

Unit 1: How We Learn in Our School Communities

WEEK 1 Day 2

Writing Basics

Modeling and Individual Construction: Communicating about Ourselves

Content Objective	I can write to communicate about myself. (W.3.2, L.2.3.f)												
Language Objective	I can write a complete sentence to communicate about myself. I can use the Stories Sentences chart for support as needed. (L.2.2.d, ELD-SI.K-3.Narrate)												
Vocabulary	communicate: to share ideas with each other												
Materials and Preparation	Before the lesson, identify a space to display children’s work. A bulletin board can be created in or outside of the classroom that includes the Week 1 Weekly Question Chart and children’s writing. • writing tools, such as pencils, colored pencils, and crayons • Stories sentences: Simple and Expanded Sentence images, cut apart • chart paper, 2 pieces On the first piece of chart paper, prepare the following Stories Sentences chart. (The second sheet will be used for Modeling.) <table><tr><th colspan="2">Stories Sentences</th></tr><tr><th colspan="2">Simple Sentence</th></tr><tr><th>Subject</th><th>Predicate</th></tr><tr><td>Who? ●</td><td>Do/Does What? 🗣️</td></tr><tr><td>noun / pronoun</td><td>action verb</td></tr><tr><td>_____</td><td>_____.</td></tr></table>	Stories Sentences		Simple Sentence		Subject	Predicate	Who? ●	Do/Does What? 🗣️	noun / pronoun	action verb	_____	_____.
Stories Sentences													
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_____	_____.												

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	for where they will be stored, how to indicate that pencils need sharpening, etc. <i>We have been exploring the question “How do we want to work and learn together this year?” As we decide how to work and learn together, we need to get to know each other better. Today and tomorrow you will draw and write to communicate about yourself. Then, as a class, we will put your writing together on a bulletin board that communicates about each member of our classroom community. This will help us learn about each other, and it will help visitors learn about us.</i>
Modeling 9 minutes	Modeled Writing Step 1: Set the stage: Refer to the Independent Writing Routine chart. <i>Yesterday we used the first two steps in our routine. Today I will show you how to use all of the steps to write to communicate about yourself.</i> Step 2: Think aloud: Point to the Independent Writing Routine chart: Step 1. Model thinking of your writing idea. Step 3: Model: Point to Step 2. Model Pair and Share with a child telling something about yourself. Point to Step 3. <i>Now I will write what I just communicated about myself.</i> Show the Encoding Prompting Guide. <i>When I write a sentence, I will always say it first, and do a CUPS check after writing it. If I get stuck, I can also follow these other steps.</i> Say the sentence; write it; and do a CUPS check. Point to Step 4. <i>Now I need to reread my writing out loud to make sure it makes sense.</i> Point to Step 5. <i>I am going to start my drawing with just a pencil.</i> Model closing your eyes to think about each part of the image and how

