

We as Writers

This six week or twelve days, thirty minute lessons writing unit for ESL students in grades kindergarten to second grade directs students to see themselves as writers. The unit has the purpose of having students write and share their writing with others when they make a final class book with the writing piece each student selected as their best piece out of six writing pieces. The unit also focuses on motivating students to write with pre-writing activities and using mentor texts as good writing models. Young ESL students are often reluctant to write because they do not know what to write about or are afraid to make mistakes. The goal is to provide students with six activities that will have them writing joyfully. The lessons are designed with several strategies and fun pre-writing activities including making their own Forky character. The work of this unit is to help ESL teachers get practical ideas to implement in their writing lessons. A very valuable book to use in this unit is *The Writing Thief* by Ruth Culham will several suggestions for mentor texts. By the conclusion of the unit, students will have written six pieces, chosen their best one and put it in a class book to share their work with others.