

# September Whole Class Writing-to-Read Experience

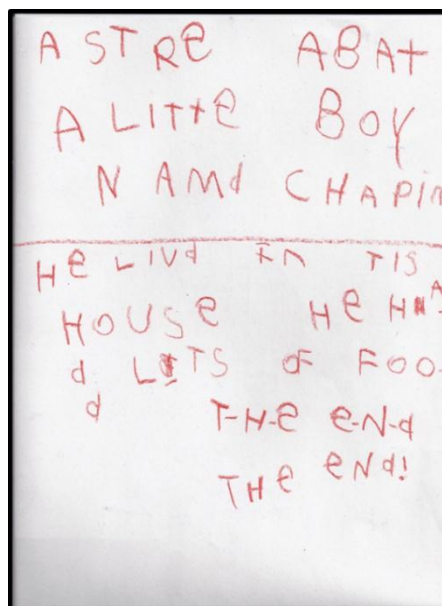
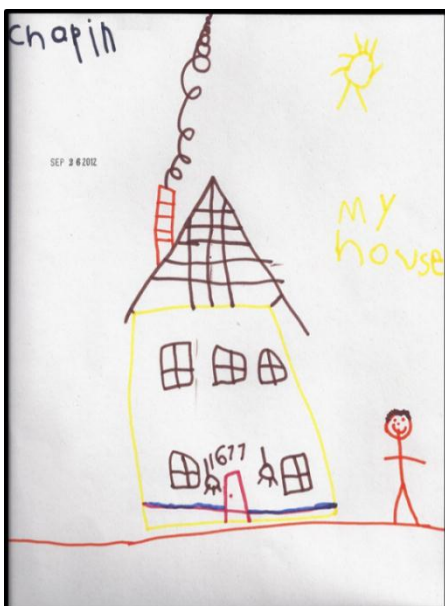
♪ "This Is My House, H - O - U - S - E"

Using the music from our *Sing, Sign, Spell and Read!* CD, Winter Curry and I presented a short lesson on the word "house." The children were introduced to the sign language for the key concept words "this," "my," and "house." We sang and practiced fingerspelling h-o-u-s-e repeatedly. We looked at house pictures from different illustrated books and gave the students several writing models of "My house" at each table. It will take many short repeated experiences with the song before the spelling—and fingerspelling—are internalized.



After our lesson on singing, signing, and illustration study, the children were asked to draw a house and label their pictures. Multisensory experiences and dialog inspire detailed drawing.

One little boy finished his house quickly, so I asked him to tell me about the picture. "Chapin," I said, "I bet you could write a story about that house."



After working with several other children, I returned to Chapin and here was his story, written on the back of his house picture.

*A story about a little boy named Chapin. He lived in this house. He had lots of food. T-h-e e-n-d The end!*