



## Strawberry Stress—Fantasy



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.

The strawberries are stressed out! They're worried about being picked, smashed, cooked, trapped and eaten. They want an escape!

Now for the lesson!

1. Tell the story line to your writers: "A character is picking strawberries. Suddenly the strawberries start talking, asking the character to help them escape."
2. Brainstorm what the strawberries could say to get the character's attention:
  - Pssst. Can you help us?
  - Hey! Can you hear me?
  - Over here! We're over here! Come this way!

Brainstorm the strawberries' thoughts and wishes:

- Take us home and plant us behind your fence.
  - Just throw me over there where people won't see me.
  - We're really delicate. We'll stain your clothes!
  - Can you just put us in a pot in your house?
  - Can you just put us in your freezer? We won't get mashed and we'll stay strong
  - Can you take us to Disney World?
  - Can you just take us to Strawberry Shortcake? She'll take care of us!
3. Show the 5 sections:
    - a. Dialogue (a strawberry speaks)
    - b. Introduce the characters
    - c. Problem
    - d. Reaction/Action
    - e. Solution/Conclusion
  4. Show the expectations:

K-1<sup>st</sup> Graders are encouraged to write 1 sentence for each section, 2<sup>nd</sup> Graders-2 sentences, 3<sup>rd</sup> Graders-3 sentences. 4<sup>th</sup> Graders-4 sentences, 5<sup>th</sup> Graders-5 sentences



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 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade example in italics for your own guidance.*

1. Begin the story with a conversation:

*"Hey! Can you hear me?" one strawberry said. "Over here!"*

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. Second, name the main characters and write about the conversation.

*Kai and his mom were out picking strawberries. "Did you just say something?" Kai asked the strawberry.*

3. Write about the strawberry and its problem.

*"Yeah! I do not want to be here. Please, throw me over that fence," the strawberry said.*

4. Write the characters reactions and actions.

*Kai was shocked. "Okay," he whispered so his mom wouldn't hear him.*

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:

*"Throw me over that fence," the strawberry answered. Kai froze. He didn't say anything. His eyes were wide open.*

5. Write about how the problem gets solved and any thoughts for the future.

*Kai carefully put the strawberry over the fence. Then, he picked more strawberries as if nothing even happened.*

6. Add an easy art accent. Students can draw and color one or many strawberries around the border of their writing. They can add googly eyes to their strawberries too!