

Summary of a Framework for Teaching Writing Genres

- **Find out what kids know about the genre, and chart their responses.**
- **Gather lots of appropriate examples of the genre, and have students examine these materials with your guidance.** Examples may include reading aloud, browsing materials, having students work in pairs or small groups with materials, and so on. (*immersion, demonstration*)
- **Discuss and chart, “What makes a good [blank]?”** (*shared demonstration*)
- **Write in the genre together as a class.** (*shared demonstration*)
- **Identify additional criteria for what to include when writing in the genre.** (*shared demonstration*)
- **Prepare to write.** Have students gather resources, brainstorm ideas, converse with others, plan, perhaps conduct interviews and generate a list of questions. (*guided practice*)
- **Write for a sustained period in the form of the genre for an authentic audience and purpose.** (*independent practice*)
- **Confer with students and teach what’s needed.** (*guided and independent practice*)
- **Publish and share with the intended audience.** (*celebration and independent practice*)
- **Encourage students to write more pieces in the genre.** (*independent practice*)

slightly adapted from *Writing Essentials* by Regie Routman (Heinemann: Portsmouth, NH), © 2005; pp.