

# Authors at All Ages:

Building Ownership in Student Writing Groups

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Please respond in writing:

Why is it important for students to take ownership of their writing?

## Process Pedagogy

### “Writing as a Process”:

- Routine, Recursive, Reflective
- Keeping the Process Going
- Authors Guiding Discussions
- Thinking (and Talking) Like Writers

## Author's Notes

An Author's Note, oral or written, gives responders crucial context:

- Statement of where the text is in the process of development
- Writer's assessment of the piece
- General sort of response desired & specific questions to answer



# Implementation in a Middle School Classroom

*Guidelines for Teachers and Students*

## Implementation

### Teachers are:

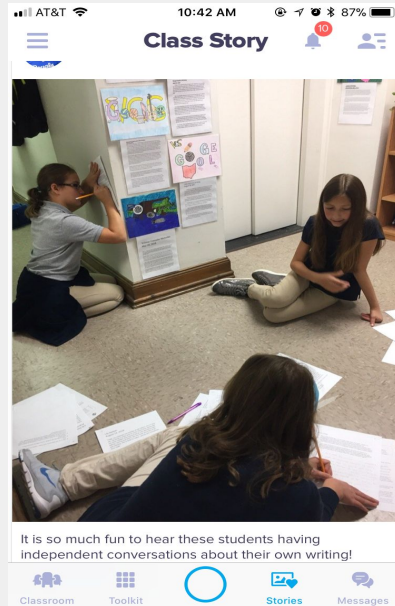
- **Committed**--In preparation for writing groups, several periods of SSW are necessary each week.
- **Consistent**--The same carefully-selected students meet together every week.
- **Coaches**--Initially, teach, model, and role play procedures. Eventually, give reminders and solicit student feedback. Finally, enjoy observing students' meaningful discussions of their writing.

## Implementation

### Students are:

- **Engaged Listeners and Speakers**--Students must read aloud to an audience of their peers and listen with a purpose to the writing of others.
- **Effective Thinkers**--Open-ended author's notes force students to critically evaluate their own writing and the writing of others.
- **Empowered Writers**--Writers take ownership of their writing and their personal writing process.

# Student Demonstration





Adaptation for  
various grade  
levels

Elementary Grades

Middle School

High School

## It's Your Turn!!

1. Write an author's note or two for your writing from the beginning of this session. Feel free to use the question stems from your handout (two minutes).
2. Conduct a mini writing group at your table. Give each member two minutes each. Remember to follow the guidelines: read aloud, don't apologize, wait for the reader to finish, only respond to author's notes.

## Your Classroom

How might student-led writing groups fit in my classroom?

- Use the brainstorming handout to think, plan, and discuss at your table.