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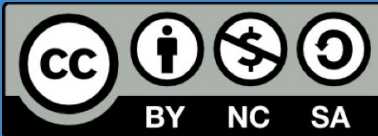
Learning Network
Educational Services



Edmonton Regional
LEARNING CONSORTIUM

the power of

QUICKWRITES

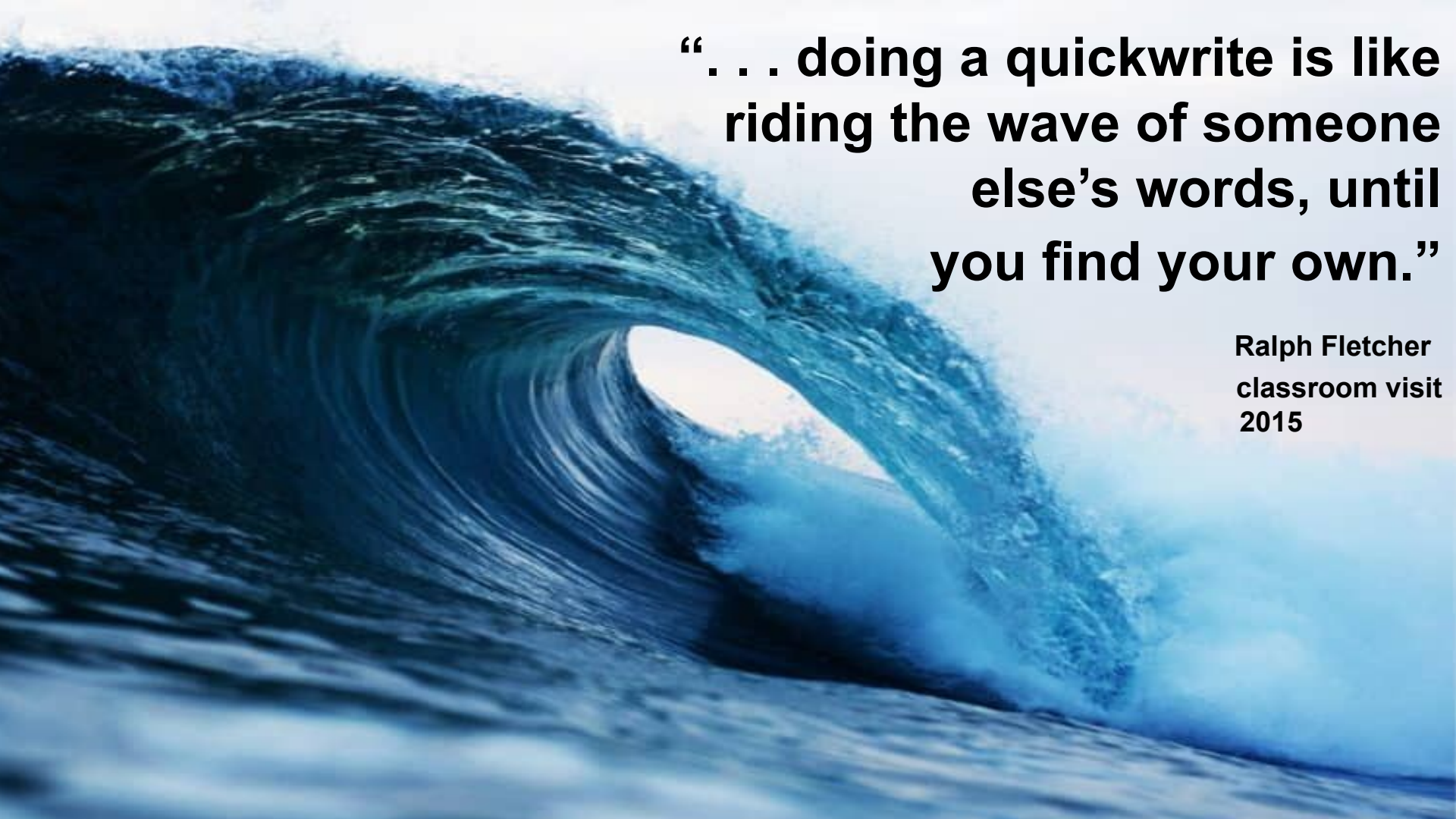




“What happens when our
children can just
unapologetically write
uninterrupted?
When the world is their
prompt?”

