Prewriting Ideas

Use these prewriting ideas to help you find writing topics. You may also use these ideas to help you focus, explore, or narrow your topic. Note: These activities have been addressed to the children, as you will be reading the activities aloud to them.

► Brainstorming places  List interesting places you have visited. Choose one place. Tell what you did there.

► Picking an object  Choose an object from your room or home that reminds you of a special time. Tell a partner the story of when you received the object, what happened, and why the object is special to you.

► Brainstorming people  List people you have met. Choose one person. Tell something interesting about the person.

► Drawing  Draw a picture of something fun that you have done. Show who was there and what happened.

► Telling stories  Tell a story about something you did. Have one or two people listen to your story. Tell them what happened and how it made you feel. Let them ask questions about things they do not understand.

► Using puppets  Make sack puppets for yourself and every other character in the story. Use your puppets to act out your story.

► Drawing a comic strip  Draw a series of pictures that shows something special you have done with a family member.

► Using sense stars  Draw a star and label each point with one of the five senses (see, touch, taste, hear, smell). Write a personal narrative topic in the center of the star. Touch each point of the star and tell a partner about what you saw, felt, tasted, heard, or smelled.