

Grades: ALL **3rd-12th**

*Adaptation: **None Needed**

Finding Your Inner Superhero

Common Core Standard(s): CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.7

Materials Needed: A device for each student to do internet searches.

Class Objective: I can conduct short research projects to find additional information as well as original story ideas.

Lesson Plan

1. Watch **Elly Swartz's** class "**Finding Your Inner Superhero: Dreaming Big, Persevering, and What It Truly Means to be Brave.**"
2. After watching the video, students should write down 5-10 things they love or are passionate about.
3. After generating the list, students will take each passion they wrote down and do a google search with the following words. "Weird or interesting information about **"the passion."** For example they would write. "Weird or interesting information about basketball" or "Weird or interesting information about sewing" or "Weird and interesting information about writing."
4. Through this search they should click on some of the links and read through some of the interesting facts, ideas or news stories. They should write down any ideas they have for writing as they are doing this.
5. To wrap up the lesson, remind students that the internet can be their best friend when they need story ideas, but also when they get stuck in their writing. Now that AI is a thing, they can ask very specific questions they want answered for their story and get answers for it. Research is a tool that can always improve your writing.



SIMPLIFIED: *ALTERNATE ADAPTATION for younger audience:

Tweens (ages 9-12): THIS IS INCLUDED IN THE ORIGINAL LESSON

CHALLENGE: Take any piece of writing you are currently working on. This can be opinion/argumentative, informational, or narrative. It doesn't matter. Whenever you get stuck in your essay writing or story writing, do an internet search for the answer. Here is a link to ChatGPT, which is a good place to start: <https://chatgpt.com/>

***EXTRA WRITING PRACTICE: All ages (optional)**

For extra writing practice and to reinforce today's topic, assign a [writing prompt](#), or have them continue working on a page/chapter of their own novel or short story, applying the key techniques learned today. Set a timer for at least 15-30 minutes & have students do a nonstop writing sprint in class or assign for homework.

Editing Skills:

Manuscripts may then be exchanged with other students for peer review, with specific attention focused on how the topic of the day was applied. This will enhance editing skills, while simultaneously further ingraining the lesson at hand and the added benefit of "fresh eyes" giving input on their work.

Revising Skills:



When the papers are returned, students have the opportunity of fine tuning the skill of taking feedback and applying it to revision and rewrite of their manuscript.

Group Discussion/Reflection:

After rough draft & final draft are returned it may be valuable to share what was most helpful or difficult about the feedback and how it may have improved their writing. (Writing clubs can meet online or in person for group discussions)

Extra Credit Opportunities:

Submitting work can be a scary/rewarding experience, no matter the outcome. Offer extra credit incentive for students who create & submit entries at storycon.org/contests for the chance to be recognized, awarded & potentially published. in the [TwEEN 1st Paragraph, Teen 1st Line, 1st Chapter, Teen Anthology, Poetry & Photography Cover Contests.](#)

ATTEND WRITING WORKSHOP: Offer make up credits to students who attend live [StoryCon](#) writing conferences. The largest teen writing conference in the nation, with master writing classes for Teens, Tweens & Educators taught by award winning authors.

Educators: Earn relicensure & up to 5 hours graduate credits from SUU by attending Educator Base Camp. Bring a group for a free Educator Pass.*

CHALLENGE:

- ☐ Encourage students to continue writing on weekends, holiday breaks and over the summer.
- ☐ Join or Start a school Writing Club* that meets at lunch or after school
- ☐ Better Together! Create or join writing clubs online or in person, to watch & work through TABCClassroom.com together! (invite friends from school, StoryCon or our moderated TABC discord/other safe writing discussion board)

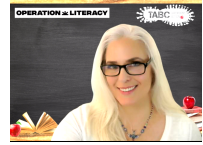
*extracurricular writing classes may involve school licensed students or those with an annual personal subscription. If they need a subscription, have them visit TABCClassroom.com

- ☐ **FOLLOW UP!** Send feedback!. I'd love to hear how you use Classroom, suggest edits, what you like most, classes, contests, conference experiences & creative ways you incorporate it all into your curriculum. sarah-noel@operationliteracy.org



□ **SHARE TABCClassroom.com** with a friend or school. Invite them to StoryCon.org & “tell the teacher” ([email me](#))

If they subscribe to StoryCon’s TABC CLASSROOM™ Vault or Register to attend StoryCon, **we like to thank “BOOK HEROES!” by gifting them \$6 StoryCon Promo Codes for registration/the merch store.**



THANKS

Visit OperationLiteracy.org, to find out more about our next **StoryCon™ with **Educator Base Camp™**, **Teen Author Boot Camp™** & **Tween Author Boot Camp™**. Attend our intensive writing conferences in person to learn from the masters, meet favorite authors and to be a part of a supportive writing community that will help students hone their writing skills, get published & boost their confidence. Join the discord server or start your own writing group to do TABC Classroom with friends.*