Dr.GholdyMuhammad

What is a QUICK-WRITE?



“ . . . doing a quickwrite is like riding the wave of someone else’s words, until you find your own.”

**Ralph Fletcher
classroom visit
2015**

In the words of Linda Rief, “ QUICKWRITES are first draft responses to a short piece of writing, usually no more than one page of poetry or prose, a drawing, an excerpt from a novel or a short picture book. A MENTOR TEXT

QUICKWRITES allow us to write fast without censoring—it’s what the subconscious allows us to say.

Students and teacher write for 2 or 3 minutes off a found idea or borrowed line from a text, responding to something that sparks a reaction in the mind of the reader or listener.

Grades 4-6
(90 min.
ELAL block)

**Conversation Starters
(10)**

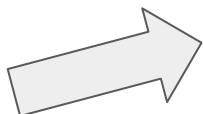
Morphology (20)

**Small Group Reading
Instruction (20)**

**MINI Focus Lesson
Writing/Reading (15)**

Quick Write (10)

**TEACHER READ ALOUD
(15)**



<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
				REVISE a quickwrite already completed



“A [writing] notebook works just like an incubator: a protective place to keep your infant idea safe and warm, a place for it to grow while it is too young, too new, to survive on its own. In time, you may decide to go back to that idea, add to it, change it, or combine it with another idea. In time the idea may grow stronger, strong enough to go out on its own”.

*A Writer's Notebook: Unlocking the
Writer within You*

by Ralph Fletcher

WHERE

do I

start?



I remember...



I wish...



I love...



I'm sad when...

???



WRITING “BESIDE” TEXT



TEXTS are...

NOVELS (INCLUDING GRAPHIC NOVELS AND VERSE NOVELS). SHORT STORIES. FOLK TALES. FAIRY TALES. LEGENDS. PICTURE BOOKS. ESSAYS. ARTICLES. LETTERS. BLOG POSTS. TRANSCRIPTS. INFOGRAPHICS. DIAGRAMS. BROCHURES. PRINT POETRY. SLAM POETRY. SHORT FILM. FEATURE FILM. TV EPISODES. SKETCHES. MUSIC VIDEOS. ADVERTISEMENTS. CARTOONS. PODCASTS. SONGS. LYRICS. SPEECHES. TED TALKS. PLAYS. INTERVIEWS. LIVE PERFORMANCES. NEWS SEGMENTS. POLITICAL CARTOONS. COMIC STRIPS. SOCIAL MEDIA. POSTERS. PHOTOGRAPHS. DRAWINGS. PAINTINGS. ILLUSTRATIONS. AND MORE...

WORDS

- **Imitate it!**
- **What jumps out at you in this writing?**
 - **What do you *notice*?**
 - **What do you *like*?**
- **How are the pieces of this writing put together?**
- **What do you notice about the writer's punctuation?**
- **What do you notice about the writer's word choice?**
- **What can you take from this writer and put into your own version of this sentence/ poem?**

DATA

- **What is this data showing?**
- **What is this data NOT showing?**
- **What do you wonder?**
- **What story (or stories) is this data trying to tell?**
- **What writing might come out of this kind of data?**

IMAGE

- **What do you see?**
- **What do you NOT see?**
- **What do you wonder?**
- **What does this image make you think about?**
- **How does the image make you feel or react?**
- **What is the story behind the image?**
- **What writing might come out of this picture?**

ILLUSTRATION

- **What idea is the illustrator/ writer communicating?**
- **What do you wonder?**
- **What does this illustration make you think about?**
- **How does the illustration make you feel or react?**
- **Make your own version of the same illustration!**
- **What writing might come out of this illustration?**

5 Senses- Set the Stage

#1. Listen to the story

#2. While listening, record words and phrases that help you know it is autumn.

#3. Using words and phrases, describe Autumn

#4. What does it look like, sound like, taste like, feel like, smell like?

