

# Celebrate Writing: Light Tech (Musselwhite, 2009)

## Why Celebrate?

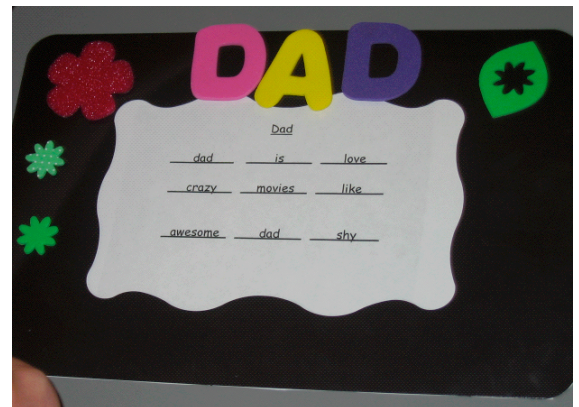
Deanna Wagner and I have long stressed the importance of celebrating writing for a number of reasons:

- **Effort = Reward:** many of the individuals we work with struggle to write, are reluctant writers, and / or are very sloooooow writers; it's important that they get significant 'bang for the buck'!
- **Permanence of Writing:** When writing is celebrated by making it into an art form (ex: adding stickers or drawings, putting it in a frame, putting it on a box), it is far more likely to be kept in a place of honor (on the refrigerator or a wall, by Dad's bed, etc)
- **Purpose for Revising and Editing:** Just as stories must be edited before they are 'published' turning simple writing (e.g., a list poem) into an artwork gives writers extra motivation for revising and editing.
- **Demonstrating Value:** The simple act of turning words into an art form shows writers that we value their work, and that it is worth keeping.

## Simple Ideas for Celebrating Writing

Following are some very quick ideas for celebrating writing, such as the short 9-word poem shown on this page.

- **Add Stickers:** It's amazing how much value there is in the simple addition of stickers (especially puffy stickers or holographic stickers)
- **Use Stamps to Decorate:** The dollar store has wonderful stamps for use with scrapbooking, or find a colleague who is into scrapbooking.
- **Add a Frame:** You can make your own frame or get an inexpensive cardboard frame at . . . the dollar store!



# Creative Ideas for Celebrating Writing

You'll find many creative celebrations in the book, *Making Mini-Books* by Sherri Haab. Samples are:

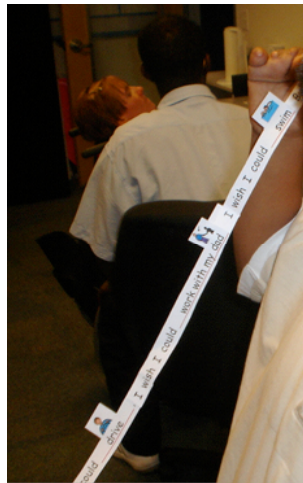
- \* stapled books
- \* brad books
- \* accordion books
- \* keychain books
- \* scroll books
- \* instant books
- \* plus many shape books (ladybug, leaf, camping knife)

This book even comes with materials for creating mini-books. For more information, see the review of *Making Mini Books* Tip, December 2004 at this website, [www.aacintervention.com](http://www.aacintervention.com).

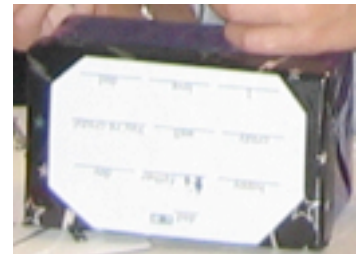
Following are some samples of light tech celebrations of writing.



***I Am*** poem on cup



***I Wish*** poem, wrapped around spool & unrolled, showing illustrations



***Dad Is*** poem, pasted to keep box



***Chocolate Is*** poem hidden inside an empty chocolate bar

**Tip:** For a great high tech idea for celebrating writing, see *Wordles*: April, 09 Tip, at this website, [www.aacintervention.com](http://www.aacintervention.com)