

The Reading - Writing Connection

1. Kids need the right book for them.

- A. Kids will re-read.
- B. Kids will see through the protagonist's eyes.
- C. Kids will connect with the hero emotionally.
- D. Kids will ask questions about the book.

2. Will this book get them writing?

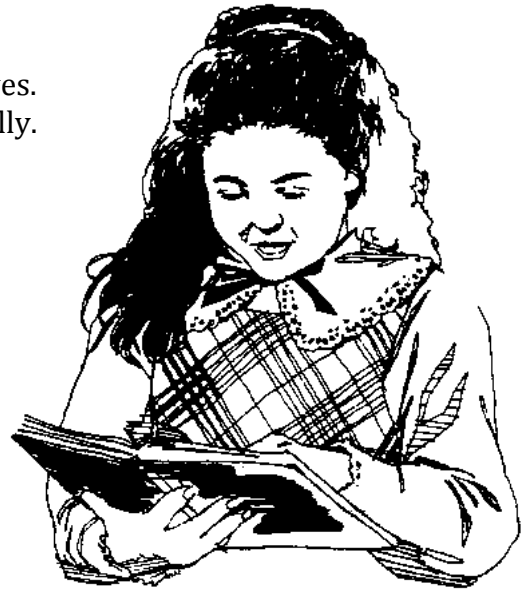
- A. Fan fiction
- B. Sister fiction
- C. Mash-ups
- D. Original writing

3. Signs of early writing.

- A. Writing notebooks
- B. Non-writing stories
- C. Writing starts

4. Ways to build the connection.

- A. Ask writing questions from their reading.
- B. Ask plot questions about their stories.
- C. Encourage risk-taking.*
- D. Ask to read their writing and give useful feedback.
- E. Play "what if."
- F. Believe they can write.



"I hope that in this year to come, you make mistakes.

Because if you are making mistakes, then you are making new things, trying new things, learning, living, pushing yourself, changing yourself, changing your world.

You're doing things you've never done before, and more importantly, you're doing something.

Don't freeze, don't stop, don't worry that it isn't good enough, or it isn't perfect, whatever it is: art, or love, or work, or family or life. Whatever it is you're scared of doing, do it.

Make your mistakes, next year and forever." - Neil Gaiman



* Neil Gaiman, Commencement 2012