#5. Capture the senses that tell the story.





READ ALOUD STORIES FOR KIDS

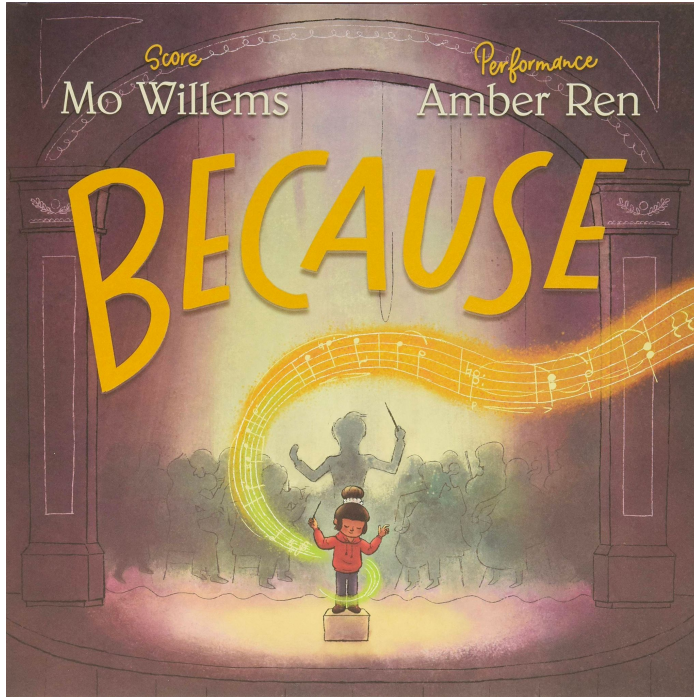


Rich green of the forest
Dusty gold
Swishing sound of summer was fading
Crinkling whisper
Dull, dry and brown
Wind began to blow
brown leaf blew off the tree
Rough bark
Leaves are turning brown



MENTOR TEXTS

“



”

Story
Mo Willems

Performed
Amber Ren

BECAUSE



MENTOR TEXTS

“

”

BECAUSE **this happened**

this happened.....

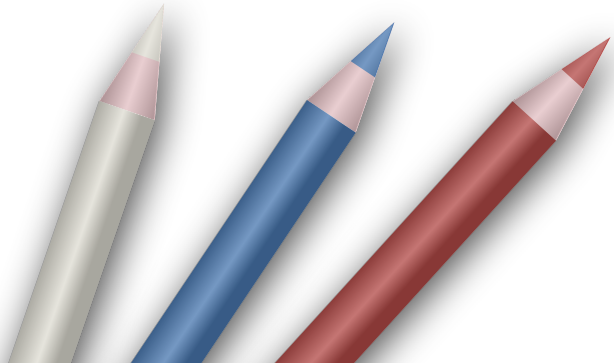
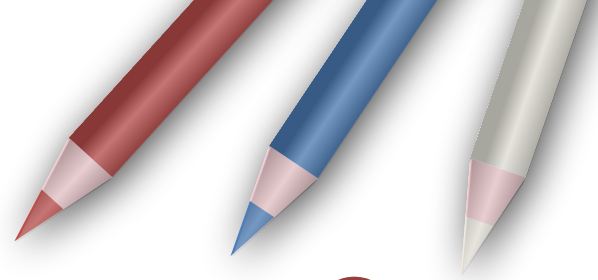


Photo starts







A new
GRAB THE MIC
video series from
Jason Reynolds.

**Write.
Right.
Rite.**



National Ambassador
for Young People's
Literature



Excerpt from *The Running Dream* by Wendelin Van Draanen

I AM A RUNNER.

That's what I do.

That's who I am.

Running is all I know, or want, or care about.

It was a race around the soccer field in third grade that swept me into a real love of running.

Breathing the sweet smell of spring grass.

Sailing over dots of blooming clover.

Beating all the boys.

After that, I couldn't stop. I ran everywhere. Raced everyone.

I loved the wind across my cheeks, through my hair.

Running aired out my soul.

It made me *feel alive*.

And now?

