Writing Project Boards

During any unit of instruction, it's really helpful to have a "project board" on display showing each step of the process as students work on their projects. Simply set aside a space on a bulletin board for this, and after you model each step in a process with the students using shared or modeled writing, simply post that exemplar, list the steps you used, and label the parts of the text as needed.

This is an excellent way to help all students stay on track, or get back on track after missing school. You can also use the project board as a classroom management tool by having students put a post-it or clothespin with their name on it next to the stage of the project they are currently working on. This "status of the class" visual will help you see at a glance how students are keeping up, or needing further assistance. Place the project board next to the rubric you are using for the unit and the anchor papers or exemplars for further explanation. You could even add due dates to each step as a reminder. Here are some photos of writing project boards:



Samples follow.

Writing Project Boards Samples





When teachers post examples of the steps of the writing process based on pieces of writing they have modeled for their students, young writers have a concrete reference point for what is meant by each phase of the process.

This is a great management tool for tracking the status of the class as they work through a project. The teacher can simply point to each sample and say, for example, "Raise your hand if you have finished your draft." Students who are absent can refer to the teacher model to see what they missed when they return to class.

Writing Project Boards Samples





