



My Writer's Notebook

Directions:

1. Buy a notebook or make your own. Print your name on the cover.
2. Optional: Decorate the cover with words, drawings, cutout pictures, fabric, or contact paper in a way that shows your personality and interests. For example, if you are a baseball fan, you might write, draw, or paste on your cover a picture of your favorite player, game tickets, trading cards, and baseball terms.
3. Write a notebook entry on the first page. Begin by writing the date. Don't worry about spelling, but write clearly enough for your teacher to understand what you have written.
4. If you have trouble thinking of something to write about, use one of the following starters to get your ideas going:

I was really proud the first time I ...

I remember ...

Things my parents always say ...

My favorite place is ...

Someone (or something) I miss a lot is ...

I wish that ...

I'm really good at ...

I'll never forget ...

Someone really special to me is ...

The most important thing ...

This is a family story someone told me ...

(continued)

5. More suggestions for notebook writing:

- Write a "Things I Love" list.
- Write a "Things I Hate" list.
- Punch a small hole in an index card with a pen. Look through the hole to focus on some object, such as a favorite piece of clothing, a food you love or hate, a special possession—even the inside of a drawer or your closet. Look for the smallest details—such as designs, lines, colors, shapes, markings—and record your observations.

6. **SAVE THESE PAGES.** Fold them carefully and staple or tape them in your notebook. Look at them again if you're ever stuck for a notebook writing idea.