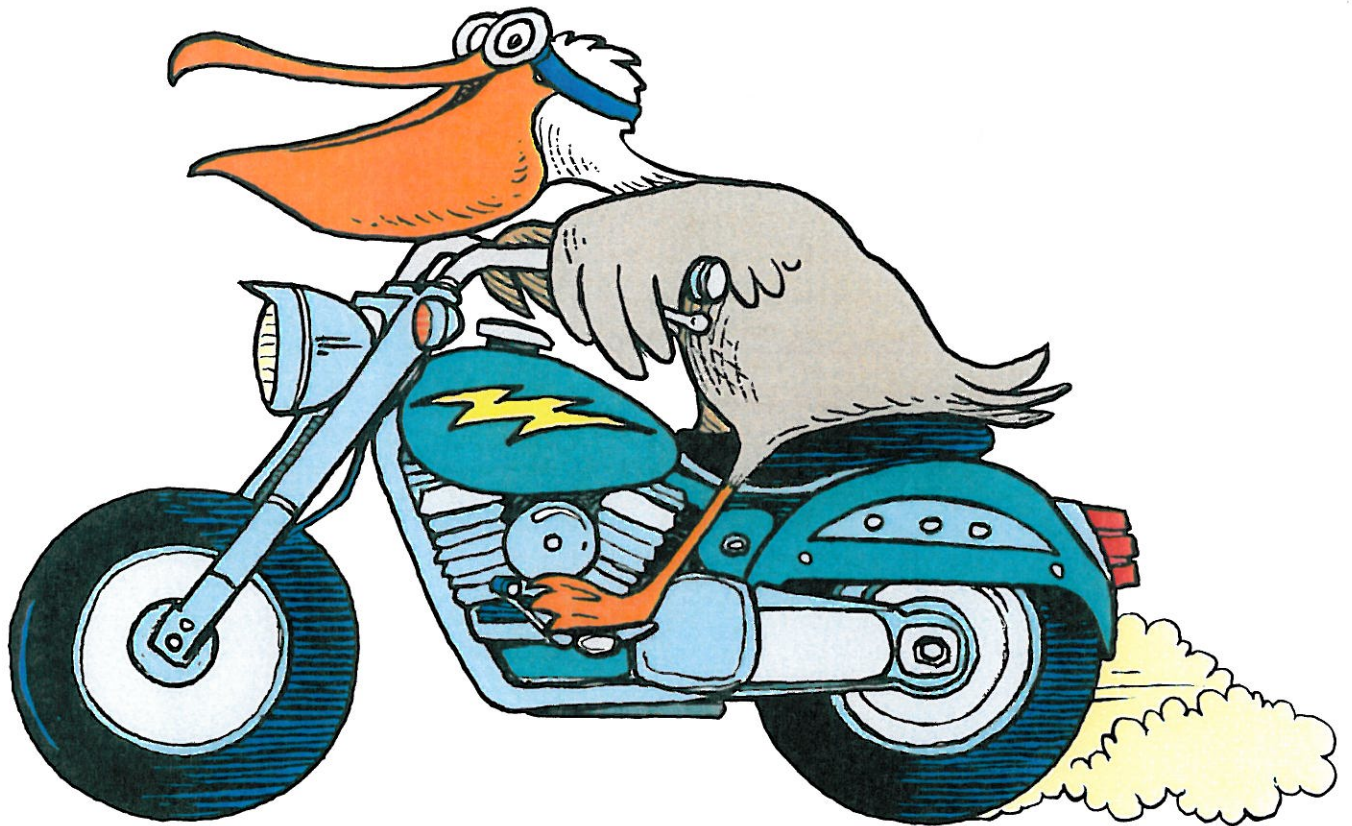


MELISSA FORNEY'S  
INTERMEDIATE  
WRITING WORKSHOP



**Rev Your Engines!**

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# MELISSA FORNEY'S INTERMEDIATE

## WRITING WORKSHOP

**"Rev Your Engines!"**

### AGENDA



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

1. Content
  - a. Focus
  - b. Beginning, Middle, Ending
  - c. Supporting With Reasons and Details
2. Creativity Skills
  - a. Hyperbole, Alliteration, Appositives, Idioms, Dialogue, Writing in Threes, Adjectives, Strong Verbs, How Adverbs, Prepositional Phrases, Similes, Metaphors, Transitional Phrases, Supporting with Reasons and Details, Specific Emotion Words, Specific Sensory Words, Onomatopoeia, Grabbers, Sizzling Vocabulary, Zingers, Takeaway Endings, Conclusions
  - b. Pitfalls to Avoid
  - c. How Creativity Skills Influence Scores
3. Conventions
  - a. Grammar
  - b. Handwriting
  - c. Punctuation
  - d. Spelling
  - e. Capital Letters
4. Scoring
5. What Children Respond To
  - a. The Tone of Your Voice
  - b. Color
  - c. Organization
  - d. Manipulatives
  - e. Touch and Movement
  - f. Food
  - g. Music
  - h. Being Taught by Older Kids
6. How Children Learn
  - a. Visual
  - b. Auditory and Oral
  - c. Touch and Motion
7. The Importance of Modeling
8. The Importance of Prewriting Activities
  - a. Brainstorming
  - b. Drawing
  - c. Talking it Through
  - d. Giving Kids "Money in the Bank"

