**August’s Bingo Card** – Writer’s Notebook Challenges

**Instructions**: After responding to any of the ideas on this page with a decorated ½-page or full-page addition to your writer’s notebook, color in the completed box with a yellow highlighter. When you create any “five-in-a-row” Bingos, a “Four Corners,” or a complete “Blackout” of the whole card, come and show your teacher to receive a special sticker for your work!

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Create a 3-panel comic strip showing a student who wanted summer break to never end. | Make a list of seven flavors of ice cream you’d like to see invented this year. | Explain it well! A pet with the suddenly-new ability to speak wants to understand poetry. | Describe a bad piece of poetry from Yoda or Shakespeare’s point-of-view. Use voice. | In an interesting way, share the story of how someone obtained an interesting nickname. |
| Attach a picture taken this past summer to a notebook page. Write about it with details! | Launch a list or a creative description that captures your idea of a “perfect picnic.” | *Justify it!* Cite detailed reasons why summer vacation should be increased by one week. | *Personify a Concrete Noun!* Choose a breakfast cereal and turn it into a “person.” | *What do wind chimes think about?* Answer this question creatively in your notebook. |
| Fake apology! Think of something bad you’ve done in the last week, and write an apology that sounds convincing. | Illustrate and label the parts of a machine you’d invent to prevent your parents from waking you up early. | **August’s Teacher-Guided Lesson**  [**Presenting Me (using Great Vocabulary)**](http://corbettharrison.com/free_lessons/Boy-Who-Loved-Words.htm#1) | *Worst* or *best*? Put one of these adjectives in front of the word *driver* and write about what comes to mind. | *Weird e-mail correspondence!*  If a soda pop could e-mail its rival flavor/ biggest competition, what would it say? |
| *“I was not surprised!”* Write a short narrative where this is your first sentence. Illustrate it! | List 5-10 interesting things you could do today with a year’s supply of jelly beans. | *Unusual Nightmares Prompt!* Describe and illustrate a bad dream a *overly*-*popular student* has. | Describe the underside of your new desk from a unique point of view—like your shoes. | Write 3 unusual, true facts you know about a topic. Write them as a riddle and share them. |
| Create a three-column (nouns, adjs., verbs) word bank on this topic: *Writer’s Words* | Start a page where you can record favorite puns. Write 2 or 3 down. Record more on this page as the year progresses. | Make a list of advice for someone who is entering your last year’s teacher’s class. | Create a half- or full-page tribute to a pet—past or present. Use words and pictures! | *Living the Dream!*  If money were not an issue, what would the *dream binder look like?* |

Remember, you don’t have to use the ideas on this Bingo card; these are simply suggestions if you find yourself needing an idea on a writer’s notebook day in class. By the end of the year, I actually expect you to be discovering your own writing ideas for your notebook most of the time!