

The Lily Pad Writers' Workshop



The Lily Pad Writers' Workshop focuses on bringing the power of autobiographical writing to the growing number of men and women who are now parenting children whose biological parents are unable to do so. With the increasing epidemic of drug and alcohol abuse, incarceration rates, domestic violence, and other life-altering events; grandparents, older siblings, aunts, uncles – even kind-hearted neighbors- are being asked to assume temporary or permanent parenting roles in the lives of displaced children.

Just as a flowering lily pad brings a special color and beauty to the water's surface, parenting children without parents also brings a special stabilizing factor for children to blossom. Conversations highlighting the rewards of parenting children from difficult situations are often highlighted; however, it is also important to acknowledge the complexity of feelings, stories, and challenges that come with unexpected childrearing.

The Lily Pad Writers' Workshop provides a safe environment for parents to explore their unique stories -- giving voice and acceptance to both the good and bad feelings of providing day-to-day childcare experiences at an unexpected time in their lives. Through interactive storytelling and relevant writing prompts, participants find their stories are quite similar in the whole gamut of human emotions that strengthen and stabilize family ties.

StoryTelling Foundation:

“Storytelling to Impact Social Change”

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