

## Description of the Program “Take My Word for it”

The aim for this program is to ignite students’ imaginations and invite them to find their voice—its humorous side, its serious side, how it can rhyme and use alliteration, metaphor, simile and personification. In short, we want students to think of themselves as writers even if their punctuation or spelling still needs work. We want them to learn to relish words!

## Curriculum Overview

### **stop, look & listen: what makes a good writer?**

Writing activities explore the power of listening, of observation, different ways to tap the imagination, idea kernels, reading others author's work and current events.

### **word play**

writing activities explore ways we can “play” with words. exercises draw from free association, the dictionary, word sounds, and the “poetry clothesline”—creating a poem from words randomly drawn from a bag.

### **add uumph!**

writing activities explore metaphor, simile, alliteration, personification, abstractions and idioms. lessons teach these through writing about food, personifying smells, emotions, things from nature; making idioms literal and working with rhyming & odes.

### **be a story architect**

writing activities explore how to build a story: plot, setting, character, conflict/problem, resolution.

### **how do you see it**

exploring point of view and perspective through various activities including “the never ending story”.

### **shapes words come in**

exploring various forms of poetry, the art of letter writing and autobiography.

### **book jacket blurbs**

activities explore what purpose the book jacket serves, what style they're they written in. students engage in writing their own book jacket blurbs based on imagined book titles, and also create a cover illustration.

### **writing for young children**

students learn the principles behind a well written and designed children’s book and, in groups, collaborate to write and illustrate their own.

“Take My Word For It!”

creative writing for kids

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