**Writing Strategy**

**Chain Writing**

**Purpose**

* Motivates resistant writers while providing learning and scaffolding through social interactions. Stronger writers and those with greater content knowledge aid in learning for the struggling student.
* Aids in increasing vocabulary, content comprehension, and writing skills in a way that is fun and non-threatening, while building classroom culture.
* Provides an audience for a more authentic writing experience.
* Acts as an informal assessment tool.

**Directions**

* Provide students with a topic you want them to write about
* Ask students to call out vocabulary words or events related to that topic, and write them on the board.
* Divide students into groups of 5 or 6, or use as a whole group activity.
* You might want to provide a “story starter” for the students.
* Each student will write one sentence of the story. Encourage them to use the vocabulary words on the board.
* Students will then pass their paper to the student on their right.
* Students will add another sentence to their classmate’s story, and pass the paper on.
* Repeat this process until each student has added a line to each story.
* The most fun part: Have students read the story they started out loud to the class!

**Examples**

Ask students to write a story about events that led up to The American Revolution.

Related Vocabulary might be events such as… The Stamp Act, The Sugar Tax, The Boston Massacre, et cetera

Provide a story starter such as… “One day, a Virginia man named Samuel went to the store to buy some…”

Have students finish this sentence, and then begin rotating their papers with their classmates until each student has written one sentence on each story.

When finished, have students read the story they started out loud to the class.

