

# Contents

**Introduction:** How to Use This Book ♦ viii

## **I. Writing to Remember** ♦ 1

- 1 Childhood Memories ♦ 2
- 2 Mother ♦ 4
- 3 Father ♦ 6
- 4 What's Your Name? ♦ 8
- 5 My First Day of School ♦ 10
- 6 Teacher ♦ 12
- 7 Best Friend ♦ 14
- 8 First Love ♦ 16
- 9 Cat, Dog, Parrot? ♦ 18
- 10 Happiness ♦ 20
- 11 Influences: People in Our Lives ♦ 22
- 12 Memories in Small Bags ♦ 24
- 13 Reflections on Water ♦ 26
- 14 The Character Sketch ♦ 28
- 15 Favorite Place ♦ 30
- 16 Take Your Reader Shopping ♦ 32
- 17 The Gift ♦ 34
- 18 Mementos ♦ 36
- 19 Your City or Town: A Detail in Focus ♦ 38
- 20 Something from Home ♦ 40
- 21 Changes ♦ 42
- 22 Strange Encounters of a New Kind ♦ 44
- 23 Conversation – A Lost Art? ♦ 46
- 24 Rain ♦ 48
- 25 Snow ♦ 50
- 26 Choose Your Season ♦ 52

## **II. Writing with the Five Senses** ♦ 55

- 1 Are You Listening? ♦ 56
- 2 Smell and Memory ♦ 58
- 3 Touch ♦ 60
- 4 Spring's Here! ♦ 62
- 5 Chocolate Chip Cookie Day ♦ 64

Talk and Write! ♦ **iii**

**III. Writing Around the Holidays ♦ 67**

- 1 Writing from the Heart ♦ 68
- 2 Heroes in History ♦ 70
- 3 St. Patrick's Day ♦ 72
- 4 BOO! ♦ 74
- 5 Ghost Stories ♦ 76
- 6 Voyages and Thanksgiving ♦ 78

**IV. Writing with the Imagination ♦ 81**

- 1 Finding Beauty in the Ordinary ♦ 82
- 2 An Imaginary Trip to an Art Museum ♦ 84
- 3 Drawing Into Writing ♦ 86
- 4 What Am I? ♦ 88
- 5 I Am A... ♦ 90
- 6 Folktales and Storytelling ♦ 92
- 7 One More Frog and Toad ♦ 94
- 8 Make a PB and J ♦ 96
- 9 Queen and King for a Day ♦ 98
- 10 Tick, Tock, I'm a Clock ♦ 100
- 11 Go Ahead, Exaggerate! ♦ 102
- 12 Shoes ♦ 104
- 13 Attitude Through Adjectives ♦ 106
- 14 An Autumn Leaf ♦ 108

**V. Writing Activities for Pairs and Groups ♦ 111**

- 1 The Personal Interview ♦ 112
- 2 Who Are They? What Do They Do? ♦ 114
- 3 What Happens Next? ♦ 116
- 4 Story from a Wordless Picture Book ♦ 118
- 5 Love Story ♦ 120
- 6 Writing as a Process ♦ 122
- 7 Writing a Thank-You Note ♦ 124
- 8 Keep Your Reader at the End of Your Pencil ♦ 126

**VI. Writing Poetry** ♦ 129

- 1 A First Look at Poetry ♦ 130
- 2 What's Hanging on My Clothesline? ♦ 132
- 3 Another Look at Poetry ♦ 134
- 4 Poetry and Rhyme ♦ 136
- 5 Color Your Poem ♦ 138
- 6 Put Yourself in Poetry ♦ 140

**Appendix: Handouts for III. Writing Around the Holidays** ♦ 142

- Writing from the Heart (Valentine's Day) ♦ 144
- Heroes in History ♦ 145
- St. Patrick's Day ♦ 146
- Halloween ♦ 147
- Voyages and Thanksgiving ♦ 148

**Skills Index** ♦ 149

- Adjectives
- Brainstorming
- Comparison and Contrast
- Dialogue
- Hyperbole
- Hyphenated Modifiers
- Imagery
- Mood
- Narrowing Focus
- Poetry
- Point of View/Personification
- Sensory Writing
- Similes and Metaphors
- Speed Writing
- Transitions
- Writing in the Descriptive
- Writing in the Expository
- Writing in the Narrative