

Picture Monologues Devised Activity

**part of a larger unit on self-expression and writing*

Age group: 5th grade up

Materials needed: large box of age-appropriate postcards/images (people, works of art, scenic, etc – as long as they are expressive in some way and not too abstract); worksheet for each student (page 2)

- I. **Bridge-In (5 mins):** One expressive and active feeling word for today: *What is one thing you wish everyone knew about you? For example, something you might be proud of, or a special way you look at the world, or anything that you wish more people would know you can do. Now come up with one word that encompasses the feeling of that thing.*

- II. **Warm-up (7-10 mins):** Give that feeling word an action (ideograph) and repeat until it becomes a dance of sorts – work with varying degrees of action – blend your feeling with one other persons into a dance – find another partner – repeat

- III. **Main Event (30 mins):** Postcard Image Monologues
 1. Empty postcards/images from box onto the floor
 2. Everyone pick one that “speaks” to your feeling word
 3. Write an 8 line monologue from the point of view of the subject in the postcard
 4. Pair and share: find a partner to read your monologue to, each of you sharing your work. Your partner may nominate your monologue to be read to the group, or you may volunteer to read your own.

- IV. **Cool Down (10 mins):** Find your action again and add one word from your monologue – move about the space doing action and saying word – blend with one other person and see what happens

- V. **Bridge Out (10 mins):** Put postcards back in the box; group discussion

Postcard Monologues Worksheet

Name:

Your feeling word:

Brief Description of postcard chosen:

Character name:

Monologue text (at least 8 lines) from the point of view of your character in the postcard: