

Show and tell

At every meeting, one or more writing group members can offer to introduce or demonstrate something that will be of research interest to the group.

The following three examples come from Annalea Beattie's Fine Art Writing Group (2011):

A reflective diary is recognised as a deliberate research method, helpful in:

- catching the dynamic, reflexive nature of practice
- defining the field
- implementing change.

As a group we might collectively construct focused questions that move this reflective writing beyond anecdote or description.

Computer-based Writing tool: Scrivener

One student introduced this to our group and now most of the group are using it. It playfully and spatially organises thoughts in a robust way, yet also helps connect fine grained or subtle moments.

Poster presentations

Students come with poster drafts and present them to the group.

Other options

1. To help overcome writer's block:
Students bring seemingly non-research related items to the session.
They challenge each group member to write a paragraph that explains the objects in a way that is relevant to their familiar field of study.
2. To share knowledge:
Students bring in a magazine or journal article, or radio program that discusses an example of innovative research. Group members listen, then write a summary.
3. To hear it from the experts:
Invite a supervisor or other 'expert' to come and talk about an aspect of research.