

## **“AUTHOR’S CHAIR” ACTIVITY / RULES FOR PEER RESPONSE**

### **Teacher Handout**

**Note to teachers:** It is strongly recommended that the teacher model the steps in this procedure. It may also be necessary to provide verbal prompts for some or all of the steps during the first few attempts of this activity until students are more comfortable with what is expected of them. This will help to make the procedure more fluid, as well as build students’ confidence as they develop their public speaking skills.

#### **The procedures for sharing include, but are not limited to the following:**

The selected author (s) take the author’s chair (or podium) to read his/her writing aloud. Authors may use any visual aids or equipment available for their presentation; this includes the board, document camera or overhead projector, computer with LCD projector for power point, posters, pictures, or illustrations.

Students listen attentively and purposefully to the author as he/she reads aloud his/her writing (e.g., sentences, paragraphs, or other writing product). Students may take notes that can later be used for questions or comments when the author has completed his/her presentation.

The author calls on other students who have indicated that they are ready to participate (respond or ask a question).

Students must respond with “I” statements, rather than “You” statements.

Students must take responsibility for their comments and show respect for the author by allowing him/her to agree or disagree with the comments. Examples of how to begin a comment are:

- I wondered if ...
- I didn’t understand ...
- I think that...

Students must make their responses as specific as possible by repeating the author’s specific words, phrases, sentences, etc.

Students may ask the author: “How can I help you?”

Students end the sharing session for each author with applause.

## “AUTHOR’S CHAIR” ACTIVITY / RULES FOR PEER RESPONSE

### Student Handout

#### **The procedures for sharing include, but are not limited to the following:**

The selected author (s) take the author’s chair (or podium) to read his/her writing aloud. Authors may use any visual aids or equipment available for their presentation; this includes the board, document camera or overhead projector, computer with LCD projector for power point, posters, pictures, or illustrations.

Students listen attentively and purposefully to the author as he/she reads aloud his/her writing (e.g., sentences, paragraphs, or other writing product). Students may take notes that can later be used for questions or comments when the author has completed his/her presentation.

The author calls on other students who have indicated that they are ready to participate (respond or ask a question).

Students must respond with “I” statements, rather than “You” statements.

Students must take responsibility for their comments and show respect for the author by allowing him/her to agree or disagree with the comments. Examples of how to begin a comment are:

- I wondered if ...
- I didn’t understand ...
- I think that...

Students must make their responses as specific as possible by repeating the author’s specific words, phrases, sentences, etc.

Students may ask the author: “How can I help you?”

Students end the sharing session for each author with applause.