

Lesson 7: Inspire Young Authors with DIY Storybooks

Learning Objectives

- Plan and organize an original story using a storyboard format.
- Write sentences with proper sequence and descriptive detail.
- Illustrate scenes that support and enhance written meaning.
- Publish a final storybook to build confidence and motivation.

Materials Needed

- Lulu Jr. Illustory Book Making Kit
- Pencils, erasers, colored pencils, or markers
- Sticky notes or small cards for revision reminders
- Timer for short focused writing sessions (8–12 minutes)

Lesson Flow (3–5 Sessions)

- 1 Session 1 – Brainstorm & Plan: Choose a story idea, create a title, and outline 6–10 pages using the storyboard.
- 2 Session 2 – Write the First Draft: Write 1–2 sentences per page, focusing on a beginning, middle, and end.
- 3 Session 3 – Revise & Edit: Improve sentences with descriptive words and check capitalization, spacing, and punctuation.
- 4 Session 4 – Illustrate: Draw and color each page to match the story action and tone.
- 5 Session 5 – Publish & Celebrate: Review pages, complete kit forms, and send for printing. Celebrate the new author!

Differentiation

- Support: Provide page prompts (e.g., 'Once there was...') and allow oral dictation for sentences.
- On-Level: Require complete sentences and one adjective or verb per page.
- Advanced: Encourage dialogue, chapter titles, and a back-cover author bio.

Assessment & Reflection

- Checklist: Story has beginning, middle, and end; sentences are complete and capitalized.
- Peer Feedback: Students give one positive note and one suggestion ("Glow & Grow").
- Author Reflection: Write 2–3 sentences about what they learned and enjoyed most.

Extensions & Family Connection

- Record a digital read-aloud of the storybook and share with family or classmates.
- Create a classroom or homeschool 'author wall' featuring student books.
- Write a nonfiction 'How-To' story (e.g., How to Make a Sandwich, How to Plant Seeds).

Wrap-Up

Encourage pride in publishing! Each completed book represents ownership of learning, creativity, and language growth. Display or share copies to motivate future writing projects.