

Persuasive Writing

(Refresher assignment or for assessment later in the year.)

- Read story: *Earrings* by Judith Viorst (picture book in which girl BEGS parents to get pierced ears)
- Ask for thoughts - anything they've ever REALLY wanted, could they relate to the girl in the story - do class sharing
- Get out paper and pencil & start prewriting -- make a list of things you want right now or zone in on one special thing
- Discussion - what techniques did girl in story use to get what she wanted? (bargaining, reasoning, begging ...)
- What techniques will you use/are likely to be successful for you?
- Review what makes a powerful lead (question, fact, surprising statement, etc.)
- Check writing handbook to review leads and elements of persuasive writing
- Take 10 minutes for prewriting/ plot your argument on paper I walk around room and jot down their topic on my clipboard while they're doing this.
- As they finish, they may start rough draft.

By end of period:

- I've modeled persuasive writing through a picture book.
- All students have a topic.
- All students have started writing.
- I have a list of their topics.
- Everyone has reviewed persuasive writing and writing leads and has participated in class discussion.

