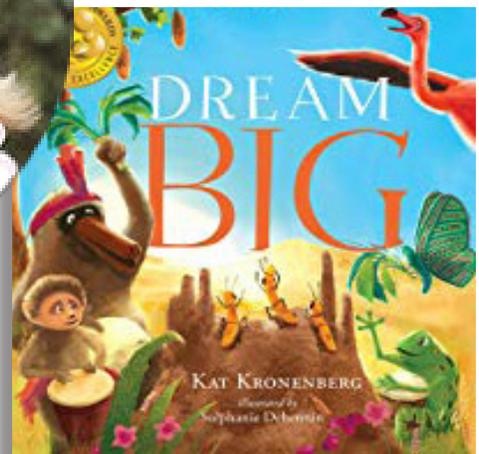


Standards-Aligned Writing Workshops for Grades K – 5

Presented by Award-Winning Author

Kat Kronenberg

CELEBRATE YOU! WRITE A MEMOIR



Illustrated by Stephanie Dehehennin & David Miles

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Guide Crafted by
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CELEBRATE YOU! WRITE A MEMOIR

“If you can visualize it, if you can dream it, there’s some way to do it.”

~ Walt Disney

A MEMOIR DEFINED:

A memoir is a memory; a personal narrative; a description of an event or events in the past; a historical account or biography written from personal knowledge.

MEMOIR LESSON BASICS:

IMAGINE THAT YOU ARE 50, 60, OR EVEN 100 YEARS OLD!:

You are telling your story, looking back, writing as if you have already lived your dream, raised the greatest dog, loved the most fantastic person, taken a dynamic journey, or whatever you think would be true to you. This writing exercise is meant to help you visualize & internalize your dreams coming true, the great things you will do, the fantastic people you will meet, the places you will see, and more.

REMEMBER YOU ARE BORN TO BE A HERO:

Celebrate your passions, talents, dreams, AND the fact that you are the only me who will ever be!
You are extraordinary, with gifts that only you can share with the world!

YOU ARE THE HERO OF YOUR STORY:

- Consider the life skills you have & will need;
- The qualities you must develop to succeed;
- Mentors you can learn from; Friends you can meet;
- How you will respond to fear, failure, hardship, bullies & success;
- How you can problem solve;
- Plus, anything you think would be true to you.

USE THE HERO’S JOURNEY:

Reference [The 12 Steps of The Hero’s Journey](#) found on Kat’s website to tell your story. Consider the framework below when crafting your own Hero’s Journey. Use the references provided on the [LEARN](#) section of Kat’s website as inspiration.

THE HERO’S JOURNEY - (A Variation by [Joseph Campbell](#))

- Ordinary World - Known
- Call to Adventure - Inciting incident
- Refusal of The Call - Fear, roadblock
- Meet The Mentor/ Hero - Learn from
- Crossing The First Threshold - Accept the CALL, say YES to your life
- Tests, Allies, Enemies - Pain, friends, naysayer
- Approach to The Inmost Cave - Who Am I
- Supreme Ordeal - Slay the Dragon - Courage



- Reward - Success, safety
- The Road Back Home -Transformed
- Resurrection - Atonement by helping others
- Returns to Known World with the Elixir- A hero

(Examples of stories crafted using the Hero's Journey structure in movies - Star Wars, Wizard of Oz, Lion King, Toy Story

In books - Magic Tree House, Wizard of Oz, Harry Potter, Percy Jackson.)

"You are The Hero of your own story. The privilege of a lifetime is being who you are."

~ Joseph Campbell

MEMOIR-WRITING TIPS:

YOU ARE WRITING ABOUT YOURSELF, SO:

- Write in the first person; told from the author's point of view.
- Reveal the feelings & thoughts you have as the author.
- Write about your experiences more than an actual event.

CONSIDER THE BEGINNING OF YOUR MEMOIR:

- The introduction should capture the reader's attention & set their expectations on what the story will be about.
- Interesting introductions can include:

1. LIVELY DESCRIPTION:

Engage readers by painting a picture, establishing a mood, or creating an atmosphere. Use sensory details & figurative language to add energy & interest.

Long ago in the wilds of East Africa, when the savannah was new, this moody Baboon discovered a powerful secret—SHHH

2. DESIRED DREAM

Engage readers with a dream you or your community hope to achieve.

Ever since I saw the University of Texas quarterback, Sam Ehlinger, win the Sugar Bowl, I wanted to play football.

3. PROBLEM TO SOLVE

Engage readers with a difficult problem that you need to solve.

It all began when I fell from the ladder while fixing the roof. My head hit the cement first and knocked me out. No one was there when it happened.



4. SURPRISING STATEMENT, QUOTE, OR DIALOGUE:

Engage readers by beginning with a surprising statement or fact, an interesting quote, or a fascinating conversation.

Every single day in the United States, 11 teens are killed while texting & driving!

5. QUESTIONS:

Engage readers with a question that immediately involves a mental answer.

What if you had the chance to swim with the sharks? Would you do it?

6. STRONG OPINION:

Engage readers with a strong opinion that gets their attention, challenges their beliefs, or may cause a debate.

Never, and I mean NEVER eat a hamburger and french fries before riding a rollercoaster!

7. ACTION/ SOUND:

Engage readers with fast-paced action &/or sounds.

Boom! Bang! The fireworks went off in my car on the 4th of July.