I'm stuck in this bed, knowing I'll never run again.

TRY THIS (as quickly and as specifically as you can for 2–3 minutes)

- ✦ Write out anything this excerpt brings to mind for you.
- ✦ Think about something you are passionate about (something that “airs out your soul,” “makes you feel alive”) and write down everything that makes this activity so important to you.
- ✦ Start with the line “I AM A _____” and fill in the blank, describing all that you do, think, feel, experience while doing this activity.
- ✦ Change the line to “I am not a _____,” expanding on all the reasons why you are not.
- ✦ Her last two lines say she will never run again. What has stopped you from doing something you love doing?



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I am a...

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“Sometimes”

by Kate Messner

**Begin with the
word “Sometimes”
and
write all that
comes to mind.**

Sometimes, on a mountain in April
The rocks are so slippery
You have to slow down
And this is good.
It's when you'll notice
A quiet curtain of moss
That drips with melting snow.
It's when you'll hear the rush
Of streams,
Swooping up tired old leaves
Carrying them off
In dizzy laughter
To somewhere warmer,
Open, free.

First Memory by Georgia Heard

My sister and I are swinging on the swing sets in Texas. The sky is darkening, in the west it scowls a greenish black. The winds have started. My mother stands next to our small brick house on the base, her hair and skirt blowing, calling our names to come in. I hop off my swing and turn around to wait for my sister. She swings higher and higher, her legs sticking out straight in front of her. A tornado is coming. My mother can barely walk now because the wind is so strong. She walks toward my sister, who jumps off the swing, spraining her ankle. My mother carries her in her arms, and I follow behind.

This is the first conscious imprint on my mind. I was five and my father was in the army and stationed in Texas. A tornado was approaching and my sister wouldn't come inside. From the time I was born until that afternoon I had lived five years but I can't remember anything. What happened to these memories? This first memory is significant to me, the fact that I remember it at all. A storm coming. Perhaps I felt something in the air—my parents' eventual divorce, my tumultuous relationship with my sister when we were children.

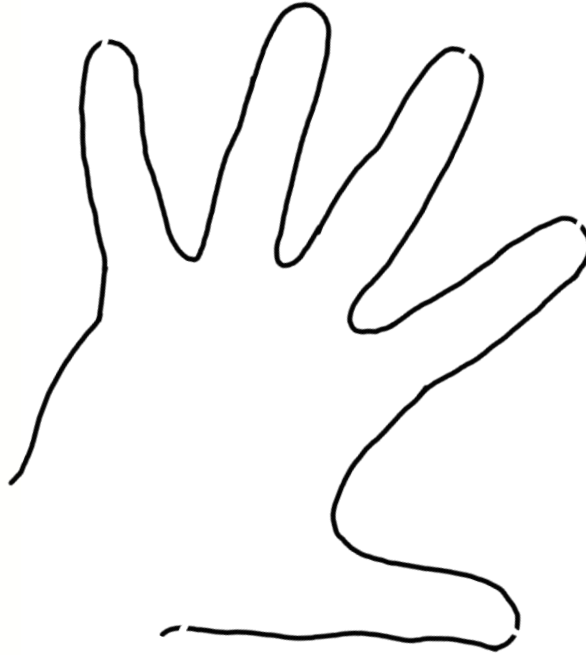
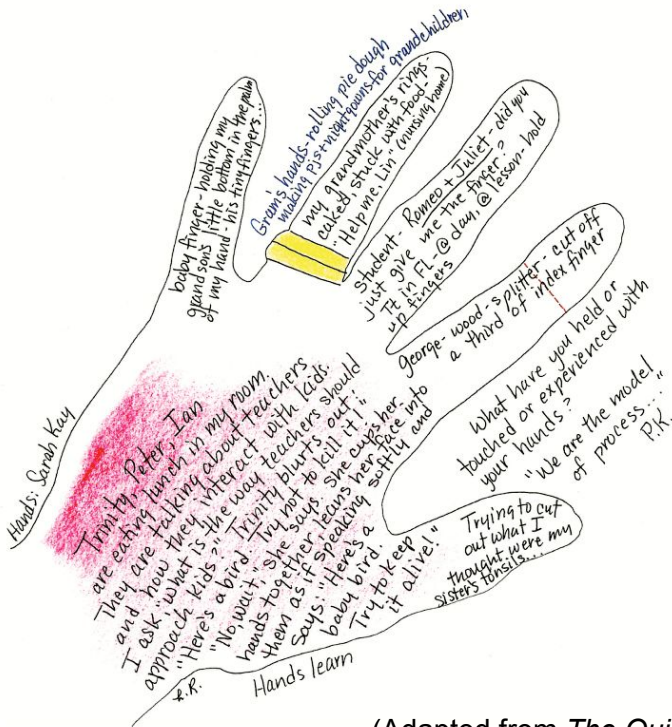
(Adapted from *The Quickwrite Handbook* by Linda Rief)

