

Implementing and Assessing

Ten Easy Steps to a Successful Caught'ya

1. Choose the story you wish to use from this book. If you teach seventh or eighth grade, read the earlier parts of the story to your class from Chapter 5 so that they know what already happened.
2. Decide whether you want to change the level of difficulty of the Caught'yas, and then A) pull up the student Caught'yas from the CD; B) make the changes; C) print out the student Caught'yas; and D) make overheads.
3. Put the day's Caught'ya on the overhead (or write it on the board) with the day and date at the top. Write the suggested journal topic. Assign an extra task.
4. Read the Caught'ya dramatically; review the vocabulary word(s); discuss the need for a new paragraph; and warn of a difficult skill.
5. Students then enter the vocabulary words into their vocabulary notebooks, write the Caught'ya as correctly as they can with a heading at the top of their papers, write an entry in their journals, and complete whatever extra task you assigned for the day.
6. Walk around the room, commenting on each student's efforts, praising, teasing, or giving a hint or a quick mini-lesson.
7. Go to the board or overhead and check the Caught'ya out loud with the class, eliciting answers and reasons for corrections from students.
8. Students mark mistakes and take notes.
9. Students count and indicate the number of errors in the margin of their papers.
10. Collect one paper per student after five Caught'yas have been completed, and grade only one Caught'ya per paper, noting the errors still missed so that the skills can be repeated in subsequent Caught'yas.