



Unit of Study: Writerly Life Day/Date: Revision

Focus (What one thing will you teach and why?):

Writers can “crack open” their sentences to change the tone of their writing and make it come alive for readers.

Connection (What will you say to the students about why you are teaching this?):

We have been working on drafting a piece of writing. Today I am going to show you how you can go back into your draft and look for places where your writing has been vague and “crack them open” to make them more descriptive and engaging to read.

Give Info: (How will you teach this? What exactly do you want to say?)

Think about some words and sentences that are overused, tired or worn out. Think about words that have no images, are vague or abstract, used too much that they have lost their meaning, obvious, clichés or words that we use too frequently as writers. (Some examples you might use include; It was a nice day. I had a lot of fun. The flowers were colorful. Snow is nice. She is a wonderful person.)

Model for students how I might crack open one of these sentences by imagining it and describing what I have imagined in words.

Active Involvement: (How will students “try-it” before they go off to work independently?)

(After making a list of worn out words and sentences...) Now chose one of these sentences to “crack open”.

Close your eyes and resee, for example, what is nice about snow. Imagine the nice things about snow that you may have experienced and include all of your senses as you imagine. Now describe what you see in you mind using words and write it down.

Link: (What is the relationship between what you taught and what you expect them to do during workshop time?) Now go back to your seats and look through your draft and reread it. See if there are places in your draft where you can “crack open” your writing just as we did in this mini-lesson.

Share: (How will students share the work they did w/ each other to further develop TP?)

Have a couple students share places where they cracked open their writing. Share both versions of the exerpt, before and after revising.