TRY THIS!

- ✦ Write out anything this vignette brings to mind for you.
- ✦ Write down your first memory. Let this first memory simmer for a while. Go back to it and see if you can figure out what sits underneath that memory. Why is it memorable? Why do you think you remember it?
- ✦ Georgia Heard asks: "Is there any significance to this image in your current life?" Write out what you think about any connections.


My Hand by Linda Rief

Trace the outline of your hand onto a blank page in your writer's-reader's notebook or onto any blank piece of paper, just as I have done here. Leave it blank for the moment while your teacher shows a video of Sarah Kay speaking aloud her poem "Hands."



- ◆ Underneath, or around, the outline of your hand, jot down any phrases from Sarah Kay's poem that jump out at you and/or remind you of something in your own life or the world around you.
- ◆ Borrow one of those lines or phrases and write down all that comes to mind, letting the line lead your thinking and writing.
- ◆ When you have more time, on each finger in the sketch of your hand, jot down phrases that will get you back to a story connected to your hand or that particular finger—"a story that shows something that you have held or touched or experienced with that hand or finger." (Penny Kittle)

(Adapted from *The Quickwrite Handbook* (2018) by Linda Rief)



DVDfab.com



WHERE DOES THE MUSIC MOVE YOU?

What picture is
created in your mind
while listening?

What do you hear that
makes you say that?

What other visions do
you see?

