

# WRITING BINGO: Reading / Writing / Speaking / Listening Series

(Musselwhite, 2011)

## WHAT

In *The Write Genre*, (2004), Rog and Kropp suggest using Writing Bingo to support students in setting topics. This strategy is an enjoyable way to help students think about topics that they might otherwise not have considered. The graphic shows a writing bingo form shared by Rog and Kropp. Their form presents a range of topic starters.

**Writing Bingo**

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

My favorite holiday was	Something that once scared me was	I was really surprised when	At last
I felt ripped off when	I got this scar from	A really dumb thing I did was	I like it when my family
When I was little	Someone did a nice thing for me when	I was so mad when	I couldn't believe that
I'll never forget the time when	I got blamed for something I didn't do when	I was never so happy to see anyone as	I laughed so hard when

From: Rog & Kropp, (2004) *The Write Genre*. Pembroke Publishing

This tip will give ideas for integrating reading, writing, speaking, and listening into use of Writer's Bingo

## Writing Bingo: Reading

Each student needs a Writer's Bingo form. Ideally, an additional form will be shared through an interactive whiteboard or overhead projector.

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Encourage students to **read** the writing prompts (e.g., 'I like it when my family . . .') either chorally or using echo reading. For students who are nonspeaking, encourage them to follow along visually and 'read it in your head.'

### Writing Bingo: Speaking

Have 1-2 students give their ideas for several of the writing bingo prompts. Students who use communication devices should be encouraged to share. In some cases, you might want to set them up for success by practicing this before the group event.

### Writing Bingo: Listening

The teacher should now model adding ideas to the Writing Bingo, on a whiteboard, overhead projector, or interactive whiteboard. This should include 'talk alouds' with the teacher trying to think of ideas to share. Demonstrate that this can be a struggle for you also, but share your joy when you think of an idea. Model sounding out spelling if your students find that task difficult.

I felt ripped off when	I got this scar from	A really dumb thing I did was	I like it when my family <b>just hangs out and plays games together.</b>
When I was little <b>I loved to go on picnics with my family</b>	Someone did a nice thing for me when <b>they let me ride their horse . . . bareback!</b>	I was so mad when <b>someone made fun of my son for being short.</b>	I couldn't believe that <b>I made it to the top of the mountain . . . and back down!</b>

## Writing Bingo: Writing

Students are now encouraged to write short responses to several prompts on their bingo page. You can encourage them to achieve bingo (4 responses in a row, column, etc), or even 'Musselwhite Bingo' - see the AACGirls Blog:

<http://aacgirls.blogspot.com/2011/02/musselwhite-bingo.html>

For beginning writers, do NOT tell students what ideas or letters to write. Instead, talk them through ideas with leading questions, and encourage them to sound it out, and make educated guesses. If necessary, use scaffolds such as an AlphaBoard. For some students this will be a good time to use AAC devices, light tech displays, or alternative pencils.

This part should take about 10 minutes. It is NOT necessary for each student to fill out each item. Students can come back to this activity later that day, or the following day.

## Writing Bingo: Sharing (Reading / Listening)

Now have your students each share at least one of their ideas. This will require the student to read what s/he has written, while the rest of the class listens. After each student has shared at least one idea, students can circle their favorite idea, and start writing, using writing scaffolds that you have set up for the day, such as paragraph organizers or storyboards. Enjoy!!!

## Resources & References

Musselwhite, C. & Hanser, G. (2011). *Write to Talk: CD of Writing Activities*. [www.aacintervention.com](http://www.aacintervention.com) [carmussel@cox.net](mailto:carmussel@cox.net)

Rog, L. & Kropp, P. (2004). *The Write Genre*. Markham, Ontario, Canada: Pembroke Publishers. ISBN: 9781551381725