



Being a Writer™

What it is:

This program is a year-long curriculum for grades K-6 designed to help each student develop the creativity and skills of a writer and the social/ethical development of a caring person.

How it works:

This unique program combines the latest research in writing instruction while supporting students' social and ethical development. *Being a Writer* combines a writing process approach with guided instruction, providing a clear scope and sequence to ensure students learn important elements at their grade level. Our caring environment not only encourages, but becomes crucial to inspiring students to grow as writers, thinkers and members of our community.

At FSMH our small class size and individualized attention allow our teachers to customize the program based on individual student needs. This flexibility may allow our students to move through the program at an accelerated pace if it is determined to be appropriate for an individual child.

The *Being a Writer* program offers two goals for age-appropriate instruction at each grade level.

Goal 1: Developing the creativity and skills of a writer

The first goal is to provide a [clear scope and sequence](#) that develops in students the intrinsic desire to write regularly, with passion and intent, while also building an understanding and appreciation of the [skills and conventions](#) of writing.

Goal 2: Developing the social and ethical values of a responsible person

The second goal is to integrate with the writing instruction regular [community-building elements and guided partner work](#) that develop in students a sense of belonging, autonomy, and competence, as well as a personal responsibility for their own learning.

This program provides the writing component of a full literacy curriculum. It provides ways to monitor students' writing and social development over time through whole class assessment, individual assessment and individual social skills assessment.

The dual focus of *Being a Writer* helps students develop as writers and as caring, collaborative people. Success is reached via academic rigor and collaborative learning which are consistently integrated to meet the program goals.