

# "Catch a Falling Star" Prewrite

by Karen Antikajian

Adapted from Tricia Aloisi and Anita Nott

Oregon Writing Project Summer Institutes

## Directions:

1. Read the article. Underline or highlight any important or interesting facts.
2. Fold a sheet of blank paper into fourths.
3. Write one fact in the first quadrant. Sign your initials.
4. Wad the paper into a ball. Stand up and (when everyone is ready) toss your paper ball high into the air.
5. Try to catch a falling star (paper) or pick up a paper from the floor.
6. Take the paper you ended up with and go back to your desk. Open it up and read the fact written on it. Write another fact in the second quadrant (different from the one you wrote first and from the one on this paper). You may refer to the article.
6. Repeat steps 4 through 6. If you get the paper you just wrote on, you may switch with someone.
7. When all quadrants are full, read over the paper you ended up with and review the article. Then put the article away. You may keep the paper out.
8. You are now ready to write a paragraph about the article.
9. When you have finished your paragraph, read it aloud using your "telephone." See if you have an interesting beginning and a satisfying conclusion. Have you included the important information? Have you used some comparisons to help the reader understand the topic? Have you used a variety of sentences and vivid verbs? Have you used any words too many times? Have someone else read it to see if it makes sense and if they have any comments or suggestions for improvement.
10. Revise.



*Catch a falling star and put it on your paper,  
Save it for a writing day.*



*Catch a falling star and put it on your paper,  
Never let it fade away.*