

Achieving Excellence in Writing Annual Summer Workshop

August 15-17, 2011

Covers an extensive set of writing skills
Teaches specific stylistic techniques that are easy to learn
Includes structures for fiction and expository writing
Applicable for teaching Grades 2 to 12
Gives students the tools to write well
Increases student achievement
Interesting, engaging, motivational, practical, effective

Teachers' Comments

"The best writing in-service I have ever experienced."
"An epiphany for me about teaching writing!"
"Super handouts." "Thank you – I feel 'empowered' to teach writing"
"Thank you so much! This will definitely help me to get my students writing in the content areas."
"This is the best tool I've been given since I started teaching (25 years ago!)."
"Very well done! Can be used at almost all levels from Grade 2-12 and Adult Ed."
"Very helpful. I can see how I'll be able to use this for pretty much each of my senior courses."
"Practical, interesting, and informative."
"Inspiring! Thank you."
"Awesomely empowering!"
"I finally have something substantial to work with!"
"A wonderful workshop, useful and enlightening!"
"Workshop was awesome, great to have material that is user friendly."

Time: 9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M. August 15 to 17, 2011

Location: Knox United, 345 Pym Street, Parksville, Vancouver Island

Registration: e-mail saugustyn@shaw.ca or phone (250 248-6434)

Registration fee: \$295.00 plus HST (\$100 deposit required to hold a place)

Achieving Excellence in Writing Workshops, presented by Susan Augustyn, provide an exceptionally effective method of teaching writing. Covering various stylistic techniques as well as structures, the workshop addresses both expository and fictional writing. The material is structured and easy to teach. Achieving Excellence in Writing Workshops are designed for teachers of Grades 2 through 12. The program is an extremely powerful tool for teaching writing effectively. Within a short time, students experience a dramatic improvement in their writing, which in turn, creates high levels of intrinsic motivation. Meeting the requirements of both criteria-based assessment and ministry performance standards, this approach is ideal for teachers eager for their students to achieve excellence in writing.

The results speak for themselves. Below are paragraphs written by two Grade 4 students. Each box contains a piece of work written in September and another written by the same student later in the year after receiving instruction using the methods presented in Achieving Excellence in Writing.

(Paragraph on friendship, Sept.)

I would like to go swimming with my friends. I would like to read with friends. I really like drawing with a friend. I like to ride my bike with a friend. I really like to go swimming with a friend.

(Paragraph on Dragons, February)

Dragons

Dragons are tremendous creatures. Most dragons, which are as immense as a building, inhabit fantasy worlds. According to authors, dragons can be fierce when they try to protect their young. Fighting, dragons have very sharp claws and extraordinary wings to cover long distances. Astonishingly their uneven scales reflect the colours of the superb rainbow. Although some dragons are friendly, all dragons breathe fire because they need to protect themselves. Dragons, which make fearful enemies, scare lots of folks. They are fascinating imaginary creatures.

(Paragraph on Little Critter, Sept.)

My critters name is Cocoa. He is critter is blue with green arms and yellow feet. My little critter has a black nose and a furry dark blue tail. My critter has two pieces of pipe cleaner for ears. His mostly made of pom poms. His friend is fuzzleball. My critter looks like a squirrel a little bit. He stays on my desk when I'm gone. My critter is small. He stays on my name tag. My critter has small black eyes.

(Paragraph on Stars, February)

Stars

Shining in the sky, there are millions of attractive and glimmering stars. Stars look like dots. In space stars are truly massive. Dazzling in the outer universe, stars are balls of floating gasses. Stars appear small because they are so far away. While stars are far away, the sun, which is immense, is closer. Neatly some of the stars make patterns while in the sky. The Big Dipper and Little Dipper are two of the most highly recognized patterns. Many stars fill the sky.

Susan Augustyn is an experienced classroom teacher and a popular workshop presenter who has given workshops in school districts throughout British Columbia.

To book a workshop, contact: saugustyn@shaw.ca

