Getting the Words Out!
Supporting Writers Voice for People Who Use AAC

Deanna Kempka Wagner
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Who Is This For?
• People who use AAC
• Beginning or struggling writers

Who Is This For?

Executive functions
plan

generate

organize

revise

(Foley, Kopperhaver & Williams, 2009; p104)

Cognitive-linguistic  Social-rhetorical Production  Beliefs and attitudes

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5 Steps to Writing

Teacher Talk:  
- Pre-Writing: Getting it started
- Drafting: Getting it down
- Revising: Getting it good
- Editing: Getting it right
- Publishing: Getting it out

Student Talk

Rog & Kopp, The Write Genre, 2004

Prepare

- Observe competent others using tools the student can access (including AAC device AND the alphabet!)
- Frequent SHORT models
- Let the student choose his/her pencil each time

More info at ‘The Writing Pyramid’: Thursday, 9:30, Auditorium III

Writing Tools

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Sarah & Travis Tarheel authors
http://tarheelreader.org/2009/02/22/pancakes-3/

Smoothies
I like colors.
Red strawberries Yellow pear
Green kiwi Orange orange
Pink drink Golden cider
Could I have a drink, please?
By Carl, Julie, Sara, Gilbert, Betsy

http://aac-balancedliteracy.wikispaces.com/Student+Poetry+Corner

Evaluate

Developmental Spelling

• Lets us know what students are hearing in a word

• Good research across languages, ability groups, SES for dev spelling

• Relatively easy to test

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Gentry's Developmental Spelling Stages

- **Pre-communicative**
  - NMNEWRPAPDOPMCMCMFLF
  - graphic elements can represent ideas
  - scribble, numbers, letter-like strings, letters...
  - Only letters are used but no awareness of sound-symbol relationships

- **Semi-phonemic**
  - U R MI FND?
  - attempt to represent sounds in words
  - only use 1 or 2 letters/sounds in a word
  - may integrate random strings of letters

- **Phonetic (letter-name spelling)**
  - I LIK CAK
  - learning letter/sound correspondences
  - phonetic spellings often using letter names rather than sounds

- **Transitional**
  - I WILL EET
  - rule-based, though not always conventional
  - words look like real words

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6 Traits of Writing

- Ideas
- Organization
- Sentence Fluency
- Conventions (grammar, spelling)
- Word Choice
- Voice

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Developmental Writing Scale

- 14-point writing scale from emergent to conventional
  - Sturm, et al, Topics in Language Disorders, October – December, 2012
- First Author
  - Don Johnston

ACTIVATE THE VOICE

Prewriting

- Select a Topic
- Brainstorm / Organize Ideas

See: Musselwhite & Wagner, CTG Newsletter, October, 2011

Using Photos

- Light tech
- Talking Photo Album
- PowerPoint
- iPad apps
  - Ex: Pictello, SonicPics, PicCollage, PhotoAlbum

Photo Collections – Idea Books
Explain Everything*

Re-Write Tarheel Reader Stories
Scary Halloween
Sarah, Travis and Sara from ValleyLife
11 pages

Inspiration Web

Earth Day Alphabet
A is for air... don't smog it up. (David)
B is for bad... don't smog it up. (Amber)
C is for rag... don't smog it up. (Gilbert)
D is for dirty... don't smog it up. (Erica)
E is for Earth... don't smog it up. (Amber)
F is for fish... be kind to the Earth. (Erica)
G is for green... be kind to the Earth. (Sara)
H is for help... be kind to the Earth. (Maggie)
I is for iceburg... don't smog it up. (Ben)
Mindmapping Apps

- [http://appadvice.com/appguides/show/mind-mapping-apps](http://appadvice.com/appguides/show/mind-mapping-apps)
- Total Recall – Mind maps (free)
- Popplet (free or $4.99)
- Inspiration ($9.99)
- Tools4Students ($ .99)

FROM VOICE TO STORY

What is a story?

A representation of an event

Grove & Smith, 2012

Aspects of story

- language
- structure
- culture
- feelings
- social skills
'Special' stories: personal narratives

Children need to experience 'what it is to find meaning in the moments of their lives... and [in] moments that do not come already packaged with ready-made significance” (Calkins, 1994)

- Personal narratives dominate our conversations – and those of children from the early development
- Preece, (1987): naturally occurring conversations among 5-6-year old children
- Ghezzi et al (1987): 11-year olds in free conversations with a young child, a peer and an adult: 85% of productions were classed as personal narratives

SCAFFOLD THE VOICE

Simple strategies such as:
- Adding a caption to a photo
- Adding pages to books that another person has authored
- Re-writing a book
- Using frameworks such as Noun / Verb / Adjective / Preposition books

Drafting
REWRITE AS A PERSONAL STORY

Have you seen Elvis?

