LESSON 4: MAKING CONNECTIONS

Part of being a writer is being an observer of the world. We notice things and find something unique in everyday situations. We also need to learn how to make connections between the things that we are writing about, and what our audience knows and understands.

WAYS READERS MAKE CONNECTIONS

- Text-to-self connections
  - » What does this story remind you of?
  - » Can you relate to the characters in the story?
  - » Does anything in this story remind you of anything in your own life?
- Text-to-text connections
  - » What does this remind you of in another book you have read?
  - » How is this text similar to other things you have read?
  - » How is this text different from other things you have read?
- Text-to-world connections
  - » What does this remind you of in the real world?
  - » How are events in this story similar to things that happen in the real world?
  - » How are events in this story different from things that happen in the real world?

AS A WRITER

- Text-to-self
  - » How do I want the reader to relate this to themselves?
- Text-to-text connections
  - » How can I relate this to something my audience is already familiar with?

- Text-to-world connections
  - » How can I relate this to a real world example or current event?
  - » What is the call to action I want them to take in real life?

TIPS

- Carry around a journal, jot down ideas
- Be observant, learn to tune into the world instead of shutting it out
- Observe the moments you usually tune out
- With practice, you will start to notice connections everywhere. You will observe things and it will trigger something that says, "Hmm...I might be able to write about this."

⚙️⚙️ CHALLENGE

Write a Found Poem

Step 1: Pick a text and skim through, circling random words as you go.

Step 2: Write out the words on a piece of paper

Step 3: Combine them into a poem (you can shuffle around the words and add conjoining ones to have it make sense, but try to use mostly the found words)

Email your challenge to laurelnakai@gmail.com by June 6