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 a topic. Note: These activities have been addressed to the children, as you will be reading the activities aloud to them.

- **Drawing story characters** Draw pictures of characters you would like to include in your story. Show what each character likes to do and what the character looks like. Include as many details as possible.

- **Brainstorming characters** Brainstorm a list of your favorite story characters. Then pick one or two that you like best. Think about what you like about these characters. Write words that describe how the characters look, feel, and act. Then think about characters for your own story.

- **Brainstorming problems** List problems your characters might encounter. Then choose one problem, circle it, and draw a picture of the problem.

- **Telling stories** Tell a story to a small group. Be sure to tell the beginning, middle, and end. Let others ask questions they have about each story.

- **Using puppets** Make a finger puppet for each character in the story. Use your puppets to act out your story.

- **Picturing a place** Close your eyes and picture a place where your characters might live. Think about all the things your characters might see there. Draw a picture or write words that tell about what the characters do in this place.

- **Drawing a comic strip** Draw a series of pictures that shows the beginning, middle, and end of your story. Add as many details as possible.

- **Having a conversation** Have a conversation with a partner about an imaginary event. Pretend to be characters in the story.

- **Acting it out** In a group, take turns suggesting possible story events. Take turns acting out the scenes with a partner. Make up character names and speak with expression.