

*Creative Writing Made Easy . . . Helping Every Child Succeed*

## TEACHING TIPS FOR SUCCESS

1. Don't make creative writing a lesson in grammar or spelling. Children will feel stifled if they have to stop and sound out every word and fear that you will mark it all wrong.
2. Whatever they write praise, praise, praise!
3. Let them write about what they love. Whacky plots, oddball characters, made up fantasy worlds and all.
4. Keep TOOLS handy that will help you succeed and be creative. (i.e. colorful notebooks or make a special reading area)
5. Give them a reason to write more than mom is going to grade this at the end of the week. (i.e. start a writing club or have a Flash Light Theatre!)
6. Never underestimate the creative power of brainstorming! Talking things out helps to form ideas and prime the pump.
7. Capitalize on holiday themes. Research American Indians during Thanksgiving and write a story about the Pilgrims and Indians.
8. Help them write different genres. Write historical fiction about a person they are studying in history.
9. Write Science Fiction or Fantasy: This is one of my favorites! Look at the Chronicles of Narnia!

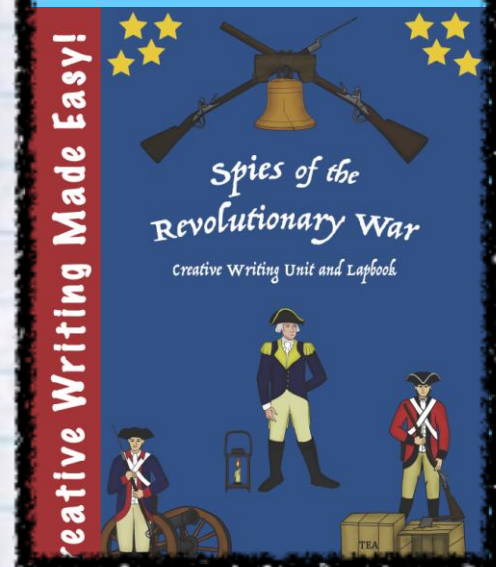
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LOOK for MORE FUN WRITING BOOKS- EVEN THE RELUCTANT WRITER WILL DIVE IN!





## The New Millennium Girls

10. Use a mystery themed story to entice young writers. Create a sleuth character and crimes they must solve.
11. Analyze a literary work they love. Help them pick the bad guy, good guy of story: I stress story that they love.
12. Teach your students the Golden Rule of Writing: Show Don't Tell. CS Lewis said, "Don't tell me your character is afraid, but show me by describing it in such a way that the very hairs on my head stand up when I read it!"
13. Encourage your students to use vivid verbs for tight and terrific writing. A thesaurus is a great tool here.
14. For reluctant writers start off with FAN FICTION. They can write the next chapter in their favorite story or the sequel to their favorite movie.
15. Teach the 5 elements of a story:
  1. Developing Characters can be a lot of fun by making a list of all their physical and emotional qualities, likes and dislikes.
  2. Develop a Plot by giving the characters a conflict to overcome. BUT don't let the character reach his goal right away.
  3. Develop a Setting by using the five senses. What does the place look like, smell like, and taste like, sound like, and feel like?
  4. POV- Point of View-Teach them to write from one POV-Learning to write from one characters POV instead of a universal POV helps writing to be fresh and focused.
  5. Theme- What is the main idea that is woven throughout the story?



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