



Explode the Moment

PAINTING WITH WORDS

Find the heart of your story the BIG moment

Stretch it out with lots of juicy details

What were you thinking?

Use your senses

What did you do? (active verbs)

How did you or someone else react?



Sentence Stretch

Stretch a Sentence

WHO?

My friend Sue

DOES WHAT?

My friend Sue jumps.

WHAT?

When it rains, my friend Sue jumps.

WHERE?

When it rains, my friend Sue loves to jump
in the puddles.

WHY?

When it rains, my friend Sue loves to jump
in the puddles because she enjoys getting wet.



Sentence Explosion



- Select a sentence
- Provide your reader with a frame-by-frame picture of the action (details)
- Provide your reader with insights into the character's thoughts

Explosion



Original: *I felt so evil as I poured a quart of milk over my sister's head. She was so mad!*

Explode the Moment:

I watched myself begin this horrible deed. My hand suddenly seemed to have a will of its own. It picked up the milk carton. The spout was already opened. My arm extended over Abby's head tipping the carton.

The liquid poured in a slow, steady, thick, unending stream through her long blonde hair, soaking the back of her clothes and running onto the floor. As the milk reached the floor, I shifted the spout slightly to begin a long, milky journey down the front of her. It poured over the forehead, in the eyes, running in rivers down each side of her nose, converging on her chin and splashing into her plate. Her food was still awash and the milk poured over the edge and into her lap. And still I poured on.

It was too late to stop now. The rapture of it all. Oh sweet revenge!