Essential Skill: Elaborating with Feelings
Roller Coaster Ride

TRANSCRIPT

HOOK 1

Hi, it's Traci.

Last weekend, my friend Mike and I went to an amusement park and rode a gigantic roller coaster called *Goliath*. Watch this video to get an idea of what it felt like to ride that roller coaster.

For homework, Mike had to write a paragraph about what he did on the weekend, so he wrote about his roller coaster ride. Here's what he wrote:

> *"The roller coaster climbed up an enormous hill. It took a long, long time to get to the top. Then the coaster rushed down the hill. It didn't slow down. It rolled up another hill and around a curve. Finally, the coaster rolled back into the station. The ride was over."*

Mike isn't happy with what he wrote. He has a great start—and I told him so—but he wants help to make his story better. I'm hoping that *you* can help Mike improve his story. Mike thinks something is missing from his story, but he's not sure what it is. What could be missing?

Mike wrote about everything that happened on the ride, but think about this: some people call roller coasters *thrill rides*. *Thrill* is another word for *excitement*. What people

remember about roller coasters is this. People have a lot of feelings when they are riding a roller coaster.

Take a look at a few roller coaster riders. I'm guessing you'll be able to tell a lot about what these people are feeling by looking at what they are doing.

HOOK 2

Seeing what people do lets you know how they feel. Suppose this lady wrote about her roller coaster ride. She might write, "I just couldn't stop laughing. I laughed on every hill and curve." She doesn't have to write, "I had fun." You would know she had fun because she was laughing.

When you watch a video of a roller coaster ride, you get lots of information about how it would feel to be on that ride. But the people who read Mike's story won't see the video. Mike's story needs to show readers what the ride felt like.

In today's activity, you're going to help Mike add feelings to his story. You will add sentences that describe what you do on an imaginary roller coaster ride—and how you feel about the ride. When you're done, people who read the story will feel like they are right there on a roller coaster with you.

If you've never ridden on a roller coaster, that's okay. Watching the video, you can imagine what it would feel like. Your feelings about roller coasters may be different from any of the people I've shown you, and that's great. Whatever your feelings are, you can use them to make Mike's paragraph much more exciting.

Let's give it a try. I'll get you started, step by step.

STEP 1

Find a partner. You'll share ideas with your partner later.

Click the arrow on the right to go to the next step.

STEP 2

Get your supplies. Each student will need an Idea Cloud worksheet and a Roller Coaster Story.

STEP 3

Look at your roller coaster story. Notice that we split Mike's story into three parts.

Beside each part of the story, there's a box that you will write sentences to add to that part of the story. You'll put your sentences and Mike's together to make a more exciting story.

Go to the next step to begin.

STEP 4

Now it's time to start your imaginary roller coaster ride. We'll begin by going up that long, long hill—that's "Part 1." While you watch the video, pretend you are on this ride and silently act out what you would do. You can pretend to scream without making a sound. The video will play again and again so you have time to act it out.

Ready?

Here we go!

STEP 5

Now it's time to stop acting and write. The video will keep playing just in case you need to watch it again.

In idea cloud number 1, write down words and ideas about what you've been doing on your pretend ride. Also, write what you have been feeling on your ride. Don't write sentences. Right now, you are just collecting words and ideas.

STEP 6

Share with your partner. What words or ideas did you come up with? What did you do? How did you feel? Your ideas may be different from your partner's, and that's okay.

After you talk, add any ideas you like to idea cloud number 1. If you want more ideas, your teacher has a handout with ideas from many people. Just ask for a copy. It's good to have lots of ideas to work with.

STEP 7

Working with your partner, choose the words or ideas in idea cloud number 1 that you like best.

Circle one or two of your favorites. If you want more ideas, ask your teacher for an Inspiration Sheet.

STEP 8

Next, you will use ideas from your idea cloud to add feelings and actions to the roller coaster story. But first, let's go through an example together to see one way to write about feelings and actions.

Rather than writing about a roller coaster, I'm going to write about buying cotton candy before the ride. I already have a sentence about what happened: "I waited in line to buy cotton candy."

I made an idea cloud about what I was feeling and doing and circled my favorite ideas. Then I wrote a sentence about what I was feeling: "I was so hungry." Then I wrote a sentence that showed how I was feeling: "My mouth was watering."

Now that you've seen an example of how to use your idea cloud to write sentences, let's get back to that roller coaster ride.

Go to the next step.

STEP 9

Find number 1 on your worksheet. Write a sentence or two about what you did on the first part of the ride and how you felt.

You can use any of the words or ideas you circled in your idea cloud or any new ideas you have.

STEP 10

Look at number 1 on your worksheet. Think about how what you wrote could fit into the sentences Mike wrote. Use arrows to show where you would put your new sentence or sentences. For example, you could put a sentence before Mike's sentences, between them, or after them.

STEP 11

Time to share.

STEP 12

It's time to write about part number 2, where the coaster rushes down the hill. Watch the video and pretend you are on the ride. Silently act out what you'd be doing, and think about how you'd be feeling. Write down words and ideas in idea cloud number 2.

The video will play again and again.

STEP 13

Share with your partner what you did and how you felt. If you haven't written down your ideas in idea cloud number 2, do it now. Make a star beside one or two of your favorites. If you want more ideas, ask your teacher for an Inspiration Sheet.

STEP 14

Now find number 2 on the worksheet. Write a sentence or two about what you did on this part of the ride and how you felt. You can use any of the words or ideas you starred—or any new ideas you have. If you get stuck, ask your partner for help.

STEP 15

Think about how what you just wrote could fit into the second part of Mike's writing. Use arrows to show where you could put your new sentence or sentences.

STEP 16

Choose your favorite sentence from the last step. Read it out loud to your partner.

STEP 17

Now let's write about how you felt at the end of the ride.

Discuss with your partner: If someone gave you a free ticket for another ride on this roller coaster, would you take it? Why or why not?

STEP 18

Find number 3 on your worksheet. Fill in the blanks in the sentence. If you'd rather write a sentence or two of your own, that's okay. Just make sure you say whether you would ride the roller coaster again and why.

STEP 19

Your sentences, combined with the sentences Mike wrote, make a story.

Discuss with your partner: What's a good title for the tiny story you and Mike wrote together?

Write the title on your worksheet. Don't forget to write your name at the top, too.

STEP 20

Mike is very grateful for your help.

Read your story out loud to your partner. Compare the new story with Mike's original story.

STEP 21

Discuss with the class: How did your sentences make Mike's story better? How could you add excitement to your own stories using some of the things you did to help Mike?