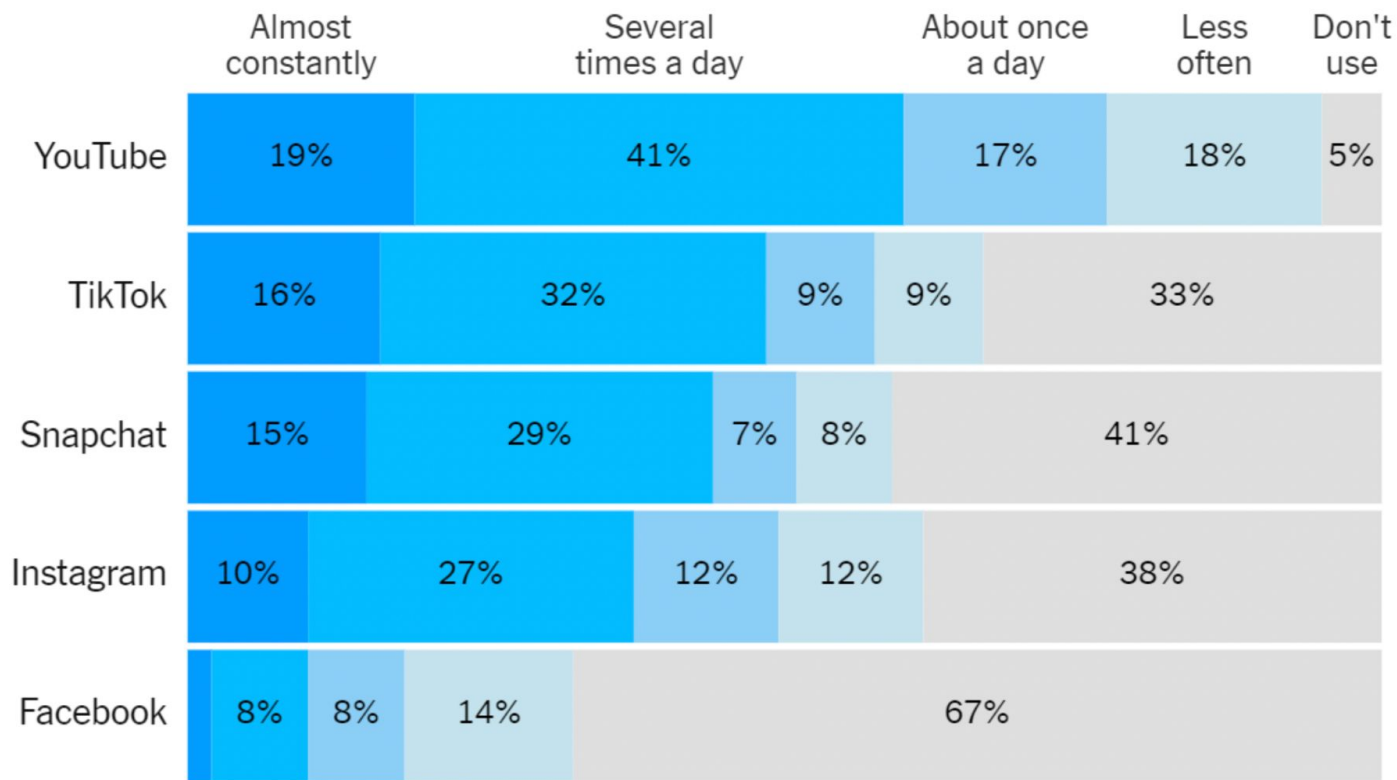
Example
music
prompts

- List 3 songs that remind you of your childhood. ...
- If you could take one album to a deserted island, what would it be and why?
- What bands did you listen to as a teenager? ...
- What's the best concert you've ever been to? ...
- Write out the lyrics to one of your favourite songs.





How Often Teens Say They Use Each Platform

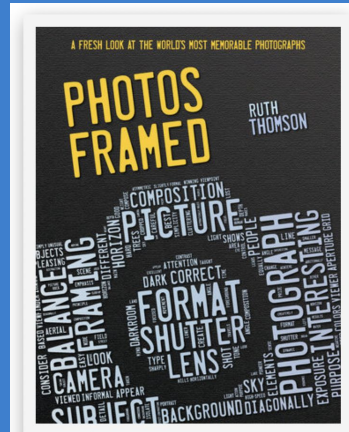
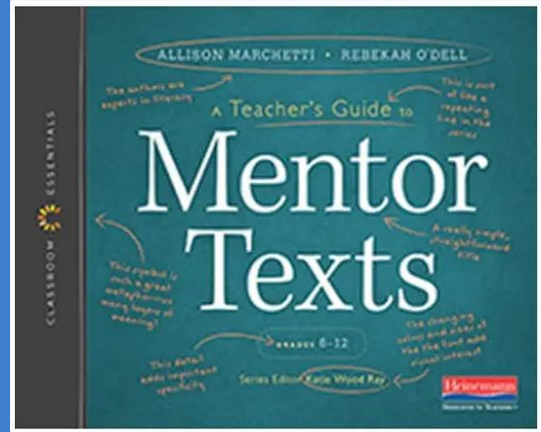
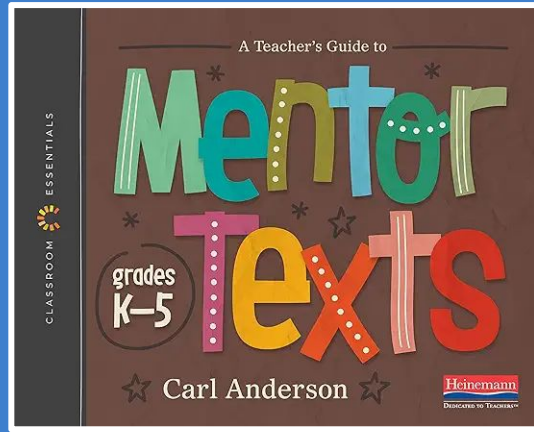
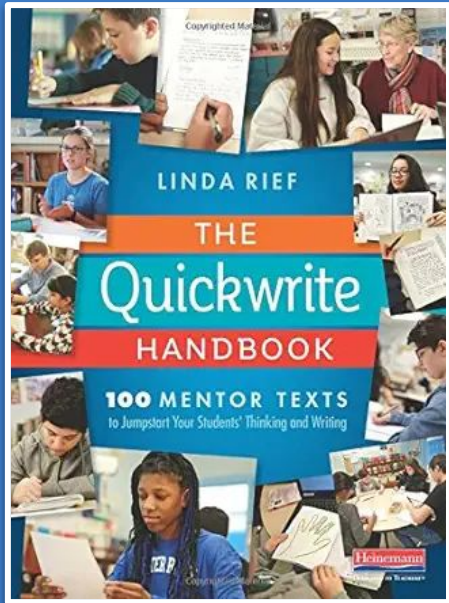