DRAFT n

Mareena said, “Look in the school. And we did! We found Jenny.”

Jack and Jenny

Jack asked Fiona.

Jack wanted to work.

Have you seen Jenny?

Jenny was gone.

Fiona said No.

DRAFT t Have you seen...

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10
Draw, Label, Record
- Add text or other details, including fun stamps with Doodle Buddy
- You can also use your photos as backgrounds and add recordings with My Story or Book Creator

http://mrsantonsclass.com/category/my-story/

Photo Captioning
PicCollage

Create A Simple Narrative
Pictello:
- Photos
- Text
- Text to speech with highlighting
- Recordings
- Videos
Book Creator App

SPECIAL FEATURES!
- multiple text boxes
- multiple audio files
- ‘invisible’ audio buttons
- opens in iBook with sounds!

Idea!!

Use the synthetic speech on the student’s device as the audio recording for a page:
- motivating!
- personalizing
- authentic purpose for getting it ‘just right!’

Book Creator

Revising

Simple strategies such as:
- SCAN
  (Sense? Connected? Add more? Note mistakes)
- TAG
Getting the Words Out

Rate Books: tarheelreader.org

What would you like to do now?
- Read this book again.
- Rate this book.
- Read another book.

How do you rate this book?
- 1 star
- 2 stars
- 3 stars

TAG Conference Sheet

- **Tell** me something you like
- **Ask** questions (at least three)
- **Give** advice

**Writer’s Plan:** (what am I going to do to improve this piece of writing)

Rog & Kropp, *The Write Genre*, 2004

What I Think

**Editing CUPS**

- **C** = Capital letters
- **U** = Usage & grammar
- **P** = Punctuation
- **S** = Spelling

- Don’t focus on grammar
- Use CUPS sparingly

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Random Name Selector Lite

- Intended as random name choosing for classes
- Can create many lists
- Use for strategies such as CUPS

SHARE THE VOICE!!

Publishing

Audience Might Include:
- Friends & family
- Peers at school or work
- Younger students (e.g., preschoolers, kindergarteners)
- National / international audience, through online publishing

Act it out!

Playback Theater

Comic Touch 2

Photo credit: techchef4u.com
Make It Visual: Visual Poetry

- See examples and demo videos at: www.imagechef.com/poetry

Make It Auditory!

- Share your creativity via Facebook, Twitter, and E-mail
- Available for iPad and Android devices. Speak your message and choose the tune on:
  - Songify (small fee)
  - AutoRap (free)

Visual Celebrations: Path On / Swipe to Type

Make It Auditory!

- Voice Changer Plus (free!)
- 55 sound effects & background sounds
- Samples: echo, applause, robot, dark one, bells, helium
- Can save & share first 5 voices for free
Make It Visual & Auditory: Video with Voice Over

- Audacity
- Garage Band

Smoothies
Rap

Share Online!

- E-mail
- YouTube
- Facebook
- Twitter
- Pinterest
- Websites for People Who Use AAC

Any links to add here?

Handout for this session is at:

http://aacgirls.blogspot.com/

http://www.livebinders.com/play/play?
tab_layout=side&id=3360#anchor
REFERENCES


Websites to share:

Look at our tips for writers who use AAC:  Check out: Making Mini-Books (Dec, 04); Stories in a New York Minute (Nov, 05); Celebrating Writing (Mar & April, 09); Writer’s Bingo (Sept, 10, March, 11; Modeled Writing, Dec, 11; );  
http://aacintervention.com/site/cpage.asp?cpage_id=180029278&sec_id=180009852

Great ideas and practical suggestions, including this one from Deanna. Check out how each poem is different, based on the vocabulary preferences of the author.  

Check out the differences in the group and individual color poems about smoothies on this site:  
http://aac-balancedliteracy.wikispaces.com/Student+Poetry+Corner

Student blogging:  
http://sidneydaswick.blogspot.com

Balanced Literacy Livebinder, with links to strategies and resources:  
http://www.livebinders.com/play/play?tab_layout=side&id=3360#anchor

Check out various videos and resources in addition to our app reviews:  
http://spedapps2.wikispaces.com/LINKS

Try out Animoto for 30 sec. videos  
http://animoto.com/play/thI2jpF EjOwIaxaz0mH2DPw

Better yet, Create YouTube slideshows  
http://www.freetech4teachers.com/2013/10/how-to-create-audio-slideshows-in.html#.U7R_3xaBD_8  
http://youtu.be/bDeF8cp1nOk is one of our latest cooking slideshows

Really nice workflow example with photos using Doodle Buddy and My Story apps.  
http://mrstantonsclass.com/category/my-story/

Mind-Mapping Apps overview  
http://appadvice.com/appguides/show/mind-mapping-apps

Narrative Assessment and People who use AAC  