

The Write Way to Scaffold

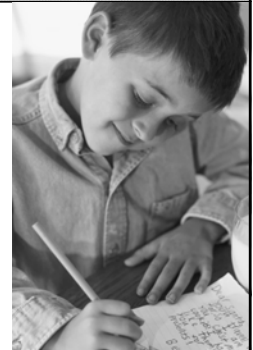
Assisting boys with writing

Jerome Griffin



What is a scaffold?

- Framework to assist boys with writing
- Key words or phrases according to genre
- Templates of starters, connectors and sentence modifiers



What research says - Vygotsky



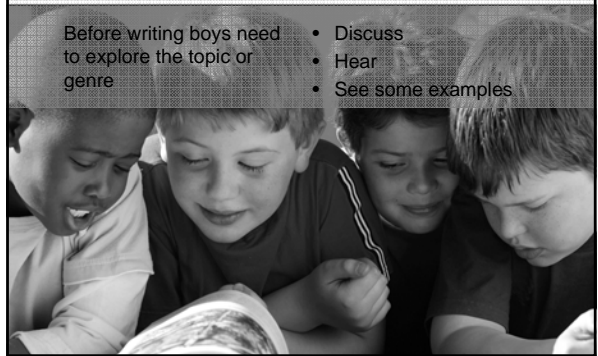
Zone of proximal development

Difference between what a learner can do without help and what he can do with help

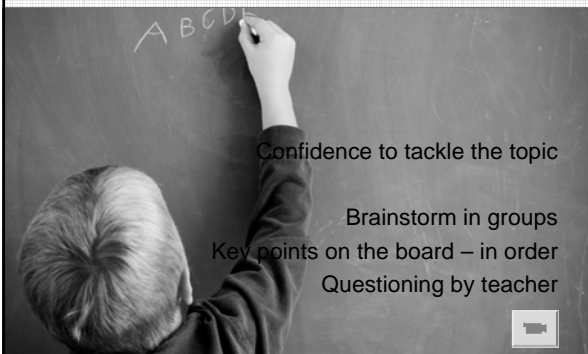
What research says - Vygotsky

Before writing boys need to explore the topic or genre

- Discuss
- Hear
- See some examples



Communication and brainstorming



Confidence to tackle the topic

Brainstorm in groups

Key points on the board – in order
Questioning by teacher

Mother's Day poem



- Teach the beat: 2/2 4/3 4/4
- What does your mother like to do? Favourite pastimes, exercise etc.
- What does she like to eat and drink?
- Favourite or funny sayings
- Any amusing idiosyncrasies? (habits)
- Some of your mum's great qualities

Name:	Date:
Title: A Book Review – Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing	

<p>Whenever you read a book or watch a film, many erudite people, like yourselves, enjoy discussing the characters, the plot and style of the author or director.</p> <p>Use the following guidelines to construct a review of the novel for the local newspaper. Remember: write approximately two or three sentences on each guideline.</p>
GUIDELINES:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A brief account of what the book is about - do not disclose the ending.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your favourite part or character.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comment on the author's style. (Did she create excitement or drama? Was the language easy to read? Was it humorous? Did Judy Blume build the plot gradually?)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What you liked or disliked about the book.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finish off by saying what you have learnt after reading this book.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give the novel a mark out of ten and to which age group would you recommend this book (one or two sentences)
<p>N.B. Endeavour to mix your sentence beginnings and use vivid language to make your piece of writing vibrant.</p>
<p>Extension: compare 'Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing' with the last book you read. Mention similarities and differences; you could also compare the different writing styles of the authors.</p>

Name: A student example

Date:

Title: A Book Review – Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing

Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing is about a nine-year old boy called Peter who is very intelligent and responsible. Peter won a turtle called Dribble at Jimmy Fargo's birthday party. Peter has a very annoying brother called Fudge.

Fudge is two years old and very immature - unlike Peter.

Peter lives in an apartment in New York. Mr Bevelheimer is the lift operator.

Peter told Mr B what he had received at the party. Mr B said in a sarcastic voice, "Your mother will be surprised". Mr B was right. Peter's mother (Mrs Hatcher) thought the turtle smelt bad.

One night Mrs Hatcher caught Fudge eating flowers. Mrs Hatcher called the doctor. The doctor said to give him some Panadol and put him to bed.

Mr Hatcher works for the Juicy O Company.

One night Mr Hatcher's boss (Mr Yarby) and his wife came over to stay a couple of nights. When they arrived, Peter greeted them politely. Mrs Yarby bought Fudge a toy train and Peter a dictionary. Peter already had one but said thanks to be polite. Mrs Hatcher put Fudge to bed and then everyone had dinner. "What will It be, Mr Yarby?"

