

## Recommended Writing from Sources Book: Grades K-12

### **59 Reasons to Write:**

Mini-Lessons, Prompts, and Inspiration for Teachers

By Kate Messner

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In order to teach writing effectively, teachers must be writers themselves. They must experience the same uncertainty of starting a new draft and then struggling to revise. As they learn to move past the fear of failure, they discover the nervous rush and exhilaration of sharing work with an audience, just as their students do. Only by engaging in the real work of writing can teachers become part of the writing community they dream of creating for their students. Kate Messner's new book, *59 Reasons to Write*, shows teachers and librarians who teach writing how to be stronger role models for their students. "Writing for my students provided me with appropriate mentor texts to share," she writes. "Writing with my students made me a mentor and a far better teacher." *59 Reasons to Write* grew out of Messner's popular online summer writing camp, Teachers Write. Throughout the book she offers mini-lessons, writing prompts, and bursts of inspiration designed to get you writing every day, whether on your own or as part of a group. Dozens of guest authors also share their writing processes and secrets, from brainstorming ideas and organizing research to developing characters and getting unstuck from writer's block. *59 Reasons to Write* is for anyone who has always wanted to write but never managed to get into the habit. Daily warm-ups will help you flex your writing muscles and energize your teaching. As Messner shares, "One of the greatest gifts of writing is the way it nudges us to look more closely not only at the world but also at ourselves."

