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### Show, Don't Tell Practice

Directions: working alone, choose THREE of the numbered "telling" passages on the reverse side of this handout, and "show" what's happening in the statement in 7-8 sentences of varied sentence styles. After completing this practice, you will share with your pod-partner. Then we will make a guessing game out of it with the entire class. Finally, you will apply this style of writing to your next set of journal entries and to all your creative writing from here on in...

Example:

Telling statement #8. "M-n-m's melt in your mouth not in your hands."

Showing description: I'd heard the rumors. Now was the time for me to prove, once and for all, if it were true. I decided upon a day, strolled down to my local corner store and approached the candy aisle, my palms sweating with anticipation. This would be a good test of the saying, as my hands could melt a snowball in no time at all. I paid the clerk and tore into the bag of rainbow chocolate before I had even stepped out of the store. Standing there, I could just feel the eyes of the universe, all the kids from the playground when I was in elementary school wanting to know, yearning for answers, but needing proof, scientific data to know the truth of this sweet tale. There in my hands, the rainbow selection of greens, blues, reds and varied shades of brown, rested awaiting their final destiny in my bloodstream. Would they dissolve into my epidermis, evidence of all the lies told to me in my youth? Or were they coated with a supernatural sheath, making them immune from 98.6 degrees of heat. Decisively, I threw the morsels into my mouth, feeling their external layers crumble into their particulate matter: sugar, cacao and food coloring. I gazed at my hand - the miracle of the story was true! Not a single trace of color remained on my palm but the flesh of a naked hand and a truth revealed.