Journal Writing About the Present for the Future –
ELAR Webinar Part 1
Featuring Gerald Sharp & Jeanne Cantu
Agenda

- Introduction by Dr. Nilka Avilés, Sr. Education Associate, IDRA
- Invitation to Write
- Overview
- Historical Context
- Supporting TEKS: ELAR and Social Studies
- Purpose of Journaling
- Questions to Encourage Student Writing
- Teacher Expectations
- Mentor Text and Professional Resources
- Questions and Answers
Invitation to Write

Write a personal response about the COVID-19 virus and you.
Overview

- Purpose of this journal experience
- Journal vs diary
- Journal writing is a recursive writing activity
- Primary source for historical research
Historical Context of Journals

- Samuel Pepys – English Diarist (1660-1669 one million words)
- Leonardo da Vinci – Renaissance Man (5000 pages in journals)
ELAR TEKS

- K-12 The student uses the writing process **recursively** to compose multiple texts...

- K-12 The student is expected to plan by generating ideas for writing...; develop drafts...by organizing ideas;

- 1-12 The student is expected to develop an idea with specific and relevant details

- K-12 The student is expected to dictate (K) or compose literary texts (1-12)...)
Social Studies TEKS

• K – The student communicates in oral and visual forms. The student is expected to express ideas orally based on knowledge and experiences.

• 1–3 The student communicates in oral, visual, and written forms. The student is expected to: express ideas orally based on knowledge and experiences; create and interpret visual and written material…

• 4–6 The student communicates in oral, visual and written forms. The student is expected to create written and visual material such as journal entries…

• 7–8 The student communicates in oral, visual, and written forms.

• 4–8 The student is expected to … use valid primary and secondary sources to acquire information…
Purpose of Journaling

- Prewriting for future writing
- This is history in the making
- Safe space to process thoughts, fears, emotions
- A way to process what’s going on around us
- Creates a record of our life’s experiences
- Share this with future generations
- Primary source for historical research
- Builds writing fluency
Questions to Encourage Student Writing

- How has your day been?
- What’s on your mind?
- What are things you miss with distance learning?
- How is grocery shopping different now from what it was before Spring Break?
- How is watching a new movie different now?
- What are you missing about school?
- How do you see yourself in the next school year?
Teacher Expectations

- Direct instruction
- Teacher modeling
- Think Alouds
- Students write in the first person
- Evaluation
Options for Journal Format

- Online submission
- Paper and pencil
- Notebook
- Graphic expression
- Artistic component
- Artifacts
- Audio

(Options cover various learning styles and preferences.)
Mentor Text & Professional Resources

Amelia’s Notebook, Marissa Moss
Diary of a Worm, Doreen Cronin
My Diary from Here to There, Mi diario de aquí hasta allá, Amada Irma Perez
Scaredy Squirrel, Mélanie Watt
Thunder Cake, Patricia Polacco

Acts of Teaching: How to Teach Writing, Joyce Armstrong Carroll & Edward E. Wilson
Elementary Educator’s Guide to Primary Source, Tom Bober

- Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD) Smart Briefs
- National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE); ELA Smart Briefs
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