

Mini-Lesson: Writing Long off of a Post-It (5th Grade)

Intention (Skill): Writing Long off of a Post-it

Teaching Point (Strategy): Readers grow ideas about books by looking through their Post-its for something that they can say more about. When they find one, they talk long about it to a partner then write long in their notebook, using what they just said.

Connection: I know that you just started a unit in writing about reading, but you've actually been writing about your reading for a long time. Any time you write on Post-its, that's writing about reading. Today, I want to teach you one way to grow an idea about a book. You can do this by looking through your Post-its for something you can say more about. When you find something, you'll talk long about it to a partner then write long in your notebook, using what you just said.

Teach: Let me give you an example. I was reading *Pictures of Hollis Woods*, and I noticed that a lot of my Post-its had to do with the kind of person I thought Hollis (the main character) was. I thought that I could say more about that, so I took a Post-it and talked long off of it. (*Read post-it aloud, model talking long.*) Did you see how I said a lot about what was on this Post-it? I said way more than I wrote on here - that's why it's called talking long. Now let me show you what I wrote.

Active Engagement: Now it's your turn to try it. Look through your Post-its for something you think you can say more about. When you've found one, pull it out and stick it to a clean page in your notebook. (*Wait until all students have a Post-it; guide those who are having trouble.*) Now, you're going to turn to your partner and talk long off of that Post-it. I'm going to time you, and I want you to keep talking until time runs out. If you run out of things to say, start over and say it again. (*Give each partner 1-2 minutes to talk.*)

Link: I'm going to send you off to write long today, based on what you just said to your partner. I want you to do that before you do anything else. When you're ready, maybe you'll find another idea you want to grow. Today and everyday, you can grow ideas by looking through your Post-its for something you can say more about, talking long, and writing long.

