



SOLAR SEEDS Science Fiction

NOTE: This lesson can address the following Common Core State Standards: CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.K.3, W.1.3, W.2.3, W.3.3, W.3.3.A, W.3.3.B, W.3.3.C, W.3.3.D, W.4.3, W.4.3.A, W.4.3.B, W.4.3.C, W.4.3.D, W.4.3.E, W.5.3, W.5.3.A, W.5.3.B, W.5.3.C, W.5.3.D, W.5.3.E, L.K.2, L.1.2, L.2.2, L.3.2, L.3.2.C, L.4.2, L.4.2.B and L.5.2.

This is a great lesson for practicing dialogue and writing Science Fiction.

Now for the lesson!

1. Tell the story line to your writers: "You are eating sunflower seeds. Suddenly, you have a special super power related to the sun. You either keep it and use it or find a way to get rid of it."

2. Brainstorm sun related super powers. Examples include:
 - A person gives off extreme heat.
 - A person gives off extreme brightness.
 - The sunflower seeds blind people.
 - A person's mouth shoots flames.
 - A person creates electricity as needed.

3. Show the 5 sections on the board:
 - a. Dialogue
 - b. Introduce the characters
 - c. All of a sudden,
 - d. Reaction/Action
 - e. Solution/Conclusion

Remember: K-1st Graders are encouraged to write 1 sentence for each section,
2nd Graders 2 sentences, 3rd Graders 3 sentences and so on.



Now to write!

Guide the students through the following steps. They are free to use their own words. Remind them that ANYTHING can happen in their story as long as they follow the steps to keep their story organized. *There is a K-1st example in italics for your own guidance.*

1. Begin the story with a conversation:

"These seeds are good," Kate said.

NOTE: If you want your student(s) to practice punctuating dialogue, start off slow. Verbalize the following steps for your writers:

- a. Write the opening quotation marks.
- b. Write what the character is saying. Begin the sentence with a capital letter.
- c. Finish the sentences with a ?, ! or comma.
- d. Write the closing quotation marks.
- e. Write who said it.

2. Name the main characters and write about the snack.

Kate was eating sunflower seeds for the first time at school.

3. Write about what happens suddenly.

All of a sudden, her hands got really bright.

4. Write the characters' reactions and actions.

"I can't see!" the students shouted.

NOTE: If you are working with older students, this is a good time to encourage them to SHOW the reactions and feelings by describing in detail the character's actions.

For example, if a character is shocked, a student can write:

Kate froze. She didn't say anything. Her eyes were wide open.

5. Write how the problem is solved and thoughts for the future.

Kate stopped eating the seeds and the light went away.