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.

- **Brainstorming sense words**  Use your senses to see, hear, smell, taste, and feel things. List the words you think of on a sheet of paper.

- **Picking a toy**  Bring a favorite toy from home. Describe it to a partner. Have your partner jot down words you use to describe the toy.

- **Picturing your room**  Close your eyes and picture your room. Think about the things in your room that are special to you. Draw a picture or write words that tell about something special in your room.

- **Using sense stars**  Draw a star and label each point with one of the five senses (see, touch, taste, hear, smell). Write a topic in the center of the star. Touch each point of the star and imagine using that sense. Say sense words aloud while a partner jots them down.

- **Looking at art**  Look at paintings, photos, or magazine pictures of places. Share sense words with classmates or your teacher that tell what you would see, hear, or feel if you were in each place.

- **Listening to music**  Listen to a piece of classical music with your class. Share sense words that tell about what you hear, or list your ideas on a sheet of chart paper.

- **Picturing a place**  Close your eyes and picture a place that you would like to visit. Think about all the things you might see, touch, or hear there. Write descriptive words or draw a picture that tells about the special place.

- **Drawing pictures**  Draw a detailed picture about your topic, and write a sentence or two about your drawing.

- **Listening to nature sounds**  Go outside with your class and pick a quiet spot. Listen to the sounds around you, such as the wind blowing or birds chirping. Write down descriptive words that tell about what you hear.

The caterpillar is bright green and fuzzy. It has many legs.