"Juicy O, of course."

A few minutes later Fudge came through carrying Peter's old dictionary.

Mr Yarby muttered, "Children are so rude these days." Mrs Hatcher put Fudge to bed again and went back to make dessert.

Once everyone had finished dessert, Fudge came through again with a gorilla mask on and holding Dribble. Peter jumped up and snatched Dribble out of Fudge's hands. Peter had told Fudge never to touch his turtle.

In the morning Peter woke up with Fudge on him holding Dribble. Peter grabbed the turtle and put him on the top shelf.

The next day the Yarbys told everyone they were going to leave but when they reached for their suitcase it was covered in stickers.

Mr Yarby said, "If I have children of my own ill teach them some old fashioned manners."

My Blue Back Essay

Abel and his mother live in Longboat Bay on the South West coast of Western Australia. They both love the land down there in Longboat Bay. But lately Dora Jackson has been having some troubles: developers have been trying to get her to sell the land – so they can build big resorts. Now she has to decide will she sell it or not. In my opinion I think she should not sell because there are negatives to selling e.g.: the sea could be wrecked, Abel might be homesick etc etc.

Firstly ,why would Dora sell this great bay – just for a load of money. How would it make her happy? I'm sure they are happy at Longboat Bay. And if they leave, who would look after Blue Back? Without Abel caring for him, people could just go out and kill him for food. Or they could build some large aquarium like AQWA. So Abel should stay with Blue Back because he has been caring for the fish for years. He loves to fool around with the fish and feed him the correct food. But if they build these resorts the water might be polluted by all of the machinery, boats, global warming and the life cycle stopping because of the small fish dying.

Next, my second opinion is that the land they live on is very beautiful. I don't think you would find many places like this. And with Abel and his mother here at Longboat Bay the environment is being well looked after by them. But when these developers come, they are going to be building large hotels and fishing boats, and that will destroy the environment and, even worse, all the pollution will harm the air; kill some rare native trees; the birds could become sick and die. Some people might say they should move to Roebuck Bay – that is where Abel's father died. But if they did it might bring bad memories.

Lastly, what would Mr. Jackson think about them selling. The family has been there for generations. This house, the bay and the Peppermint tree is a symbol to their family. It would be a horrible scene for Abel to watch his house being destroyed, the bay being wrecked, and even worse, the Peppermint Tree and Blue Back going. If they leave, things could get worse: after a while they might feel bad about moving, and would like to go back. The money could run out, and if their money runs out, they might lose a lot, and in the end money is not too important to the Jackson family so I think they would rather stay.

Some people may argue that she could spend more time with Abel, get modern comforts and a new lifestyle. Now with a new lifestyle she could be like the other mothers with flash cars, but I don't think she would like that. She seems different to all the other mothers; she does not like the city. It means that her place is Longboat Bay with Abel. It seems to be where she lives.

Finally I believe that they should stay because money does not matter to them. They would rather fish and caring for Blue Back. Even with the money they could still get better fresh food from their gardens. At supermarkets it might be sprayed? Finally to give my conclusion I would like to say that Dora Jackson should not sell.

Name:

Date:

Title: Blue Back

Essay: Dora Jackson should sell Longboat Bay to the Developers

Your essay should have **six** paragraphs:

- an opening paragraph which states a background of the situation (a brief outline of the story or problem) as well as your point of view;
- three points (a paragraph each) to support your view; (See points on the board)
- one paragraph against (which opposes your view). This paragraph could begin with... "Some people may argue..." (See points on the board)
- conclusion. Begin with: Finally...
- **Each paragraph should have two or three sentences.**

My Dad

My Father loves to go for a run
And when he does he says its fun

He always makes me train so hard
By making me run around the yard

He often enjoys a fish curry
As he often makes my mother hurry

I know you say my brother is crazy
Even when he is so lazy

Of course you are a really good bloke
You love to tell a really good joke

You always love to scratch your hair
But in a few years it'll all be bare

Why do you turn your coffee around
Without even uttering a sound

I know you hate our renovation
Even when you're on vacation

You always enjoy a cup of coffee
Even with a piece of toffee

Dad I appreciate all you do.... But overall I love you!

