Title of lesson:  A Day With Abby Sunshine, A Sequencing Lesson

Suggested grade/age:  1 (easily modified for wide-ranging grade level)

Approximate time needed for lesson:  45 min., multiple sessions if creating a book

Learning objective(s) and significance of lesson:

This lesson is important in the development of students’ skills with sequencing events, being able to tell a story “in order.” The specific skill is outlined in Minnesota Academic Standard 1.6.3.3. After participating in this lesson, students should be able to create a story with events happening in order from beginning to end, using words “first, then, next, finally.” Using the strategy of telling a story across your fingers is the “best practice.” This method was shared in the Lucy Calkins curriculum, “small moments” lesson.

Brief summary/outline of lesson:
Summary: This lesson fits into our writing curriculum. It’s one of a variety of writing projects using sequencing. This particular skill is used throughout the year for various projects and across subject areas. Specifically, this lesson fits into a narrative writing unit taught in the fall. As the year progresses, the stories, or science writing is noticeably more detailed and growth is evident.
Outline:
MN Standard 1.6.3.3, “I Can” Statement, and “What I’m Looking For”
Introduce lesson, “Envision a dog you know that makes you smile,” Think/Pair/Share (TPS)
Read Sequencing Story A Day With Abby Sunshine, Visual Thinking Strategies (VTS)
Student returns to his/her dog idea and sequences events using fingers, Lucy Calkins (TPS)
Complete graphic organizer with first draft ideas, generating ideas for 5 events
Critical Response, 4 questions, oral or written

Related Resources:

A Day With Abby Sunshine, by Lisa Monson
www.abbysunshine.com

Crafting Writers K-6, by Elizabeth Hale
Failing Forward by John Maxwell
Outliers by Malcolm Gladwell
Brain Rules, by Dr. John Medina
Listen to these speeches:
Conan O’Brien, Dartmouth Commencement Address, 2011