

Teachers College Writing Workshop

“Lucy Calkins”

Teachers College Writing Workshop Vocabulary (or Frequently Used Terms)

Small Moment: Students learn to take the everyday events of their lives and stretch them into focused, well-structured stories.

Seed Idea: To create to a really good story, it helps to think of a smaller subject, or seed, within the big watermelon topic.

Long and Strong: Developing stamina increases student output on tests. There have been reports that high SAT scores are directly related to the length of the piece. Writing gibberish isn't going to make a good piece, but learning how to write long AND strong is important for kids to know how to do.

Heart of the Story: Students are taught to find the "heart of the story" and stretch it out to an event-by-event sequence.

Play a Movie in your Mind: Students can make a movie in their mind to support what is happening in the story they are reading or writing. This helps students visualize the events in the story, enhances comprehension while reading and allows a writer to add greater detail to their piece.

Show Don't Tell: Imagery is language that paints a vivid picture in the mind of the reader.

Storytelling: Writing in the air; it is important to teach the difference between storytelling and reporting.

Fancy it up: Adding details and elaborating.