Note: Among teens ages 13 to 17. Those who did not give an answer are not shown. Figures are rounded. • Source: Pew Research Center survey conducted April 14-May 4, 2022 • The New York Times



RESOURCES

The word "RESOURCES" is rendered in a large, bold, white, sans-serif font with a slight 3D effect. It is centered and surrounded by a vibrant, abstract composition of overlapping geometric shapes. These shapes include solid-colored squares and rounded rectangles in shades of orange, blue, green, yellow, and pink. Interspersed among these are dashed lines in the same color palette, creating a sense of movement and connectivity. The overall design is modern and energetic, set against a plain white background.



... resources cont'd ...

- The Twitter account History in Pictures (@HistoryInPics). Caution: Not all are student-friendly, so make sure you preview them first.
- The Daily Infographic: <http://www.dailyinfographic.com>
- The Wordless News: <http://wordlessnews.com>
- Instagram accounts for National Geographic @natgeo and the U.S. Department of the Interior @usinterior
- “What’s Going On in This Picture?” from the *New York Times*
- Lens blog from the *New York Times*
- ***Kidsthinkwide.com
- ***Once upon a picture- images to inspire
- 525 prompts for Narrative Writing

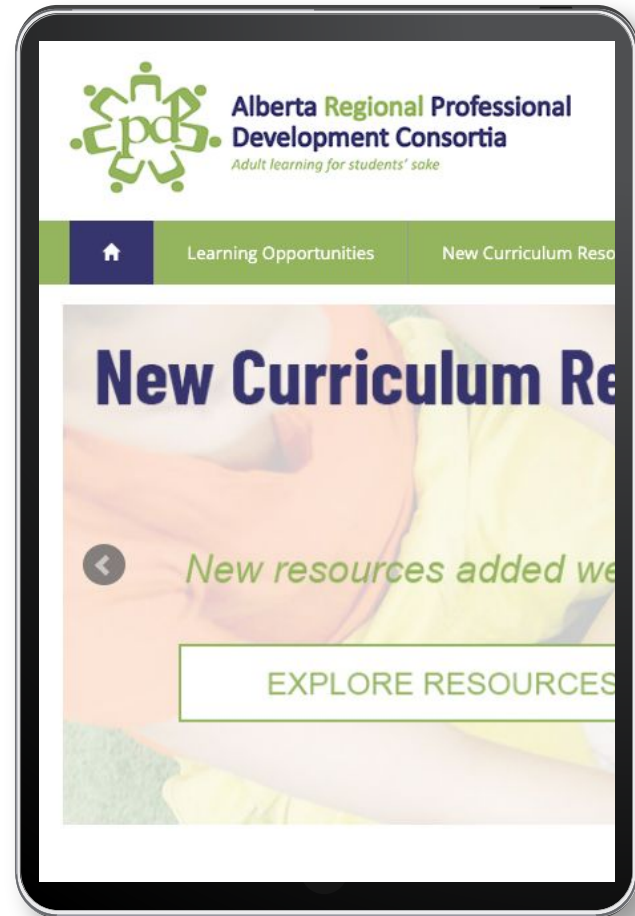


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