My Father's Day Poem

We're driving down the highway
Doing ninety-four
Then you suddenly hit breaks
And blow us out the door

The engine was about to blow
The gearbox fell apart
Coolly, that's what happens
When daddy play his part

The car just caused a lot of carnage
The people hated it
My life would soon be turned to dust
Then the car lit

Dad just scratched his head and asked:
"What are we to do?"
"Come on Pie Boy, think of something"
"Dad I'm trying to"

"Wait I know" he said quickly
"Jump out of a door"
Both of us then kicked at the windows,
Doors, roof and floor

Finally a door gave way
And both of us jumped out
We ran away at top speed
"Run faster" then I shout

We both then jump behind a bush
As we hear a boom
Even if it was his Porsche
Which landed in my room

Dad I appreciate all you do
But overall... I Love You

Title: Father's Day Poem Scaffold
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Mrs Malone

Mrs Malone

Lived hard by a wood

All on her lonesome

As nobody should

With her crust on a plate

And her pot on the coal

With none but herself

To converse with poor soul

The ABC

T'was midnight in the schoolroom

And every desk was shut,

When suddenly from the alphabet

Was heard a loud "Tut-tut"

Said A to B, "I don't like C;

His manners are a lack

For all I ever see of C

Is a semi-circular back!"

The Shark

A treacherous monster is the shark

He never makes the least remark

And when he sees you on the sand

He doesn't seem to want to land

Father's Day Planning

You are going to write a poem for your father to help him celebrate Father's Day. In order to do this you must write down points to help you with your rhyme.

What does your father like to do? Include his favourite pastimes, exercise, etc.

What does your father like to eat and drink?

What are some of your father's favourite or funny sayings?

Does your father have any amusing idiosyncrasies? (habits)

Can you remember any amusing or funny stories about dad or a special time you had together?

For your last verse/s, name some of your dad's great qualities

Using 4/4, 4/3 or 2/2 beat, write the best poem you can for your father. The key to success is perseverance. Keep persisting and you will be amazed what you will come up with.

My Father's Day Poem

[illegible]

Name:	Date:
Title: Ingredients For Successful Narrative Writing	

Title: Peter, Jimmy and Sheila are Mugged at Central Park
Planning:
1 st Paragraph: Who is in the story? Where is it taking place? What is happening at the beginning? Describe the characters or scene.
2 nd (and maybe third) paragraph/s. A complication occurs. The trio are mugged. Describe what happens in detail and tease out the exciting parts. Include feelings. Avoid using too much dialogue.
3 rd paragraph. Resolution. What did they lose? Did they catch the mugger? Did everything turn out all right? Were the police involved? Did the children use their brains or initiative to stop or capture the muggers? Perhaps there is a twist.
4 th paragraph. Back in the apartment after the mugging. What happened in the end?

Midnight Mugging

Yawn!!! said Peter as he jumped out of bed. It was 12:00 midnight. Peter walked to the kitchen, rustled up some breakfast, grabbed a piece of paper and quickly wrote: 'Dear mum, I have gone to Central Park with Jimmy and Sheila. Love from Peter. He stuck the note on his bedroom door and left .

As he walked to the elevator, he realised someone was coming up. He quickly hid behind one of the walls. He heard two people coming up one was his dad!

"Mr Hatcher, please reconsider," said the other man.

"No!" replied Pete's dad in a stern voice. Peter could hear them arguing until they went into a room at the end of a corridor. Then Peter stepped inside the elevator, pressed the button G and he was off.

Peter reached ground floor and discretely walked outside until he could hide in the shadows. Peter strolled over to the rocks where Jimmy and Sheila were waiting for him.

"Now, before we get started we need to do a roll call," said Sheila.

"Peter," Sheila said.

"Here," replied Peter.

"Jimmy" said Sheila.

"Here," replied Jimmy. Then a voice said,

"Mugger, here". Peter Jimmy and Sheila all looked up and, on the tallest rock, was a man dressed entirely in black. He jumped off the rock and landed next to Sheila.

"I'll take those," announced the mugger ripping off Sheila's earrings and running off.

Jimmy said, "Let's follow him." But Peter was already chasing him.

