Mini Lesson – Note-Taking for Nonfiction Worksheet

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| Mini Lesson Topic  Name the teaching point. | * Common Core 3.W.7 – Conduct short research projects that build on knowledge about a topic * Common Core 3.W.8 – Recall information from experiences or gather information from print and digital sources; take brief notes on sources and sort evidence into provided categories. * Common Core 3.W.10 – Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences. |
| Materials  Gather materials, mentor texts… | * Saturn Mini Books * Note-Taking for Nonfiction Worksheet * Pencils |
| Connection  Tell them what you taught the previous lesson. *The last writer’sworkshop, we learned how to…* | * Remember in earlier in science today we started talking about Saturn and we filled out the Pre-Reading and Pre-Writing worksheet? |
| Explicit Instruction  Tell them what you will teach today. *Today I’m going to teach you…*  Show them exactly how to do it.  *Watch me do it.,* or *Let’s take a look at how author) does this when s/he writes…* | * Now we’re going do some research on Saturn and take notes. * Let’s look at the form and see what we need to do. * First we’re going to preview the mini-book. * Look at the title, headings and illustrations. * Now let’s think about the questions: what I already know; what I think I will learn; I predict; and I wonder. * Next you’re going to read the book and write down details and big ideas that you want to remember in just five words per idea. * Let’s look at the first page. * Can you find an interesting detail? Describe it for me in five words. * We’re going to do that for each page of the book. * In the 3rd section, you fill out the chart with all the interesting and big ideas. |
| Guided Practice  Ask them to try it out with a partner or with you for a few minutes. *Now try it out with a partner…* | * Now you and your partner can work on finding an “I wonder” question and an important idea. * Take 5 minutes to have them practice. |
| Independent Practice  Remind students how the teaching point can be used in independent  writing. (There should be a link between the mini lesson and the students’ independent writing lives.) | * Ok, now it’s your turn. * You may either read “Saturn from the Inside Out” or “Those Amazing Rings”. * I want you to fill out the Note-taking form. * Remember, when we’re done with the worksheet, we’re going to write a paragraph all about Saturn based on our notes. |
| Group Wrap Up  Restate the teaching point. Ask:  Did you try what was taught? Did it work for you? How will it affect  your future writing? | * Now that everyone has written a paragraph about Saturn, I’d love to hear how you liked using the note –taking form. * Was it helpful to keep the information organized? * Would you use this again? * How would you change it to make it work for you? |