

### **Questions to Ask in a Conference:**

Lucy...Launching

- What are you working on as a writer?
  - What kind of writing are you making?
  - What are you doing to make this piece of writing work?
  - What do you think of what you've done so far?
  - What will you do next?
  - How will you go about doing that?
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- What are you trying to do with the lead you are writing?
  - What decisions are you making over how to write the story well?

### **Possible Teaching Points for a Conference:**

- Writers focus on small incidents.
- Writers envision, then storytell, rather than summarize, starting by telling a small action that we did at the start of the envisioned story.
- Writers write with specifics; so that instead of saying "I played a game," the writer names the game.
- Writers include exact speech.
- Writers spell word wall words correctly.
- Writers punctuate as we write.
- Writers write with paragraphs.
- Writers sometimes pretend to be strangers, rereading a draft for the first time and thinking, "Can I follow this? Does it all make sense?"
- Writers sometimes recruit readers who can tell us places where our draft is confusing.
- Writers try to solve our own problems, inventing solutions rather than simply lining up behind the teacher.
- Writers begin their stories with a small action, with dialogue, or with the setting.
- Writers stretch out the important sections of a story.