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The role of the teacher in building the writerly lives of learners

Many teachers see themselves as readers and excitedly share their passion with their students, thereby creating literacy rich learning environments with awesome classroom libraries and magical daily read aloud moments. They also skilfully teach necessary reading habits and thinking strategies to their students. But what about writing? How can the development of young writers be supported when teachers do not themselves as writers? What ways might be found to learn to become a teacher who writes and who therefore ignites the love of writing in students? How can the process, craft and habits of writers be taught?

In this presentation, teachers will hear: stories and advice that invite them to look deeply into how their own modelling and practice influences high-quality writing instruction; nudges them to become teachers who write; helps them examine their teacher language; and encourages them to consider how to give choice, voice and ownership to students. It provides practical tools from writerly walks to writing "emergency kits" that all support creating a classroom learning environment that helps students to have the confidence and skills necessary to express themselves in writing.