

Doug Miller



Mission Statement:

Any child can write creatively and should. When we create stories, whether fictional, biographical, or poetic, we define ourself. We inspire others with our stories and raise our own self worth. My mission is to help students understand we may come from different backgrounds but we all can prosper in that marvelous diversity. Creating stories is essential to who we are.

Grades Served:

3 - 12

Lives In:

White Salmon, WA

Homestay:

Not required

Creative Writing

William Stafford's poem, Things I Learned Last Week, lends itself perfectly to a poetry writing exercise for any age group. This lesson is ideal as an introductory assignment, employs synthesis and organizational skills, and is especially useful in teaching line break, technique, and revision. As a more advanced lesson, students learn about tone, satire, subtlety, Stafford's process and intent, and about the works of the writers Stafford mentions. Integrated into a teacher's writing curriculum, this lesson helps the teacher teach how to write a poem utilizing complete sentences and a prescribed technique. Finished poems are the result of the lesson. The lesson is designed for grades three through twelve.

Teacher Workshops

Doug is willing to conduct a workshop for English teachers in AP English Preparation, Advanced Composition, or Teaching Creative Writing.

Facility & Supplies

I'm flexible in any classroom that is reasonably soundproof. The boiler room might be challenging. All he requires of students is paper and favorite writing utensil.

About the Artist...

Doug Miller's poems have appeared in North American Review, Rattle, the eleventh Muse, Cloudbank, Into the Teeth of the Wind, and The English Journal. He is a Fishtrap fellow recipient, has written and directed plays, and holds a MA from Portland State University. He's been a beekeeper, logger, kayak guide, school principal and superintendent, and a teacher of creative writing for over forty years. He lives in the Columbia Gorge and currently works in an educational capacity introducing Navajo youth to the Northwest coast and the Nuu-Chah-Nulth tribe in British Columbia.

