

“Me Bag” Activity

This Building on Background activity provides meaningful connections to personal narrative writing. In class, model this activity with your own “Me Bag”. As a take-home activity, provide students with brown lunch bags and instruct them to fill their bags with a few personal items (i.e., objects, photos, magazine cut-outs) that represent some aspect of their lives (i.e., family, interests). Suggest that students decorate the bags (i.e., with magazine cut-outs or markers). In class, students share and discuss their bags and deliver short presentations about the items in their bags. Variations include:

“Me Box”: Shoebox

“Me Map”: Posterboard with magazine cut-outs, words, symbols and photos

“Me Presentation”: Web 2.0 Tool

Journal Prompt:

1. What does this object/picture represent?
2. What or who do you relate it to?
3. What did the object represent in the past?
4. What does it represent in the present?
5. Do you think it will maintain its value in the future?