



# Great Seneca Creek's Family Reading Night 2009

*Good readers read like good writers!*

## Black Station- Primary Writing Workshop

**Outcome:** The parents and students will listen to Dear Mr. Blueberry by Simon James and participate in a shared writing experience.

Teachers: Ms. Julia Lee and Ms. Stephanie Raleigh  
Time: 30 minutes

### Why is shared writing important?

Regie Routman (2002) lists several benefits of utilizing the shared writing strategy with children. Some of these include the recognition that shared writing:

- Reinforces and supports reading as well as writing
- Encourages close examination of texts, words, and options of authors
- Demonstrates the conventions of writing- spelling, punctuation, and grammar
- Engages students in writing
- Children learn about the writing process

### Here are some ideas to help your child enjoy writing at home.

1. Let your child see you as a writer. Model making lists, jotting down reminders, and writing notes and instructions occasionally.
2. Keep a journal with your child. "Whether it's to grandmother's house, a restaurant or to a soccer game, there is always plenty to observe and write about. Share the pen with your child and enjoy writing!"
3. Give your child time to express his/her ideas orally before writing them down.
4. Respond to the ideas your child expresses verbally or in writing. Make it clear that you are interested in the **true function of writing** which is to convey ideas. This means focusing on "what" your child has written, not "how" it was written. It's usually wise to ignore minor errors, particularly at the stage when your child is just getting ideas together.