Independent Writing
Students compose and write their own texts during student work time.

Independent Writing
- Bridges the reading/writing connection
- Allows teacher to work one-on-one with students
- Allows students to be actively engaged
- Provides choice for students

Teacher's Role
- Provides an environment conducive to writing (adequate space with materials available)
- Provides adequate time for students to engage in the writing process
- Uses quality literature as mentor texts to generate ideas and model writing craft
- Conferences with individuals or small groups on a rotating basis
- Provides share time for students to share their writing with their peers

Students' Role
- Use conventions of print developmentally appropriate for their grade level
- Understand that writing should make sense
- Generate the topic on their own or with help if needed
- Hold the story in memory while writing the message on the page
- Stay on topic with story
- Develop the habit of rereading throughout the process
- Write legibly (letter formation, spacing, etc.)
- Say words slowly in order to record sounds in words
- Use available resources when needed (word wall, ABC charts, etc.)
- Spell high frequency words correctly when appropriate for grade level

- Confer and edit with peers when developmentally appropriate
- Revise drafts when developmentally appropriate
- Refer to checklist or rubrics when developmentally appropriate
- Share writing with others in order to receive feedback and suggestions

Resources
- Writing folders
- Writer's Notebooks (intermediate grades)
- Writing supplies (blank books, markers, staplers, etc.)
- Reference materials when developmentally appropriate
- Checklists
- Rubrics
- Electronic Device (for composing and/or publishing, if applicable)

Procedures
- Following the mini-lesson, make sure that everyone is engaged in the writing process
- Make sure all writing materials are available
- Confer with individual students or small groups on a rotating basis
- Record conference notes to inform instruction
- Provide time for sharing with the whole group

Assessment of Independent Writing
- Conference notes
- Writing checklists
- Rubrics
- Published texts
- On-demand writing assessments