

Writing Conference—Making Narrative Connections

Hubbard Mastery School/ Columbus City Schools, Columbus, Ohio
First Grade—Amy Harrison

AMY: What do you want to share today?

TI'SHAWN: This one.

AMY: OK. This was from your file?

TI'SHAWN: Yes.

AMY: OK, let's push this off to the side for a bit. OK, bring that one over. Do you want to read your story to me, or do you just want to talk about it?

TI'SHAWN: I want to talk about it.

AMY: OK. Talk about your story.

TI'SHAWN: Um, it's a story about my mom's birthday.

AMY: Oh, OK.

TI'SHAWN: I wanted to spend my money that I saved up for her present, but she said no.

AMY: Oh, why did she say no?

TI'SHAWN: Because she wanted me to spend my money on something I wanted to spend it on.

AMY: Aw, OK.

TI'SHAWN: So I gave her \$44.

AMY: You did?

TI'SHAWN: Yeah.

AMY: OK. And then what happened?

TI'SHAWN: We went to Toys R Us, and I got a drone and Monopoly. It's on this page.

AMY: OK, OK. So—

TI'SHAWN: My drone flew away.

AMY: OK.

TI'SHAWN: But we played Monopoly two times.

AMY: OK. And then what happened on this part?

TI'SHAWN: Her cake was a carrot cake, and it was a long time since I've had carrot cake. I tried it and I liked it.

AMY: Oh, OK. Did you write about that?

TI'SHAWN: I said—

AMY: Did you write about the—it's been a long time since I had carrot cake part? I think that would be a good one to put in. OK, so this is a story about your mom's birthday.

TI'SHAWN: Yeah.

AMY: OK. So what made you decide to get this book?

TI'SHAWN: Because there wasn't a lot, but there was just enough for three pages.

AMY: OK. And I noticed that your writing went all the way down on this page, so you have a lot of writing on all three of your pages. Can you talk about the middle part? Will you read your middle part?

TI'SHAWN: We went to Toys R Us. I got a drone. It flew away. I got monopoly. We played it two times.

AMY: OK. So—you talk about your mom’s birthday for the first part.

TI’SHAWN: Yeah.

AMY: And then—when you went to Toys R Us, was that on your mom’s birthday?

TI’SHAWN: Yes.

AMY: OK. Because she didn’t want you to spend your money on her, she wanted you to buy something for yourself. On her birthday.

TI’SHAWN: Yeah.

AMY: Wow. That’s really nice. And so, then you get back home, and this is what happens here?

TI’SHAWN: Yes.

AMY: OK.

TI’SHAWN: No, we went to my grandma’s house.

AMY: OK. You went to your grandma's house for the cake?

TI’SHAWN: Yeah.

AMY: Do you want to put that in your story?

TI’SHAWN: No.

AMY: You don’t? You’re OK with how it is now?

TI’SHAWN: Yes.

AMY: OK. Were there any words that were tricky for you, that you were wondering how to write?

TI’SHAWN: Monopoly.

AMY: OK, let's look at that. What part was tricky?

TI'SHAWN: Um—this part.

AMY: OK. Did you—you've probably seen that word before?

TI'SHAWN: Yeah.

AMY: And this is absolutely how you write Monopoly. There's just Os for all the vowels. That's the only change. And because it's a game, it gets a capital letter. It's the name of a game. So we can put that in here if you ever need it again. We'll put this on your word wall.

And I think you could even write a story just about playing Monopoly, because that—I know how long that game can go, and that might be a good story to write about.

TI'SHAWN: It was a different kind of Monopoly. It was a min-min Monopoly, because it cost less money, so we got that one.

AMY: Oh, OK. Still, it could be a story. At least, that's what I think.

OK, so there's that. Anything else you were wondering about when you were writing?

TI'SHAWN: No.

AMY: OK. When do you think you might give a four-page book a try?

TI'SHAWN: The one I was writing is a four-page book.

AMY: Oh, your next one right here is? OK, great. So we'll probably hear that at sharing time next time. OK? All right, so there you go. You're ready.