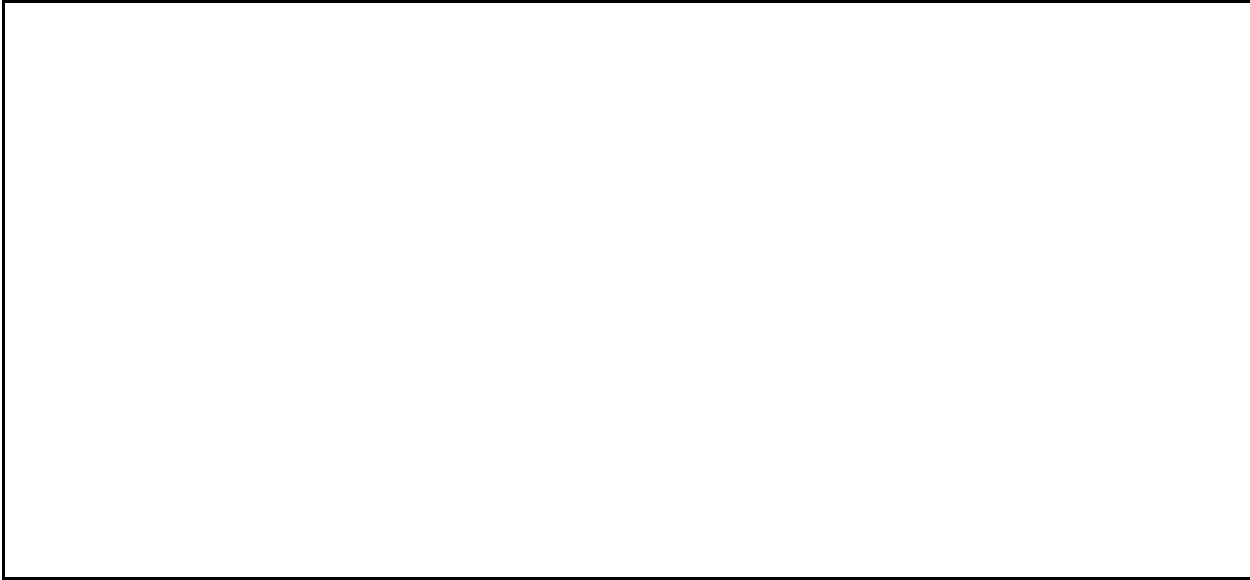
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	you will draw it. Model sketching. Step 4: Reread the finished text: Reread your writing.
Individual Construction 12 minutes	Refer to the Independent Writing Routine chart. Point to Step 1. <i>Today you will write about yourself and the important people in your life. Think about the people and activities that are most important to you. What do you want to communicate about yourself?</i> Show the Stories Sentences chart. <i>Tomorrow we will talk more about this chart, but the images here might give you ideas for what you can write about. Take a moment to think. When you have an idea, put a silent thumbs up in front of your chest.</i> Model the silent signal. Point to Step 2. <i>Remember, when we talk to partners on the rug, we sit together, facing each other, with our knees touching. [Model with a child.] This helps us hear just our partners. We also use low voices, only loud enough for our partners to hear—like this! [Model speaking in a quiet voice.]</i> Guide children to move so they are sitting knee to knee with their partners. <i>The first partner will communicate about themselves, and the second partner will ask a question. Then the second partner will communicate about themselves, and the first partner will ask a question.</i> As the children talk to their partners, circulate to support them. Support could include: ● reminding children of the routine for talking to a partner; ● modeling communicating about yourself; ● offering topics children could communicate about; ● referring to the Stories Sentences chart to support children in generating ideas and using vocabulary; ● restating what the speaker has said, to check for understanding; ● asking questions to prompt the speaker to add more detail; ● modeling asking <i>wh</i>- questions. Bring the class back together and have several children share with the group.

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	Point to Steps 3-5. <i>Now you will write, reread, and draw what you just told your partner.</i> Show the Independent Writing Routine table copy. <i>Each group will get a paper that looks like this. If you forget the steps in the routine, you can look at our chart or this paper.</i> Show the Encoding Prompting Guide table copy. <i>Here are the steps I showed you for writing sentences. On the back are steps for writing words. Your group will also get this paper to help you remember these steps.</i> Send children with blank paper, the Independent Writing Routine, and the Encoding Prompting Guide. As children write, circulate or pull small groups to support them. Support could include: • inviting children to retell what they communicated about themselves; • referring to the Stories Sentences chart to support children in generating ideas and using vocabulary; • referring to the Independent Writing Routine table copy to remind children of the routine for writing; • for children who still need it, taking dictation (on a computer, sticky notes, or the back of the paper) to help them remember their information. Support for encoding could include: • referring to Foundations resources to review known spelling patterns; • referring to and following the Encoding Prompting Guide table copies to support children with writing words and sentences.
Closing 4 minutes	Introduce writing folders, and teach the children classroom-specific routines for putting work in folders and putting folders away. <i>Today you wrote to communicate about yourself and the people who are important to you. We will display your work so that everyone in the classroom community will get a chance to know you better.</i> Collect children's work. At another time after the lesson, and perhaps with the help of a few children, hang the work on the bulletin board.

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