT

Thank you for joining us!

THIS MONTH WAS ABOUT



Inspiring your
student writers

Let's go over what we learned.

Purpose

To inspire students to write creatively and voraciously and help them follow their passions and curiosities, and to learn how to support them along the way.

Writing Aloud: Modeled and Interactive Writing

3 Benefits of Writing Aloud

1. **Models the process of writing.**
2. **Models the conventions of writing.**
3. **Makes the struggle and problem solving of writing visible.**

9 Ideas to Inspire Writers

3 Strategies for Generating Ideas

1. **Brainstorm/power writing**—Brainstorm as a class or give students two minutes to list as many topics as they can think of to write about (people, places, things). Share, then brainstorm for one more minute.
2. **Pictures**—Pictures tell a story. Have a collection of magazine pictures or photographs for students to select from and write about.
3. **Themed folders**—Students write a story to match the cover of the folder.

3 Strategies for Going Deeper

1. **Expand on brainstorm**—Select one or two topics from the original brainstorm list and add specifics.
2. **Use a Mentor text**—Authors expand and add details.
3. **Incorporate senses**—Revisit writing to add what you see, hear, smell, taste, and touch.

3 Strategies for Collaboration

1. **Google Docs and shared notebooks**—Students can join their peers in writing and editing stories.
2. **Class sharing**—Focused share, specific to writing the writing goal or objective, leads to new ideas.
3. **“You should write about that!”**—Build awareness of potential writing opportunities.

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Visit: [10 Articles to assist with I don't know what to write about](#)

Join in the discussion on our discussion board: [What To Write About](#)

“ Teach your students real-world writing purposes, add a teacher who models his or her struggles with the writing process, throw in lots of real-world mentor texts for students to emulate, and give our kids the time necessary to enable them to stretch as writers. ”

KELLY GALLAGHER

What inspires your students to write?



Share your ideas or how one of these nine worked for you!

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#TDCcoachingseries

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Coaching Series
DECEMBER 2019

**Tools for Creating a Calm
Classroom: Deep Breathing**

DATE AND TIME TBA BY DECEMBER 1

Led by Carol Moehrle