Onomatopoeia
A Mentor Text Lesson Plan by Marcie Flinchum Atkins

Writing Skills Focus:

• Onomatopoeia
• Word choice
• Revision
• Sensory words
• Creating an image with your words

Target Audience:

2nd grade-5th grade (but adaptable for K-1)

Objectives:

• The student will recognize onomatopoeic words in mentor texts.
• The student will gather onomatopoeic words and make a list of them.
• The student will utilize onomatopoeic words in their own writing.
Standards:

Virginia Standards of Learning:
Standards are listed here for referencing by number in your lesson plans. For link to complete standards, go to:

2nd Grade Standards
2.12 c,d

3rd Grade Standards
3.9 g

4th Grade Standards
4.5 g, 4.7 i

5th Grade Standards
5.7 f

Common Core:
Standards are listed here for referencing by number in your lesson plans. For link to complete standards, go to: http://www.corestandards.org/assets/CCSSI_ELA%20Standards.pdf

2nd Grade Standards
CCSS.ELA.W 2.5

3rd Grade Standards
CCSS.ELA.W 3.3b, 3.4, 3.5, 3.10
CCSS.ELA.L 3.3 a

4th Grade Standards
CCSS.ELA.W 4.3b, d, 4.4, 4.5, 4.10
CCSS.ELA.L 4.3a, 4.6

5th Grade Standards
CCSS.ELA.W 5.3b,d, 5.4, 5.5, 5.10

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Text(s):

BIRDSONDS by Betsy Franco, illustrated by Steve Jenkins
CENTRAL PARK SERENADE by Laura Godwin, illustrated by Barry Root
THE CHICKEN CHASING QUEEN OF LAMAR COUNTY by Janice N. Harrington, illustrated by Shelley Jackson
CREEPY CARROTS by Aaron Reynolds, illustrated by Peter Brown
THE GREAT FUZZ FRENZY by Janet Stevens and Susan Stevens Crummel
THE LISTENING WALK by Paul Showers, illustrated by Aliki
MR. DUCK MEANS BUSINESS by Tammi Sauer, illustrated by Jeff Mack
MUD by Mary Lyn Ray, illustrated by Lauren Stringer
peek: a thai hide and seek by minfong ho, illustrated by holly meade
rattletrap car by phyllis root, illustrated by jill barnon
roadwork by sally sutton, illustrated by brian lovelock
snow sounds: an onomatopoiec story written and illustrated by david a. johnson
tippy-tippy-tippy, hide! by candice fleming, illustrated by g. brian karas
trucks: whizz! zoom! rumble! by patricia hubbell, illustrated by megan halsey
water hole waiting by jane and christopher kortz, illustrated by lee christiansen
welcome to the green house by jane yolen, illustrated by laura regan

Other Materials Needed:

• Onomatopoeia notes (attached)
• Noisy words chart (attached) (*Note: the original idea for this handout came from here: http://writingfix.com/PDFs/Writing_Tools/Alpha_Boxes.pdf, but I tweaked it to fit my needs. You can do alphaboxes with a number of writing projects.)
• Recent rough draft
• Before and after examples (attached)
• Colored pens or colored pencils

Lesson:

Setting the purpose:

Use the notes page to guide you through helping students understand what an onomatopoiec word is and why an author would want to use them. Also, discuss why they make a text interesting to a reader. Students can put these notes in their notebooks or folders for future reference.
**Utilizing the Mentor Text**

**Onomatopoeia Scavenger Hunt**
Gather a dozen or more picture books. The list above gives a good place to get started, but you might have many more to add to this. Students don’t have to be familiar with the books. They are going to scan the texts for onomatopoeia.

Give each student a copy of the “Noisy Words” alphabet chart. Students can record their onomatopoeia words in the chart. When they are finished, they will have a miniature onomatopoeic dictionary for their notebook to use as a reference later.

If time, students can share and compare lists.

**Transferring the Skill to Student Writing**

Remind students that one of the things that onomatopoeic words do is to help the reader really feel like they are there in the story. These sound words are sensory words that appeal to the sense of hearing.

Share the “Before and After” examples with the students. Discuss if the onomatopoeic words help the reader feel more like a part of the story.

Have students reread a recent rough draft. They are rereading to locate one or two places where an onomatopoeic word could be inserted to help the reader really hear what’s going on in the scene.

Using a pen or colored pencil, have them choose a place to insert an onomatopoeic word or rewrite a sentence or two to include an onomatopoeic word.

If a student is having difficulty finding one on their own, a friend could guide them or the teacher could guide them to a place. Then encourage them to verbalize what it might sound like. Sound effects are okay to use. They don’t have to be words one would find in a dictionary.

Have students share their rewritten sentences. If time, students can even share their sentence before (make sure they don’t erase them) and after.
Onomatopoeia

• Word that mimics a sound.
• In poetry or in stories, they are used because they appeal to the senses (sense of sound).

Examples:
buzz    hiss    sizzle    cuckoo    meow
honk    slurp    whack    ring-ring    beep
# Noisy Words

**Onomatopoeia**

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Before and After
Examples of Using Onomatopoeic in Your Writing

**Before**

I could hear the car horn from my room.

**After**

“**Honk! Honk! Hoooooonk!”** I could hear my impatient sister laying on the horn all the way from my room.

**Before**

Bella walked on the leaf-covered trail back to the campsite.

**After**

The dry leaves *crunched* and *crackled* under Bella’s feet. She knew everyone at the campsite could hear her coming.