

(Write and Share) 2

Purpose:

To foster response by incorporating writing and discussion; to enhance comprehension by considering others' ideas as well as developing one's own.

Materials:

Fiction, nonfiction, and expository text

Procedures:

1. In groups of three to five, students first read the same text.
2. Next students write, quickly jotting down words and phrases that represent their responses to the text. Complete sentences are not necessary; instead, students should make quick notes for their own use only.
3. The first small group discussion follows, with each student sharing his/her notes and all students reacting to the ideas presented.
4. When the first sharing session is concluded, students again write, this time developing their thoughts into prose, using the story, their own initial notes, and the shared responses as the basis for this second writing.
5. Students share this writing with each other and discuss both the text and their reactions to it.
6. To encourage further response, the teacher may ask volunteers to read their final pieces to the whole group. Another alternative is to ask each small group to select one piece to be shared with the larger group.

For more information on (Write and Share)2, see Davidson, J. (1987, June). Writing across the curriculum. Paper presented at the meeting of the Language Experience Special Interest Council, DeKalb, IL.

Source: Rasinski, T., & Padak, N. (1996). Holistic reading strategies: Teaching children who find reading difficult. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Merrill/Prentice Hall. pp