Predictable Chart Writing

WHAT: "Predictable chart writing is a fun and easy, shared writing activity that supports emergent and conventional writers and readers. It is a way of providing some structure, while allowing students to generate their own ideas." (Hanser, 2005).

Predictable chart writing is a strategy directly from general education, via Pat Cunningham (2001), and Hall and Williams (2001). Their use of predictable chart writing constitutes a 5-day **process**, resulting in a student-written book to add to the class library.

The summary of steps is as follows:
Day 1: Write the chart (ex: I like _____, with each student contributing)
Day 2: Re-read the sentences
Day 3: Working with cutup sentences
Day 4: Be the sentence
Day 5: Make a book

WHERE: For explicit directions on how to apply the predictable chart writing strategy to students with significant disabilities, including students who use alternate and augmentative communication (AAC), download a handout at the Center for Literacy and Disability Studies site, under Resources:

Hanser has also listed the North Carolina extension standards addressed during predictable chart writing.

PLANNING FORM: This handout provides a planning form to accompany the predictable chart writing for students who are not able to write using typical pencils, or to speak using oral language. For each of the five days, the chart summarizes:
• Light Tech Materials: ex: chart paper, markers
• Devices: ex: single-message communication devices
• Computer: ex: software programs that might support book creation
   • Extra Support: ex: Quick-Draw paper for students with visual impairments

PREDICTABLE CHART WRITING PLANNING FORM

**Facilitators:**   **Topic:**

Students: **Date:**

DAY	LT Materials	Devices	Computer	Extra Support
1: Write Chart	Chart paper Markers Symbols (choice board, etc) Flip books Tactuals*	•Core vocab devices to select words •1 message device to call out choices		*for VI students, use tactuals or partner assisted scanning
2: Reread Sentences	Sentence strips Eye gaze chart w/ Numbers	Step-lister for counting 1-message ('that's it')		Remember to support inner voice!
3: Cutup Sentences	Sentence strips	Battery Scissors Several 1 message devices	Studio or IT3 w/ words from sentences	May need Braille overlay for VI students
4: Be the Sentence	Cut-apart words (from day 3)	1 message devices (1 per student)		
5: Make a Book	Quick-Draw Paper Pics, markers, tactuals		IP Studio MYOB IntelliTalk 3	Students use devices/ flip books to direct partner

Gretchen Hanser suggests using Quick-Draw paper to support making predictable charts, creating instant Braille supports, and providing a range of supports for students with visual impairments.

Quick-Draw Paper: Quick-Draw Paper allows for creating instant tactile graphics that are useful for a wide variety of art, orientation and mobility, diagramming and educational activities. Its most useful and unique feature is its quick response to water-based writing and drawing tools. The user draws on its surface with a water-based marker and the lines will swell instantly and become tactile. Includes 10 sheets of Quick-Draw Paper, instruction manual in large print and Braille and two water-based markers. Some suggested activities: Produce simple maps; Allow children to draw; Practice handwriting; Make graphs; Teach beginning tactual skills. Recommended ages: 4 years and up.
Ref: 1-04960-00 **Price:** $30.00 **Last updated:** 9/12/2006
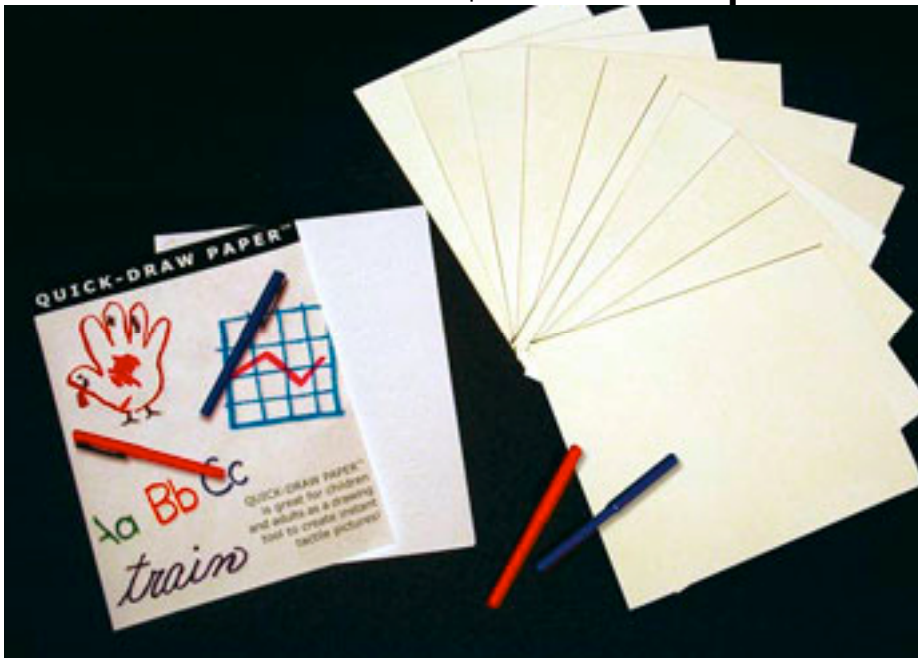
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