



Teach Your Students to Edit Their Writing

Upcoming Free Webinars!

Topic: Primary Writing Instruction

To see a description of the webinar topic and register for the event, click below on the day you want to participate.

All webinars are held at 4:00 p.m. Pacific Time (7:00 p.m. Eastern Time)

Thursday, April 3
Wednesday, April 9
Thursday, April 10

What's a Webinar?

Webinars are interactive on-line presentations.

When you sign up for a webinar, you will receive a link to the on-line presentation, and be given a phone number to call to listen to the live presentation. You can also submit typewritten questions to the presenters during the webinar.

The Write Tools' webinars are a wonderful way to receive an hour of free training in writing instruction.



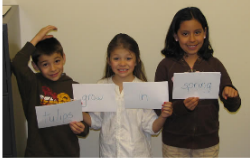
Plan a Summer Writing Institute for your School or District

[Click here to learn more!](#)

Dear Dorothy

Try out these tips for teaching your students how to "self-edit."

Level 1: When primary students begin writing sentences, we teach them about capital letters beginning sentences and punctuation (usually periods) ending them.



Help them remember their capital letters and end marks with hand gestures. As children build sentences together and share them orally, they can learn a simple motion to indicate the capital letter and the period. When they read their sentences orally, have them do the motion and also say the words: capital and period. As a class, you can make up appropriate hand signs for question marks and exclamation points as well.

Level 2: When students begin editing written work, have them use a highlighter to find and mark all their capital letters and sentence-ending punctuation. As they go through a draft looking for these, they should start noticing when they've forgotten these critical conventions and put them in!

Level 3: Students should "self-edit" their own written work before the teacher looks at it for a "teacher edit." Keep a can of red ballpoint pens or pencils handy so students can grab one when they are ready for a self-edit. Have students go through their own work, carefully looking for mistakes in conventions and spelling. They might use simple editing marks. Ask students to not only indicate the mistakes, but correct them as well. Teachers should look for evidence of this step prior to doing any editing for their students.

When assessments are given, students are expected to do their own editing with no assistance from a teacher. Practice this consistently all year long and their editing skills will improve. When you do the "teacher edit," use a different color than red. During a conference, discuss their editing skills with them--are they being conscientious and careful as they self-edit? Use the data you gather from their self-editing to determine possible mini-lessons around conventions.



For some great ideas on adapting The Write Tools for primary learners, please tune in to one of our upcoming webinars specifically for primary teachers. Trainer, Nancy Conway, will have many more good ideas to share.

Sincerely,
The Write Tools, LLC