Lesson 4: Take Flight with Details

TRANSCRIPT

HOOK 1

Hi, writers. It's Anne.

I love walking around the neighborhood and going to the park with my friends. I love chatting with a friend while seeing the sights, sounds, and the wildlife that lives in the park. Recently, I was at the park and I saw this.

I wanted to text my friend to tell him what I saw to get him excited to come to the park with me. At first, I wrote: I saw some ducklings today.

What I wrote is true, but I don't think it really describes what I saw.

DISCUSSION 1

Discuss: How would you describe what happened in the park?

HOOK 2

Wow, this is way better than what I wrote the first time! All these details will help my friend picture what happened at the park, and it may help convince him to come with me the next time, too.

Look at that—it worked!

Adding what you see, hear, and feel are great ways to add descriptions to your writing. You're currently working on a piece of writing to convince a birding club that your bird should be the bird of the year. The members of the birding club know about both of these birds and their unique skills, but they probably haven't seen the same videos that you have. It's up to you to describe in detail what you saw your bird doing. Let's give it a try. We'll practice with the lyrebird first, then the weaverbird.

Watch this video of a lyrebird.

DISCUSSION 2

Discuss: Try describing this video. Remember to describe what you see, hear, and feel.

HOOK 3

Maybe you said you saw the bird was standing on the ground, or that you heard it make lots of sounds, like a zipper or a walkie-talkie. You may have said something else, and that's great.

Now let's try with the weaverbird. Check out this video.

DISCUSSION 3

Discuss: Try describing this video. Remember to describe what you see, hear, and feel.

HOOK 4

Nice job! By adding lots of describing details to your writing, you can help the birding club understand all the details that made you pick that bird as bird of the year.

Today, you'll write your second reason paragraph about the bird you picked as the bird of the year. Along the way, you'll add lots of details and descriptions of your bird's unique skill. Later on, you'll write a conclusion to wrap up your writing.

I'll get you started, step by step.

STEP 1

Get your supplies.

STEP 2

In today's lesson, you'll need someone to share ideas with. This could be a partner or someone you sit near. When everyone knows who their talk partner is, move on to the next step.

STEP 3

Your second reason paragraph is all about your bird's unique skill.

Get your Planning worksheet. Read what you wrote for your reason two and your details.

When you're done, show a silent thumbs up.

STEP 4

Let's watch these bird skills again. Remember to keep an eye out for descriptions of what you see, hear, and feel.

Discuss with your partner: What details did you notice about your bird's unique skill?

STEP 5

When you first wrote details about these birds, you may have written notes such as: a cool nest, or makes lots of sounds. These details are a great start, but they're not very descriptive. You might add on to this detail with more descriptions like: shape of a

sphere, made out of grass—or maybe you want to add on to this one by putting sounds like—a camera, a zipper, and a walkie-talkie, surprising!

Take a look at the details that you already wrote. Add more details that describe your bird's unique skill by adding more about what you saw, heard, or felt.

STEP 6

Get your Draft page two worksheet. On this worksheet, you'll write your second reason paragraph in the box here. And later on, you'll write your conclusion here.

Find the "reason 2" box. To start your paragraph, write your opinion, "because," then your second reason.

STEP 7

Now you can add lots of details to help describe your bird's unique skill. We've put some connecting words on screen to help you connect all your descriptions together in your paragraph.

Use these connecting words and your details to add a few sentences to describe your bird's unique skill.

Continue writing where you left off.

STEP 8

Nice job, writers! To end your paragraph, you can remind your reader of your opinion. You can use different words to state your opinion than what you wrote on your plan if you want. You can use one of these sentences to get started, or come up with your own.

Continue writing where you left off.

STEP 9

Amazing job, writers! Now it's time to write your conclusion. This is the last part of your writing and your last chance to really convince the birding club to crown your bird as the winner this year.

To start your conclusion, you can make your strongest and final ask for the club to pick your bird. You can use one of these sentences or come up with one of your own. Start writing at the feather.

STEP 10

Fill in the blanks with your reason one and reason two.

STEP 11

To complete the closing sentence, write the name of your bird in the blank here.

STEP 12

Take turns reading your conclusion out loud with your partner. If you want, you can make changes.

WRAP UP

Nice job, writers! Your draft to the birding club is now complete. You have written an introduction, two reason paragraphs, and a conclusion. In the next lesson, you'll edit your writing to create a final draft. Then you'll create a cover page that reveals your pick for the bird of the year.

Make sure you put your V.I.P.s somewhere safe, and I'll see you next time.