COMPOSITION BOOK

100 SHEETS • 9 3/4 In. x 7 1/2 In.

Journals

Entreasurizing Our Personal Cultures

Pen-Tab

MB100/50101

The idea:
Our lives are filled with tiny moments.
We will remember only what we keep written down.
Journals turn the moments into treasures we can hold.

The challenge:
Write for 10 minutes every day... whatever you'd like to remember.

Some students need a topic?
Generate, compile, distribute lists for students, from students!
- Things you could talk about any time
- First line (sentence) from any of your entries.
- Quotations you love (search online)

"Tape a list into the back of your journal to use whenever you like."

Me: Andrew, wow. Thats great. You are really talented.
Andrew: No, I'm not.
Me: Yes you are.
Andrew: No, I'm not.
Me: You always argue!
Andrew: No, I dont.

Andrew Gonzalez
10/23/95

Entreasurizing Yourself

Get down your personality, your own stage of development. Remember the time you're having right this moment won't come back. You won't remember most of your moments.

1. Take your journal to any ordinary or special place. Date a page, and tell where you are and what you're thinking about while you're there. Tell what you can see from where you are.
2. Write mental discussions with yourself. If something is occupying your attention now it will show you something about yourself later.
3. Capture on paper your attitudes and opinions about large or small topics in your day.
4. Keep lists in your journal. (Things to do, Christmas presents)
5. Write letters of admiration you don't intend to send.
6. Write conversations you'd like to have had.
7. Record notes from any presentations you know you'd like to keep.
8. Sketch your family tree.
9. Tape down printed copies of any pieces you've written, poems, letters, stories, which you really liked.
10. Decide whether your journal is a future gift to your children, and speak to them.

Entreasurizing Other People

1. Someone made you laugh? Write down their words. Have them sign and date it.
2. Cut out and tape down the salutation and closing from a letter from someone you care about.
3. In your journal, write a note to someone. Leave a space and have them respond.
4. Share with someone else something that you wrote. Have them write "I read this," and sign it.
5. Trace several generations of hands on a page (yours, your father's, your grandfather's) each with a different color.
6. Collect scribbles from a child at home who is too young to write. Annotate and date them.
7. Write down a conversation that you heard at home that you liked and want to keep.
8. If someone tells you a compliment, quote it in your journal.
9. If someone invents a word, write it down and have them sign it. (this is how the word "entreasurized" was captured.)

Entreasurizing Your Personal Artifacts

For any meaningful, flat object from your life
- *trim with scissors any excess
- *tape it onto a page
- *annotate it with captions, or tell about why it meant something, even something tiny

1. Pictures. (School pictures, candid snapshots, birthday party pictures or family holidays, current or past)
2. Movie tickets.
3. Receipts from Wal-Mart.
4. Newspaper advertisements for something you bought (or want to buy).
5. Artifacts from nature. A feather, a leaf, a flower petal from a place or moment you'd like to keep.
6. Pictures of movies you've watched (from Sunday newspaper supplements or from store promotional flyers)
7. Significant fortune cookie fortunes or horoscopes clipped from the newspaper
8. Funny or interesting mail
9. Return address clipped from a piece of mail you received
10. Illustrations from brochures of places you've visited
11. Postcards you've mailed to yourself from places you've visited
12. Pictures of your favorite food from grocery store coupons
13. Nametags you've peeled off your clothing from an event you enjoyed
14. Business cards from restaurants
15. Front panel from a sack-lunch sack

An Actual Conversation I Heard at DD and Opa's

Opa: Hey country ham? There are 3 or 4 slices of it left. Is it still good?
D.D.: I don't know.
Opa: I'll go smell it and cook it.
D.D.: I've been trying to hold off because you don't much like it.
Opa: Well... I like it better before it rots.

Classroom Activities for Students to Entreasurize Each Other

1. Signature logos. Have students develop a signature logo to accompany their initials. Use it to show that they've read something you shared with them, like their own personal footprint in your journal. Allow for them to share with each other, and leave their logos.

2. Question and answer. In script form, have the students ask a question.
   (Gretchen: What did you eat for lunch?
   Debbie: A dried-up hamburger and Fritos.)

3. Comic strip question and answer. In comic strip form, have the students draw a panel with two characters talking to each other. The first character has a word bubble with the question. The second character has an empty word bubble. They switch journals with a partner and fill in their answer word bubbles. Both students sign under the artwork.

4. Thumbprint creatures. Have students make thumbprints using stamp pads, and draw arms, legs, hats, eyes, etc. For borders, for illustrations, or for a break in monotony.

5. Shaped space for writing. Have students draw a coloring-book-style page of trees, clouds, grass, flowers.. Then have them fill in spaces on each other's pages with writing.

6. Complimentary notes to students from students. Ask students to write complimentary notes to any two other students, after a classroom read around or other activity. If you get any, tape them down into your journal and allow the students to do the same.

7. Birthday signatures. If it's someone's birthday, invite happy birthday wishes on that student's journal page bearing the date.

8. Wishes pocket. Give students an envelope or colored index card to tape into their journal. Have them write a secret wish on the back side of it before they tape it down. Then give everyone tiny slips of paper. Have them select several students they know or don't know and have them write something positive they wish for that student, and sign each slip. Then allow them to deliver the wishes, read them, and place them in the envelopes. You write one for everyone, if possible.

For Adding Color and Life to the Pages

1. Draw a border around your writing, using black ink.
2. Use crayons or colored pencils to add simple touches
3. Cut and paste "found illustrations" like from placemats from McDonald's or pizza ads.
4. Surprise students with a sticker on each person's apge as they write.
5. Surprise student with a rubber stamp imprint on each person's page as they write.
6. Give each student a section of colored masking tape (Wal-Mart has blue and cheap tape in the paint department) to use somehow on a page.
7. Use a sticky note for a message or drawing. Tape it down, and draw a frame around it.
8. Give students colored label dotes to use on a page.
9. Take photographs of students writing in their journals. Give printed copies to students to trim and tape into their journ

WISHES

Useful resources:
trailofbreadcrumbs.net
corbettharrison.com
sharingournotebooks.amylv.com

Brought to you by Gretchen Bernabei
(gretchenbernabei@gmail.com)