# Writing Tricks: Skills that Create Writing Superstars!

By Melissa Forney



1. Hyperbole



2. Alliteration



3. Appositives



4. Idioms



5. Dialogue Tricks



6. Writing in "Threes"



7. Adjectives

...Writing Tricks: Skills that Create Writing Superstars!



8. Strong Verbs



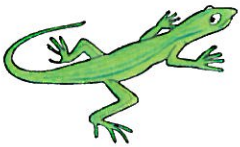
9. "How" Adverbs



10. Prepositional Phrases



11. Similes



12. Metaphors



13. Transitional Phrases



14. Supporting with Reasons and Details

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15. Specific Emotion Words



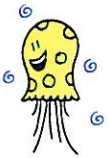
16. Specific Sensory Words



17. Onomatopoeia



18. Grabbers



19. Sizzling Vocabulary



20. Zingers



21. Takeaway Endings



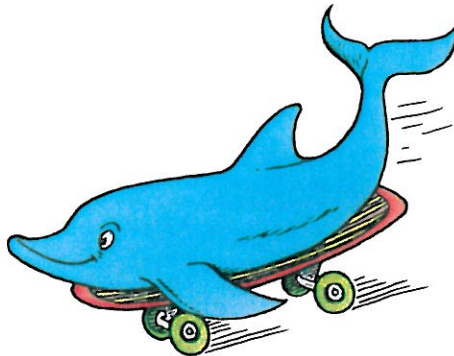
22. Conclusions

# VOCABULATORS®

These are great fun to make and provide creative experiences for your class to enjoy and interact with words. Try making one or two and adding a few more as you introduce new subjects and themes throughout the year. This is a great project for 4th and 5th grade kids to make in small groups to add to your classroom set.

Mediums for Vocabulators:

couscous  
rice  
orzo  
bird seed  
sugar  
Kosher salt  
alphabet macaroni  
cake sprinkles  
sand  
coffee grains  
sequins  
gravel  
dried beans or peas



How to Dye Raw Pasta:

Pour any kind of raw, dry pasta into a glass bowl in your sink. Cover the pasta with rubbing alcohol. Rubbing alcohol is inexpensive and it usually takes only 1-2 bottles, depending on the size of the bottles. Add one bottle of liquid food coloring for blue, green, yellow, purple, and orange. Add two bottles of liquid food coloring for red or black. Publix and Winn-Dixie now sell black liquid food coloring as well as neon colors that work well. Be sure to use two full bottles of red food dye if you choose to dye your pasta red.

Let the pasta soak in the alcohol dye for an hour. Stir every 15 minutes. Drain the pasta with a slotted spoon onto a cookie sheet that has been lined with a thick layer of paper towels. Spread out the pasta. Let this dry overnight in a well-ventilated area or out in your garage. The next day, transfer the dyed pasta to another cookie sheet or a low, flat box and let it air out for several days. Now it is dyed, very hard, and ready to use.

To Make the Vocabulators:

Choose a large, clear, plastic canister. These are available at most discount stores such as Wal-Mart, Big Lots, K-Mart, Target, etc. They are also available at Bed, Bath, and Beyond. Fill the canister 2/3 full with the medium you choose for your theme. Add 6-15 toys and miniatures that go with your theme. Use small objects. Make sure to not overfill the canister.

Print the words you will use for your theme on your computer or a Dymo labeler. Glue or stick them on two layers of heavy scrapbooking paper that have been glued together so they are very stiff. Be sure to glue the words to both sides of the double paper so they can be read from either side through the canister. Cut these apart with a paper cutter and add them to the canister with the toys and medium of the same theme.

**GLUE THE LID OF YOUR VOCABULATOR SHUT** with a hot-glue gun. Now you are ready for your kids to have fun interacting with the words and toys!

How to Use Vocabulators:

Let small groups of children play with the Vocabulators on the floor or the rug. The object is for one kid to turn the Vocabulator over on its side so that not much is showing but the medium. Gently shake the canister from side to side so that the words and toys will "pop up" to the surface. Take turns reading the words that pop up, look at the toys, discuss how to use these words in our writing, etc.

