

# WRITING HOOKS

## *What is a hook?*

A **hook** (also called a lead) is a sentence, group of sentences or paragraph at the beginning of a writing piece. It captures ("hooks") the reader's interest, entices him/her to keep reading and establishes the author's voice.

## *How do I teach hooks?*

- Connect your "Hook instruction" to reading. Look at the Hooks that are used in the novels, articles, or other stories you are reading.
- Take a published selection of literature and have students try different Hooks for the same story.
- Use the samples of hooks with your students as models for their writing.
- Model creating your own hook using one of the samples from real literature.
- Don't think of them as a definite list that you need to cover.
- Don't think that you need to teach your children to use and/or identify each kind of hook.