

Purpose: Model the process of composing to help students learn the writing process, writing strategies and writer's craft.

Research: Many students may not understand the process of recording their thoughts or conversation in writing. Modeled writing demonstrates the process of how language is represented in written form. Modeling the process often is effective in improving students' attitude toward writing as well as their writing skills (Fisher & Frey 2007). Modeled writing also helps deepen vocabulary, language, and concept development through frequent exposure to clear models and think-alouds.

1. **Develop a RAFT.** Think aloud to model how to develop a RAFT for what you will write. For example:

Role: *I will take the role of a reporter writing an article for the newspaper.*

Audience: *My audience is the readers of the newspaper.*

Form: *My form is a news article.*

Topic: *I will write about some new puppies.*

2. **Model thinking about the first sentence.** Think aloud as you decide what you will include in your first sentence. For example: *I want to tell about some new puppies that were born last week at my neighbor's house. I'll write a news article to tell about the puppies. I'll begin by telling the most important facts.*
3. **Write the first sentence.** Read aloud what you have written. For example: *Last week six new puppies were born on Davis Street.*
4. **Continue thinking aloud as you write.** Think aloud to model how you plan and write additional sentences. For example: *Next I'll tell what the puppies looked like. I'll write: The puppies were brown and white and had soft fur. Their eyes were closed.*
5. **Involve students.** Encourage students to help write additional sentences. Discuss their ideas with them, and add the new ideas to the writing as appropriate.
6. **Add a title.** When the writing is complete, think aloud as you add a title, and as you review the writing and make any needed corrections.

Application

DAYS 3 & 7

- Daily Writing (Days 3 and 7 of each lesson plan)

