



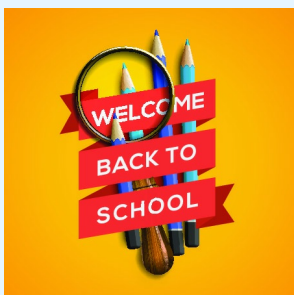
Collins Education Associates

The Collins Writing Program

A Writing Across the Curriculum Program with Over 35 Years of Proven Results

The Collins Writing Exchange

September 18, 2025 Issue #84



A Fresh Start

"I've always loved the first day of school better than the last day of school.

Firsts are best because they are beginnings."

- Jenny Han, author

My granddaughter looked at me over dinner recently and announced she was *happy-nervous* about starting first grade. That descriptor is my new favorite-- *happy-nervous*. It describes so many of us on every first day of school. Teachers are happy about seeing friends and colleagues; meeting new cohorts of students; and beginning a new year full of promise and anticipation. At the same time, we are a little nervous about decisions made that are *too late to change*; if we have planned the right teaching path for the year; and not being sure about where to start!!! But, remember, being *happy-nervous* means we chose the right job and that we still care! We at CEA strive to help you keep the *happy* and alleviate the *nerves* by providing some great inspiration to kick off the writing, thinking, and learning journey that the new school year will bring.

Enjoy these "Back to School" gifts...

Risk Free Writing for All

Download these beginning-of-the-year quickwrites that help you get to know students, foster social-emotional learning, generate excitement for your content, and start reaching your learning destinations.

[Great Type Ones to Start the Year](#)

Diagnostic Writing

Find out where your students are as writers and where you need to take them with these diagnostic writing prompts.

[K-2 3-5 6-12](#)

For instructions, pre-assessment rubrics, and more, see our complete [Writing Roadmap](#).

Collins Free-for-All

We all love FREE, and our **Free Resources** offer effective and engaging options for starting your writing journey this year--templates, letters to parents, FCAs, and more! Don't stay nervous about where to start. Get happy by filling that teacher tool bag.

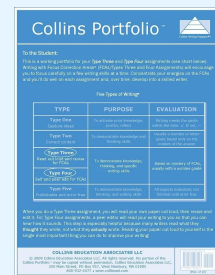
[Free Stuff!!!](#)

Power Student Growth with Writing Portfolios

Our specially-designed **Collins Portfolios** are working and learning folders. They help students set learning goals, record their progress, and reflect on your feedback. Teachers especially love the student reflection component of our portfolios--a built-in log that encourages students to take the lead in their own writing progress.

See our Guide to Using Writing Portfolios

Purchase Portfolios

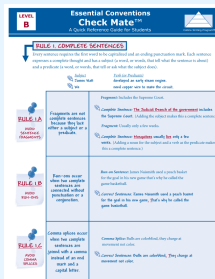


Our portfolios get kids thinking about **their** writing and **your** feedback-- as shown in the student reflection log below.

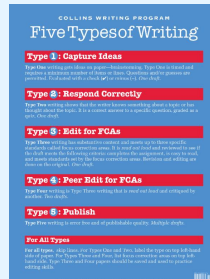
Assignment Number	Circle Type	Assignment Title or Description	Reflections: What did you learn?
EXAMPLE	3	John Doe's Paper	Plan to write just one or two of the paper concepts.
1	1	School Planning	One writing goal for the year is working on details.
2	1	Special Landmark	One writing goal I'm good at is details to details.
3	1	Business Research - Landmark	I did well in sequencing.
4	1	Business Research - People	I did well in seq.
5	1	Business Research - Report	The teacher thing about this research was going on in my own words.
6	1	Business Research - Introduction	My introduction was not written growing.
7	1	Business Research - Conclusion	The teacher thing about this research was going on in my own words.
8	1	Business Research - Beautiful Beach	The best line in my poem is the end is the end.
9	1	Special Object in my Special Object	This writing was challenging because the topic was so difficult to write.

"The beginning is the most important part of the work." - Plato

More Great Tools for Starting Strong!



Working on improving essential conventions in student writing? Check out our full line of **Check Mate** products, including posters!

