

HIS FAMILY



My Story

Many children identify with Arthur, D.W., and their family. Using the writing process, children tell about experiences they have in common with the characters and contribute to a class book.

Materials

- ARTHUR book or program
- cardboard
- chart paper
- large composition paper

Preparation

Make a cardboard template for the shape of your class book, for example, a tooth for a book about losing baby teeth, a rattle for a book about a new baby.

Invite several older students from another class to participate. They can relate their own experiences, meet with children to discuss their ideas, act as scribes, and listen as children read their work.

Directions

- 1** Introduce the book topic and ask children to describe their personal experiences. List some of the main ideas of their stories.
- 2** After sharing an ARTHUR book or program, invite children to compare their own experiences with those of the characters. How are they alike or different? Hold brief conferences with each student (or guide older students to conduct the conferences) to review what he or she has chosen to write about.
- 3** Show children how to trace your template onto paper and cut out the shape. They can then write or dictate a few sentences about their experience and add pictures. Help them check spelling and punctuation. Attach the pages together for a class book.

Take It Further

Produce your own live "A Word from Us Kids" segment in which children display and read aloud their pages for the older students' class. If available, use a video camera for taping.

Home/School Connection

Suggest that a family member watch an ARTHUR program at home with the student. (If scheduling is a problem, families can borrow or rent a program from the classroom, library, or video store.) Provide a list of questions to discuss together:
What problems did the family have?
How were the problems solved? Who helped? Who helps you solve problems?
(Note: If children are unable to do this at home, you may want to assume the role of family member.)



ARTHUR Books and Programs
Arthur's Baby ★
Arthur's Family Vacation ★
Arthur's Tooth ★
D.W. All Wet ★

Read All About It

Fathers, Mothers, Sisters, Brothers: A Collection of Family Poems,
Mary Ann Hoberman
Julius, the Baby of the World,
Kevin Henkes
Too Many Tamales, Gary Soto

