

Brainstorm

Main Idea

Detail

Detail

Detail

Conclusion

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Boho Birds Writing Process Bulletin Board RESOURCE GUIDE

The Writing Process

- Prewrite:** Think about a topic, brainstorm, and plan.
- Draft:** Quickly write thoughts and ideas on paper.
- Revise:** Rework the organization and details of the draft.
- Edit:** Review and correct grammar, capitalization, spelling, and punctuation.
- Evaluate:** Reflect and assess what has been written.
- Publish:** Share final writing with others.

Prewrite

- Think about the topic.
- List words and ideas or draw pictures.
- Choose a purpose.
- Decide who the audience will be.
- Gather information.

Edit

- Check each sentence for correct capitalization and punctuation.
- Make sure subjects and verbs agree.
- Check spelling.
- Use proofreaders' mark to identify mistakes.

Publish

- Use neat handwriting or typing.
- Illustrate and display the writing.
- Read the writing aloud.
- Turn the writing into a play, puppet show, video, or book.

Revise

- Make sure the writing stays on topic.
- Add relevant supporting details.
- Delete unnecessary words and details.
- Look for logical order of events.
- Use descriptive words.
- Rewrite sentences so...

(Partial set is shown in use.)

Putting It Together

- Laminate the Boho Birds Writing Process Bulletin Board for durability.
- The Boho Birds Writing Process Bulletin Board can be displayed on a wall or bulletin board.
- Refer to the diagram above for a picture of the Boho Birds Writing Process Bulletin Board.

Display Ideas

Encourage students to follow the steps of the writing process by posting the Boho Birds Writing Process Bulletin Board where students can easily refer to it. Review the steps and questions frequently with students, focus the writing lessons on individual steps or questions, and allow students use the bulletin board as a checklist when they write.

Writing Process

Prewrite

Writing Station Keep student papers organized. Label six folders, one for each step in the writing process. Place the folders at the classroom writing center. At the end of the work period, let students file their papers in the appropriate folders. This system allows you to monitor the progress of each student's writing process. Also, the papers can be easily located for the next writing session.

Idea Journal Help students avoid writer's block by using idea journals. Give each student a blank booklet to keep at his desk as a journal. In the journal, have him write down ideas and topics for future writing. Let students add to their journals throughout the day as ideas come to them. Encourage students to refer to the journals during prewriting.

Story Webs Encourage students to organize their thoughts during prewriting by using story webs. Have students draw circles in the center of sheets of paper and write a topic inside. Then, instruct them to draw several lines, like sun rays, from the circle and draw smaller circles at the ends of each line. Have students write subtopics and details in the smaller circles. Instruct students to draw more circles attached to each of the subtopics to add even more details. Let students use these story webs to organize their thoughts and details as they begin to write.

Getting Started To inspire students to think of writing topics, create a story-starter box. Provide slips of paper for students to write ideas or topics for all types of stories. Then, put them in a decorative box. When students need help thinking of writing topics, allow them to select from the story-starter box.

Draft

Stories from Pictures Use this idea to help students develop their descriptive writing skills. Have each student draw and color a picture that includes details. Then, post the drawings at a writing center and have students write descriptive paragraphs about their drawings. Finally, let students try to match each other's paragraphs with the drawings displayed.

Tell a Story A blank page can often intimidate a student. This activity can ease students' anxiety. Pair students together and give each student a notepad and pencil. Let each student tell a story to his partner. While one student is telling a story, the other student should write it in the notepad. When both students have completed their stories, they will each have a written first draft.

Graphic Organizer Use the graphic organizer reproducible [page 4] to encourage students to organize their first draft.

Revise

Adjective Wall On large pieces of paper or sections of sentence strips, write commonly used words, such as *nice, pretty, fun, and good*. Leave space under each word for students to write more colorful and exciting words that can be used in place of the originals. Post the lists beside the Boho Birds Writing Process Bulletin Board for students to use for reference as they revise their work.

Writing Process

Edit

Proofreaders' Poster Encourage students to use proofreaders' marks when editing. Display a poster of basic proofreaders' marks beside the Boho Birds Writing Process Bulletin Board for reference.

Editing Tip To make editing easier, provide wide-spaced, lined paper for students. Instruct students to skip a line between each line of text they write. When a paper is passed on for peer editing, have each editor use colorful pencils or pens to make her comments on the blank line below each sentence. When the papers are returned, students will know exactly what corrections need to be made.

Editing Center When a student has a paper that is ready to be proofread, have her write her name on the back and post it on the bulletin board. Instruct peer editors to choose two or three papers to review each week. After a student proofreads a paper, have her return it to the author. Check the bulletin board periodically to ensure that all papers have been proofread.

Strengths and Suggestions Help make editing and proofreading a more positive experience during peer editing by encouraging students to also note the strengths of the writing they are reviewing. Instruct student editors to end each review with positive comments.

Evaluate

Let's Hear It! Improve the readability of students' writing by having them read their works aloud. Have each student read a copy of his final story into a tape recorder. Then, have him play it back, pausing to reflect on the finished writing. Instruct him to pay close attention to how natural or unnatural the words

sound. Instruct students to consider applying what was learned from this assignment to other pieces of writing.

Publish

Special Presentations After students have finished their writing, have them choose unique ways to share it. Several times a month, set aside a special time for students to present their writing. Encourage students to turn their writing into plays, puppet shows, videos, or books.

Publishing Writing Help make writing a rewarding experience by letting students publish their final drafts. After students have reviewed the steps shown on the Boho Bird Writing Process Bulletin Board, provide materials such as decorative paper, fancy pens, and word processing programs for students to use to present their work. Have students copy and illustrate the stories. Then, place them at a writing center for others to read.

Make Portfolios Saving a student's writing in a portfolio is a great way to assess performance throughout the school year. It also makes a nice keepsake to present to families at the end of the year. Have each student decorate a special folder, and throughout the year, let each student choose several of his favorite and best writing samples to place in his portfolio. Have students fill out self-evaluations of their writing samples, explaining how they chose the pieces for their portfolios.