Take and Go Lesson: It’s in the Bag Narrative
Part 3
Amanda Montgomery, Kennesaw Mountain Writing Project

Grade level: 2-8

Overview: Students will use a bag collected by another student in the previous lesson as inspiration for a narrative piece of writing.

Materials: Student bag paper, pencil, paper

Time: 30-40 minutes

Instructional Sequence:

1. Students will get out the bag of objects they collected in the previous lesson along with the narrative they wrote.

2. Students will choose another student’s bag as inspiration for a piece of narrative writing.

3. Revision for Precision: Students will look at the narrative provided to them and consider how they might elaborate or revise in their stories. They can also choose to add anything to the bag that they feel might be missing.

4. Explain to students that character development often includes details about the objects, emotions, experiences, and everyday lives of the character. Effective character development can help a reader “see” the character in his/her/their mind; “hear” their voice, and even begin to predict what they may or may not do based on what they know about the character.

5. Instruct students to create a narrative that centers on this character.

Comments & Extension: Remind students that they do not need to include all of the objects in their writing. They should only include the objects that will connect to their narrative but they need to attempt to add as much detail (re: precise language) as possible. You can extend this piece by inviting students to act out their narratives, write a script, explore a current event that might impact the character, write about a place where the character is comfortable and valued, write about a place where the character feels excluded and disrespected, or explore with other genres using the character developed in these activities.