

Read Alouds and Resources: Organization

Read Alouds/Shared Reading to Illustrate Organization

- ❖ ***The Secret Shortcut*** by M. Teague Using Sequencing Words to Move a Reader Through a Story
- ❖ ***The Magic Fan*** by K. Baker Sequencing and Transition Words in a Story
- ❖ ***Three Cheers for Catherine the Great*** Great Ending (Immigration) Seed ideas for writing family histories
- ❖ ***Switch on the Night*** by R. Bradbury Recurring Line, Compare the beginning and ending (fable)
- ❖ ***Butterfly House*** by E. Bunting Descriptive (life cycle of a caterpillar) using passage of time as the organizational device
- ❖ ***Grandpa Never Lies*** by R. Fletcher Recurring Line (story of Grandfather and Grandson)
- ❖ ***Circle of Thanks*** by S.G. Fowler Descriptive (Alaskan Tundra) using the seasons as the organizational device
- ❖ ***The Good Luck Cat*** by J. Harjo Descriptive with great introduction and conclusion
- ❖ ***Rocks in his Head*** by C.O. Hurst Recurring Line (Great Depression)
- ❖ ***Sisters*** by D. McPhail Descriptive (first how sisters are different, then how they are alike, giving specific examples. Great concluding sentence)
- ❖ ***The Journey of Oliver K Woodman*** by D. Pattison Friendly Letters
- ❖ ***Rimshots*** by C.R. Smith Jr. Collection of lists, poems, short essays, stories and observations about basketball. Shows how to organize different pieces of writing around a common theme
- ❖ ***Help Me, Mr. Mutt! Expert answers for Dogs with People Problems*** by J. Stevens Friendly Letters
- ❖ ***The Z was Zapped*** Uses the alphabet as an organizer (action sentences for each letter)
- ❖ ***Courage*** by B. Waber Organizing a descriptive piece around one word
- ❖ ***Old Macdonald had an Apartment House*** by J. Barrett Using the "rule of three" when listing examples
- ❖ ***Mom's Best Friend*** by S.H. Alexander Organizing descriptive, first person (from Houghton Mifflin p368)
- ❖ ***Volcanoes*** by S. Simon Organizing informational pieces (from Houghton Mifflin p84)

Resources

- ❖ **6+1 Traits Ruth Culham-**
 - Chapter Three: Organization p68-99

❖ **Craft Lessons Ralph Fletcher (blue book)**

3rd-4th Grade Lessons:

1. *Using Cut and Paste p49 (3rd-4th)
2. *Crafting a Lead p66 (3rd-4th)
3. The Give-Away Lead p67 (3rd-4th)
4. *Experiment with Endings p68 (3rd-4th)
5. The Circular Ending p69 (3rd-4th)
6. Emotional Endings p70 (3rd-4th)
7. Surprise Endings p71 (3rd-4th)

5th-8th Grade Lessons:

1. *Deciding Where to Begin p80 (5th-8th)
2. *Writing the No-Time Narrative p81 (5th-8th)
3. *Selecting the Right Lead p83 (5th-8th)
4. *The Recurring Line p86 (5th-8th)
5. The Circular Ending p103 (5th-8th)

**These lessons are particularly great and successful!*

❖ **Nonfiction Craft Lessons Ralph Fletcher (green book)**

3rd-4th Grade Lessons:

1. Exploratory: Using Questions to Outline p51 (3rd-4th)
2. Outlining the Beginning, Middle and End p52 (3rd-4th)
3. Writing an Introduction p57 (3rd-4th)
4. Writing in Paragraph Form p58 (3rd-4th)
5. Writing a Topic Sentence p59 (3rd-4th)
6. Using Subheadings to Organize Information p60 (3rd-4th)
7. Writing a Strong Lead for a Biography p70 (3rd-4th)

5th-8th Grade Lessons:

8. Exploratory: Coming up with Good Questions p83 (5th-8th)
9. Using Subheadings to Organize Information p86 (5th-8th)
10. Sharpening Your Lead p87 (5th-8th)
11. Writing a Narrative Lead p88 (5th-8th)
12. Making Transitions Between Paragraphs p93 (5th-8th)
13. Varying Placement of Topic Sentences p95 (5th-8th)
14. End with a Bang! P106 (5th-8th)

❖ **Interactive Read-Alouds 2nd-3rd**

Organization Lesson 1: *Tuesday*

Organization Lesson 2: *The Important Book*

❖ **Interactive Read-Alouds 4th-5th**

Organization Lesson 1: *Lincoln: A Photobiography*

Organization Lesson 2: *The Z was Zapped*

❖ www.writingfix.com