## **Building Strong** Writers With Simple Systems

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## Welcome!

I'm so glad you're here!

Today's your day. You're going to be setting off on a journey to discover how you can simplify your teaching and make more time in your day for the things you love to do.

What I mean is, you're going to set up systems in your teaching so that your classroom will practically run itself.

I know you've probably heard that expression before. But it's true. I know. I did it.

When you have simple systems in place, your students, even the young ones, will be able to get to work right away.

Because they'll know what to do.

Because you'll have taught them the simple systems that make teaching and learning a wonderful experience.

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In case we've never met, I'm Suzanne Pitner, and I'm the face behind TeacherWriter LLC.

•I'm a former teacher with 19 years of experience in the elementary classroom.

•I'm also a writer with hundreds of articles and over a dozen books published.

•I received the Yolo County Excellence in Education award two years in a row.

•I served many years as a mentor teacher and a trainer of mentor teachers.

•I worked on the district curriculum committee and served as Site Council President.

•I spent four years as a contributing editor for an online information site about education and writing. My passion is writing and teaching writing. My most memorable moment, even more important to me than any awards was this.

I had a young boy tell me on the first day of school, "Mrs. Pitner, I hate writing. I've always hated writing. It's horrible and I hate it."

I looked at him and said, "That's okay. But do you think you could give me a few weeks with you and then you can let me know how you're feeling again?"

He uncrossed his arms and thought for a moment.

"I promise I'll try to make it fun for you," I told him.

He nodded, grudgingly. "Okay. But I'm telling you. I hate writing." It seemed like those weeks flew by. We headed into the holiday season, and I had a month of virtual traveling and travel writing planned for the class.

He came in from recess, plopped down at his desk, pulled out his writing journal, and almost shouted, "Guess what? I used to hate writing, but now I love it! It's my favorite time of day!"

Let me tell you, I stored those words in my heart. That meant more to me than anything else.

At that moment, I knew I wanted to help other teachers, beyond my own classroom, be able to enjoy the same sense of satisfaction and happiness in learning and writing. I'm happy to share my knowledge with you and to help you streamline your teaching workday so that you don't have to work on the weekends.

Every teacher deserves the weekend to relax!





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