

Grades 3–6 Classroom Literacy

STRAND SESSIONS

One Writing Program with Two Purposes: Giving Students the Tools They Need

From *Wright State University, Dayton, OH*:
Jackie Collier, associate professor
Anna Lyon, assistant professor

Teachers struggle balancing two types of writing: aesthetic, focusing on content areas, and assessment. Learn ideas for implementing both effectively using one instructional framework.

Poets Every Intermediate Teacher Should Know

Janet Elliott, site coordinator, Center for Literacy Education and Research, West Lafayette, IN

Ready to move beyond Prelutsky and Silverstein's poetry? Learn about the most popular poets who write for students in Grades 3–6, and how to get your students excited about learning from these mentors.

Factual Texts and the Struggling Reader

Stephen Graham, professional development manager, Melbourne, Australia

Texts become increasingly important in the curriculum as students progress through the years of schooling. Teaching for meaning within factual texts is the focus.

Inferring — The Heartbeat of Comprehension

From *Fairfax County Schools, Falls Church, VA*:
Pat Johnson, literacy consultant/reading teacher
Katie Keier, classroom teacher

Comprehending beyond the literal level of texts is important. But how do we teach students about inferring? Learn how to teach your students to dig deeper into the articles, books, and stories.

Information Literacy and the Online Learner

Krissy Machamer, 4th-grade teacher, Maysville Local Schools, Zanesville, OH

Information literacy is a critical skill for 21st century students. Learn how students can use technology for more than just games! Explore the effective use of blogs, podcasts, web quests, and more!

Reading in the Content Area

David Matteson, staff developer, Katonah, NY

What's the focus of our instruction-giving content or accessing information? Explore the skills/strategies needed for students to understand how informational text works, and how that knowledge can impact their content learning.

Who Knew...You, Too, Are An Author

Renaë Rives, literacy coordinator, Alvin ISD, Alvin, TX

Tired of hearing, "I don't know what to write?" Learn how to teach the writer's craft through author studies that give your students a love of writing that goes beyond your writing block.

Promote Inquiry and Engage Reluctant Boys

Pam Ryan, literacy specialist/coach, ISD #622, North Saint Paul, MN

Explore the use of mentor texts, author studies, and nonfiction texts to promote natural inquiry with reluctant boy readers. Learn how to 'hook them' so they are asking for more.

Using Comics to Teach Comprehension

Terry Thompson, K-5 literacy coach, Humble ISD, Humble, TX

Interested in teaching with comics but want to know more? Explore the use of appropriate comics and graphic novels to motivate struggling readers while teaching comprehension strategies, vocabulary skills, and fluency development.

Guided Reading — Explicit Instruction for All

Carol Worst, literacy consultant, Newark City Schools, Newark, OH

Learn effective ways to organize and implement guided reading. Examine ways to form groups, focus instruction, and differentiate instruction for all students—strugglers to high achievers.

