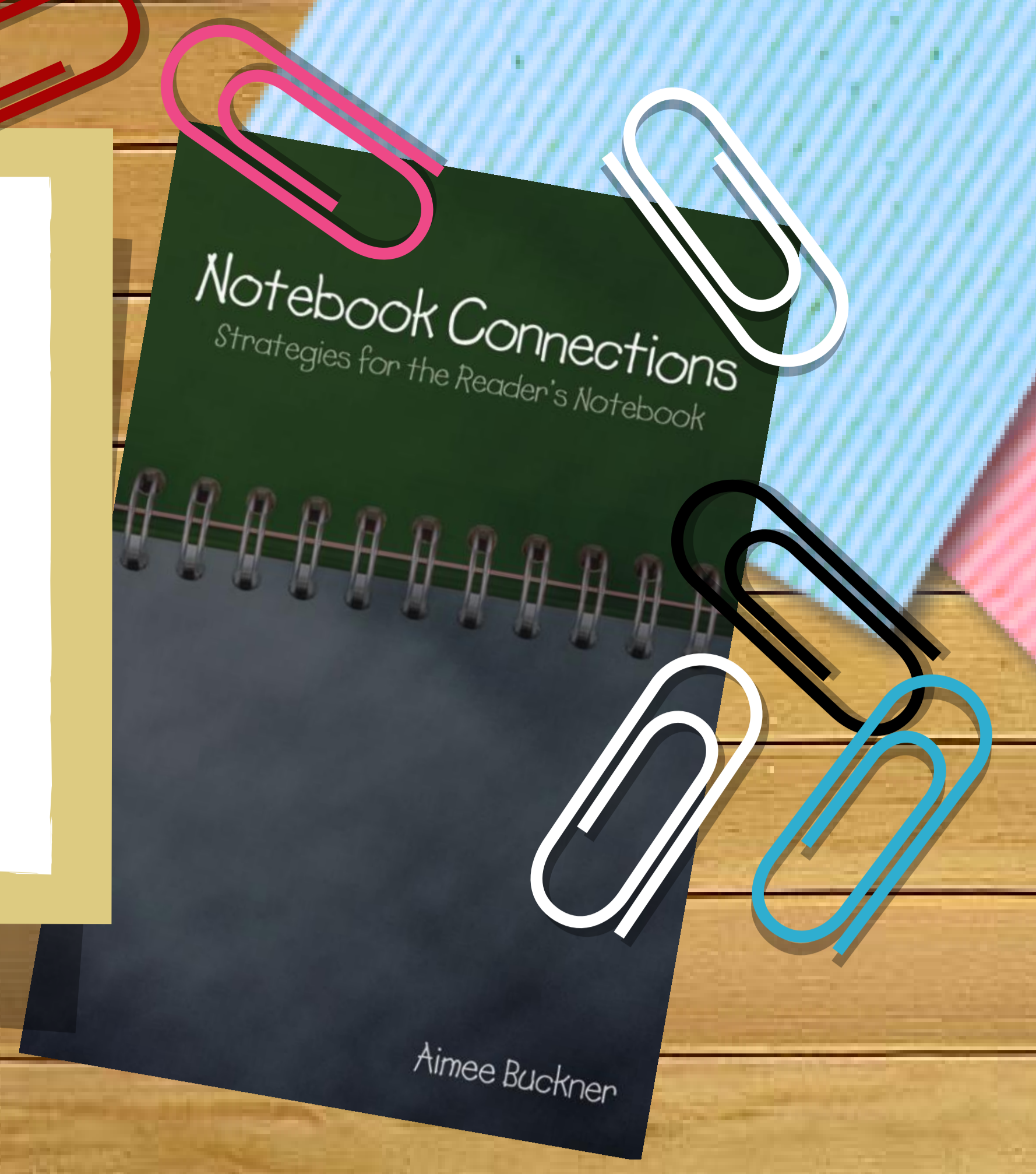


Notebook Connections

By Amiee Buckner



Chapter 1: Reading, Writing, and Harvesting Hope

"The question I grapple with was how to move students from "couch potato" readers who read words and can answer basic questions with one word to readers who think while reading, and then on to readers who think beyond their reading."

THE NOTEBOOK APPROACH

"It's the bridge made of notebooks- plain old paper stuck together in some fashion- traveled heavily by thinkers."

Chapter 2: Getting to Know Students as Readers

"The reader's notebook becomes a place where kids of all levels can shine. It becomes a part of who they are as a reader and slows them down just enough to honor their thinking without distracting them from their book."

"Most importantly, I see my students as individual readers, which causes me to teach the reader and not the book they are reading."

Chapter 3: From Comprehension Strategies to Notebooks

"I began to realize there are levels of thinking within some of the strategies- levels that students can identify with and use their notebooks to stretch their thinking in that direction."

"Breaking up the strategies seemed to give my stronger readers a place to go and my weaker readers a place to grow."

Chapter 4: Reading Like a Writer

"Readers who think, readers who are aware of how a story is put together, and readers who notice the way words make them feel- these are the readers who turn into writers."

"When students are learning to notice what a writer does, it usually happens when they are reading."

Chapter 5: Beneath the Story: Discovering Hidden Layers

"What about comprehension strategies? How did teachers implement writing about those in the notebooks?"

Chapter 6: Assessment: A Tool for Teaching in the Now

"Assessment shouldn't be a bad word; it should play a key role at the intersection of planning and instruction. It should enable us to find out more about our students and their thought processes so that our teaching is informed and we can plan the lessons they need next as they travel back and forth across that bridge between reading and writing."

Figure 1.1

	Writer's Notebook	Reader's Notebook
Strategies	Strategies help writers develop ideas for writing pieces. Strategies are used throughout the writing process to support the writer in completing a finished piece.	Strategies help readers focus their thinking— giving them choices for how to respond to a text. Strategies may be used over a period of time as a reader completes a text and may be reused with a new text.
Entries	Entries are about a page long, giving the gist of a story or the writer's thinking about a topic. Writers purposefully explore a topic for writing using several entries in a row. Writers use notebook entries to try out writer's craft that may be used in a draft. Writers eventually use the entries to create finished pieces of writing outside of the notebooks.	Entries may be as short as a few sentences or as long as a page. Entries may lead to a new line of thinking with the text. They are a placeholder for ideas the reader wants to share with others or to further explore on his or her own. Patterns of thinking may appear through entries for a similar book or across texts.
Assessment	Assessment is based on a preponderance of evidence over several entries. A rubric is used to guide this holistic approach.	Assessment is based on a preponderance of evidence over several entries. A rubric is used to guide this holistic approach.

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