The man reached a door, pressed a button, and muttered, "Gunshot". A computerised voice said, "Enter." The door opened and the man stepped inside. Almost immediately the door closed. Peter Stopped and waited for Jimmy to catch

up to him then they both slowly made their way to the door and (both of them were shaking). They said the word, "Gunshot." The computerized voice said, "Enter." They both ran in and jumped behind a box. The man that stole the earrings placed them in a bag and said, "We have enough. Get the box." One rather obese mugger walked over to where Peter and Jimmy were hiding, picked up a box, threw it across the room and announced: "Look who we have here, boys"

The man threw them onto the table, pulled out a gun and pointed it at their chests. He was about to pull the trigger when Sheila burst through the door into the room. The man turned and fired at Sheila but missed; the bullet ricocheted off the wall and hit the light switch. All was black. Peter heard a gun shot. The light went back on and someone had a gun at Peter's chest. "Lights out!" he yelled and pulled the trigger. BAM!!!!!! Flames exploded from the gun and Peter went flying back ten metres but landed on his feet. Peter stood there so still it looked like... like... like he was dead! Thirty seconds later, Peter clenched his fist and punched the obese thief right between the eyes. At that moment the police broke in through the windows and one of them yelled, "FREEZE!" The police arrested the muggers and drove off without so much as a backwards glance.

As Jimmy, Sheila and Peter started walking, Jimmy asked Peter, "How did you survive the bullet?" Peter pulled out a necklace that had a cross on it. The cross was badly dented. "God saved me," said Peter. Peter, Sheila and Jimmy all laughed as they walked into the sunset.

The Boatshed at Christ Church

It is a pleasant day.

The water, blue as a sapphire, is slapping continuously against the creamy, soft sand.

It looks so inviting to have a little swim in it.

There is a gentle breeze, whispering in my ear.

Along the side of the sea, forests of trees are grown on the land.

Above them, houses are clinging on the cliffs.

It is a beautiful sight.

So quiet, so peaceful – it makes me feel like no one else is here – just me.

It reminds me of the beach – water, sand and nature.

The boats are white with colourful flags wrapped around them.

They are bouncing and bumping up and down in the turquoise water.

The pale white seagulls are soaring across the light blue sky.

They are calling to each other with loud squawks.

I wish I could stay here forever.

A View From the Boatshed

A deep blue river sways gently to and from above a bed of soft, marshmallow sand.

Nine magnificent pale white boats sit as still as a statue on the gentle river.

The tall, green trees along the hillside divide the delicate river from the small, white village above.

I hear two sea gulls squawking to each other, making a cacophony, but I can't see them.

There is a small wooden jetty leading about fifteen metres out to the turquoise river.

All this reminds me of the elegant Swan River.

On the far side of the large river there is a boat dock where hundreds of soporific vessels are at rest.

Thousands of fabulous, soft white clouds soar high above my head as I write.

On the other side of the laughing river there are a number of tiny boats riding round and round and round.

It's so amazing, stunning, beautiful I can't take my eyes off it.

The tranquil waves, far away, look like tiny crystals waiting to be discovered.

All the distractions around me are blocked by the joy of the waves playing and chasing each other to the shore.

The gentle wind is being whipped in my ear, like cream.

And all this makes me contented and never ever want to leave.

The Boatshed at Christ Church

There are huge armies of boats surrounding the waters.

In the distance I can see clouds moving as slow as a shark
approaching his enemy.

A jetty is lying there dead as a doornail - and about to crack
because it is as old as the hills.

A flock of white seagulls are flying like someone called them.

In the distance I can see huge white boats facing me as if they
were about to start a race.

The sky is as blue as the shiny reflective water.

A tour guide boat is steaming past me although I can barely see it.

Clouds are making shapes as if trying to tell me something.

Shade is showering over a few trees right next to me.

The wind is whistling and tickling my ear.

Flies are buzzing around me like crazy.

It's getting late I really should be getting home.

River Prose

Find a quiet, peaceful, tranquil setting. Listen to the sounds, observe what is around you; stay silent. Jot down what you see and feel; then write down images that enter your head. Does the setting remind you of anything? Look for movement, colours and texture; what smells are present? Include similes and metaphors. Silence and reflection are the keys to success.

[illegible]

Name:	Date:
Title: Recount of the first two chapters of Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing	

When writing a recount, we must remember to include: who, what, where and why. Begin by describing the main characters and the events which take place. Please endeavour to mix up your sentence beginnings and make your writing interesting. Also, try to include your favourite part of the story and anything which may have fascinated you.

Some sentence beginnings which may help you: Before, After, Later, Finally, Meanwhile, Eventually. First, Next, During, When, Soon.

Extension
Experiment by beginning a sentence with an ...ing or an ...ly word, eg. Forgetting all danger, Bilbo stood on the ledge and greeted the dwarves.
Luckily there was no sun to cast a shadow so Bilbo crept forward silently.

1st Paragraph: Who is the book about? Give a brief description of the characters.

2nd Paragraph: Where does the action take place? What happens in the early part of the novel?

3rd Paragraph: What happens towards the end of the two chapters.