CONSIDER THE ENDING OF YOUR MEMOIR:

- A conclusion should wrap up the ideas & expectations set by the author, as well as, leave the readers with a strong final impression or takeaway.
- Interesting closings can include:

1. RESTATE THE MAIN IDEA:

Reinforce the main topic to keep it fresh in the reader's mind.

Termite said, "...please try the secret—SHHH—too. Wish upon a star, SMILE big in who you are and believe!" With that, Baboon & his new friends celebrated..."

2. SUMMARIZE THE MAJOR POINT:

Remind the reader of your major point or points by summarizing.

Since my campaign, "Parents do not let your kids see you text & drive!" We have not had a single accident on our streets.

3. ISSUE A CALL TO ACTION:

Write a call to action to lend energy to the closing.

DO NOT ever get on a ladder without someone helping you!

4. STATE THE SIGNIFICANCE:

Sum up your experiences or feelings on your topic by stating their significance.

There is no doubt that sharks with their big teeth could eat me for lunch in two bites.



5. ASK A QUESTION:

End with a question to encourage your readers to reflect on what you've said.

Do you want to spend the afternoon at Disney World with throw up on your shirt?

6. CELEBRATE THE DREAM ACHIEVED:

End the story with a possible statement to encourage readers.

I met Sam Ehlinger, and it blew me away when he told me that his dream to be a quarterback started after watching Colt McCoy, the University of Texas quarterback win the Sugar Bowl in 2001.

He had the same dream form as me ...

Dreams really can and do come true!

"Whatever the mind of man can conceive and believe, it can achieve!"

~ Napoleon Hill.

KAT KRONENBERG'S HERO'S JOURNEY:

1. A Call To Adventure—From A World That Is Known
2. Refuse—Ignore—Fear The Call—Obligations—Duty
3. Accept Your Heroic Quest—Leap of Faith (The choice.)
4. DREAM BIG—Cross The First Threshold—Connect to Something Bigger—Supernatural Aid—Trust (For me it is God.)
5. The Road of Trails—Naysayers, Tests, Temptations, Perceived Failure, & Hardship—(Final separation from the known world.)
6. Find Mentors—Ask For Help—Don't Go Alone (Vital.)
7. LOVE BIG—Cross The Second Threshold—Build Community—Connect With Those You Meet, Friends, & Family
8. Dark Night Of The Soul—Fear & Doubt—Extreme Loneliness—The Inmost Cave
9. THINK BIG—Cross The Third Threshold—Thoughtful, Honest, Intelligent, Necessary, & Kind—Connect Your Head to Your Heart—Know your "I AM" & "I CAN" statements!
10. Resurrect—Rise & Shine—Overcome & Succeed—To Achieve Continually Use The Proven Life Skills to SMILE & BELIEVE—Light Your Heart of Stars
11. YES! Celebrate Your Quest's Success—You Are a Hero—Free to Live Your Best Life—Dreams Do Come True
12. Return To Your Ordinary World With The Elixir/Your Treasure— To Encourage Others To Accept Their Call To Adventure and Live Big, Too

(Kat's Heroes whose life shine bright & motivate her: Walt Disney, Victor Frankl, Nelson Mandella, Oprah Winfrey, Brene Brown, Steve Jobs—Make your list)

"Celebrate you with a YES! No matter what events come your way. Be the HERO of your story!"

~ Kat Kronenberg



MEET THE AUTHOR – KAT KRONENBERG



Kat Kronenberg is a born-and-raised Texan with a Big Dream: that Two-Leggere--people--all around the world Love Big, catch CATCH-M too, and watch their wildest dreams come true as we live out the motto, “WE can! WE are ONE!” Kat lives in Austin with her husband and is the proud parent of two amazing boys, two beautiful adopted nieces, four fantastic grandchildren, and three four-legged friends.

COMMON CORE STATE STANDARDS ALIGNMENT:

English Language Arts Standards » Reading: Literature: RL.K.1, RL.K.2, RL.K.3, RL.1.1, RL.1.2, RL.1.3, RL.2.1, RL.2.2, RL.2.3, RL.3.1, RL.3.3, RL.4.3, RL.5.3

English Language Arts Standards » Writing: W.K.2, W.K.3, W.1.2, W.1.3, W.2.2, W.2.3, W.3.2, W.3.3, W.4.2, W.4.3, W.4.2, W.4.3, W.5.2, W.5.3

English Language Arts Standards » Speaking & Listening: SL.K.3, SL.1.3, SL.2.3, SL.3.3, SL.4.3, SL.5.3

TEXAS ESSENTIAL KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS STANDARDS ALIGNMENT:

English Language Arts and Reading:

Kindergarten – 110.2.b.1, 110.2.b.3, 110.2.b.6, 110.2.b.9, 110.2.b.10

First Grade – 110.3.b.1, 110.3.b.3, 110.3.b.6, 110.3.b.9, 110.3.b.10, 110.3.b.11, 110.3.b.13

Second Grade – 110.4.b.1, 110.4.b.3, 110.4.b.6, 110.4.b.9, 110.4.b.10, 110.4.b.11, 110.4.b.13

Third Grade – 110.5.b.1, 110.5.b.3, 110.5.b.10, 110.5.b.13

Fourth Grade – 110.6.b.1, 110.6.b.3, 110.6.b.10, 110.6.b.13

Fifth Grade – 110.7.b.1, 110.7.b.3, 110.7.b.10, 110.7.b.13

