

Appendix

Writing Workshop Day 7

Sample Mini-lesson 12

Facilitator will need to pre-plan for demonstrating in a fishbowl with a response group. For the sake of time, depending on the length of the writing and the number of people in the fishbowl, the facilitator may decide to model just one or two people getting feedback.

Teaching Point: Writers revise their writing when they “re-see” it with fresh eyes, asking themselves if the structure and words they’ve chosen are just right to get what they want to say across to their readers. Writers often revise based on feedback from a Response Group.

Connect: Throughout the year, we’ve talked about the importance of writers “re-seeing” their writing in order to revise and make their writing better. Today, we’re going to meet with a Response Group in order to get specific feedback about revising the structure, words or ideas in our writing.

Teach: Sometimes it’s helpful to get ideas for revising by reading our writing to other writers and asking for feedback. Watch and listen as we demonstrate in a fishbowl one way to do that. *Facilitator points to a pre-made chart entitled: Response Group Revision Feedback with some guiding questions, for example, What else would you like to know more about?, What would you suggest I do to make the ideas in my writing more clear?, Is there anything confusing?, Other suggestions?* The first thing we need to do is to decide who will read aloud his or her writing first, then second, then third. Once we’ve decided, the rest of us will listen to the first writer read aloud his or her piece. We’ll use the guiding questions on the chart to give the writer feedback after he or she has read. Then the writer will need to jot down in her writers notebook or on the draft what we say so he or she won’t forget and then the next writer will read aloud his or her piece and so on. Okay, so who wants to read first? Second? Third? Great. Watch and listen as we fishbowl our response group to give each other feedback for revising our writing. Your job is to listen to the suggestions and see if there are any additional questions you think would be helpful to add to our feedback chart.

Active Involvement: Turn and talk about the guiding questions – any other questions that would be helpful to add?

Link: As you go back to work in your Response Groups today, do the same thing we did. Be sure to decide the order of your readers first, then refer to the guiding feedback questions, and start to help each other with your writing! When we share today, we’ll hear from a few Response Groups how working together gave them ideas for revising.