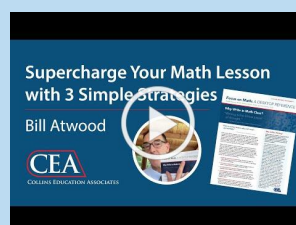


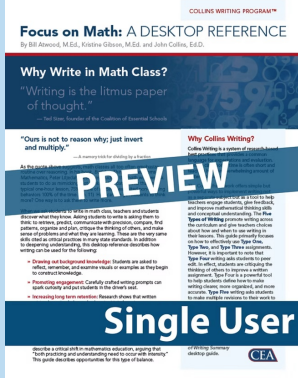
Need a little Collins tutorial for yourself or your students? Try our Five Types of Writing classroom posters or **At-A-Glance Desktop Guide** for teachers.



Who says kindergartners can't write yet? Not us! Grab our popular **FCA stamps** to guide them on their journey from drawings to sounds to sentences.

New Desktop Guides





The wait is over!
Our *Focus on Math Desktop Guide* is here and ready to ship! It has everything you need to build math skills and thinking through writing.

Get yours now!

Meet CEA consultant and math specialist, Bill Atwood, as he shares some of the activities in the *Focus on Math Desktop Guide* and helps you **Supercharge Your Math Lessons** in this fun and engaging webinar.

Keep an eye out for our **BRAND NEW** *Literacy in the CTE Classroom Desktop Guide*.

Task words, quickwrite prompts, Type Threes...all specially-designed for the CTE environment. We can't wait!

Buy Products | Collins Education Associates

"The expert in anything was once a beginner." - Helen Hayes, actor

Let One of our Experts Get You Started with Collins Writing

Ohio Public Sessions

Exploring & Maximizing the Reading-Writing Connection to Build Literacy

K-5 Literacy Teachers/Coaches

This session will focus on aligning frequent and purposeful writing with your current reading curriculum. Explore strategies that draw on your current resources to build writing skills and that use writing to improve reading. This workshop will include time to delve into your reading series materials and plan writing assignments that you can start using right away with students.

Improving Student Performance: Writing & Thinking Across the Curriculum

K-12 Teachers/Administrators

This workshop provides an in-depth overview of the Collins Writing Program. It shows educators (in any content area) how to use the Five Types of Writing to increase students' understanding and retention of course content while simultaneously increasing student involvement and motivation to learn. The day will be engaging, interactive, and entertaining.

Date: September 30, 2025
Location: Indian Lake Middle School, Lewistown
Instructor: Kristine Gibson, CEO - Collins Education Associates

[Learn More](#)

Date: October 1, 2025
Location: Indian Lake Middle School, Lewistown
Instructor: Kristine Gibson, CEO - Collins Education Associates

[Learn More](#)



Announcing Collins A La Carte!

Keep an eye out for our new menu choices of virtual sessions for individuals, cohorts, departments, PLCs, or full staff. These can be one, two, or three hour sessions. They can be single sessions or scheduled throughout the year. PLC groups or departments can select what is meaningful for them and individual teachers can choose according to their own tastes.

We anticipate offering some long-time favorites (quickwrites, summaries, vocabulary, etc) and spicing up the menu with some new offerings (writing for work in CTE, text-based questions/prompts, the math and literacy connection, improving and enhancing sentences, and anything else you ask for - *special orders don't upset us!*)

A La Carte Menu to be posted soon - Keep checking in at www.collinsed.com

*Want to do an A La Carte session sooner?
Have an idea for a training topic?
Contact [Cheryl McDonough](#)*

CEA is Launching Something Else New, Too!

We are kicking off our own *new beginning* on social media, and we'd love for you to be part of it! Follow along on your platform of choice for fresh ideas, resources, and inspiration to support teaching and learning. Join us as we grow this community together!



**Contact Us
Now**

**FREE
RESOURCES**

**PUBLIC
WORKSHOPS**

**RESEARCH &
RESULTS**

**SHOP FOR
PRODUCTS**

**ABOUT THE
CWP**

Was this email forwarded to you by a friend or colleague?

**Sign
Up**

to be added to our mailing list.



Share This Email



Share This Email



Share This Email

[Our Company](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [FAQs](#)

Collins Education Associates | 601 Route 206 Suite 26-405 | Hillsborough, NJ 08844 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)