

# Mini-Lessons to Incorporate with Independent Reading

## **Procedural Mini-Lessons**

- ♦ Where to sit during reading time
- ♦ Giving a book talk
- ♦ How to be a good listener in a share session
- ♦ What is an appropriate noise level during reading time
- ♦ What to do when you finish a book
- ♦ What kinds of questions to ask during a share session
- ♦ Running a small group share session
- ♦ Self-evaluation
- ♦ Getting ready for a conference
- ♦ How to have a peer conference
- ♦ Where to sit during mini-lessons
- ♦ Taking care of books
- ♦ Keeping track of books read
- ♦ Rules of the workshop

## **Literary Mini-Lessons**

- ♦ Difference between fiction and non-fiction books
- ♦ Learning from dedications
- ♦ Books that show emotion
- ♦ Books written in the first, second, or third person
- ♦ Author studies
- ♦ How authors use quotations
- ♦ How the story setting fits the story
- ♦ Characteristics of different genres
- ♦ Development of characters, plot, theme, mood
- ♦ How leads can hook us
- ♦ How authors use the problem/event/solution pattern
- ♦ Titles and their meanings
- ♦ Characters' points of view
- ♦ Examples of similes and metaphors
- ♦ How authors use dialogue
- ♦ Predictable and surprise endings
- ♦ Use of descriptive words and phrases
- ♦ How illustrations enhance the story

## **Strategy/Skills Mini-Lesson**

- ♦ How to choose a book
- ♦ Selecting literature log topics
- ♦ Connecting reading material to your own life
- ♦ Tips for reading aloud
- ♦ Figuring out unknown words
  - ♦ Using context
  - ♦ Substituting
  - ♦ Using picture clues
  - ♦ Using the sounds of blends, vowels, contractions, etc.
- ♦ Using Post-its to mark interesting parts
- ♦ Monitoring comprehension (Does this make sense and sound right?)
- ♦ Asking questions while reading
- ♦ Making predictions
- ♦ Emergent strategies
  - ♦ Concept of story
  - ♦ Concept that print carries meaning
- ♦ Making sense
- ♦ Mapping a story
- ♦ How to retell a story orally
- ♦ Looking for relationships
- ♦ Looking for important ideas
- ♦ Making inferences
- ♦ Drawing conclusions
- ♦ Summarizing a story
- ♦ Distinguishing fact from opinion
- ♦ Emergent reader skills: directionality, concept of “word”, sound/symbol relationships