Interactive Writing: Overview

***Interactive Writing*** provides an opportunity for students to “share the pen” with the instructor. While teacher and students collaboratively construct text for an authentic purpose, together they are working to create a text that makes connections between what is read and the written word. Jointly, they negotiate the text, making decisions about what to write. They share the duties of scribe. The students may rehearse word parts or words on white boards while a student is selected to write the appropriate word on the large chart. After each word is written, the group rereads to check if it makes sense. Teacher and students may work together to apply skills learned during *Word Work, Shared Reading and Guided Reading,* as well.

The teacher’s role varies according to the needs of the students: i.e. demonstrating reading and writing strategies, modeling the correct use of print conventions, directly and explicitly instructing on phonology and word analysis, etc. As the students become more proficient as readers and writers, lessons can begin to focus on style and writing for different purposes.

*Interactive Writing* is appropriate for Pre-Emergent and Emergent learners. It is typically used in K-1 and is often used to support ELL learners in other grades.

An *Interactive Writing* Module is available and goes into more detail. Consult the ALP II Teacher/Literacy Coach at your school.