

Day #17, Activity #17

April Fools Day: Writing for Humor: Jokes, Gags, Parodies, etc.

See Art Connection Below.

Why did the physics teacher break up with the biology teacher? There was no chemistry.

National Poetry Month begins today. (Check out Item's of Interest below.) Plus, it's April Fool's Day as well. So let's go light and have some fun with humor writing. Writer and poet Geof Hewitt www.creativeground.org/profile/geof-hewitt-0 suggests an April Fools Day Headline or News Article.

With that in mind, write something that is clearly not true, but perhaps you wish was true. Or write something that is so outlandishly untrue, that there's no way it could be true. (Is that even possible?) It could be a news headline or news article or any of the following:

Jokes
Gags
Parodies
spoofs
Sketches
Comedies: one-act (one-page) play
Cartoons

Note: Humor writing is a difficult type of writing. Beyond the comedy, it requires clarity more than any other genre. Even writing out a simple joke is great practice in building one's writing skills in clarity.

Speaking of jokes

Here's one sent in from poet and teacher Rob Faivre. It comes from a Conan O'Brien monologue from at least ten years ago:

*Did you hear Twitter, YouTube, and Facebook are merging?
The new name is YouTwitFace.*

Feel free to submit jokes all week.

Today's **Art Connection** comes from Writer and Illustrator SUZY BECKER. Check out her work at www.suzybecker.com

Draw or photograph a picture to go with your writing.

Or

Create a mini-comic. Fold a paper in half and then in half again so you have a little book one-fourth the size of the paper. Use the front for your comic title, which will leave you with three pages for your comic (a beginning, middle, and end). You can run with it from here, or, say the last page reads: APRIL FOOLS! Or JUST KIDDING! See what you come up with.

Or

With your pencil, draw a horizontal line. Now make that into a snake (all stretched out). Now erase the top line (the snake's back) and redraw it as a square, like the snake ate something square. Here's the fun part: give the snake a thought or speech bubble with a matching expression. Create a background if you like. Put out in the sun. Snakes love sun.