



**2009-2010 Reading/Language Arts Program
Professional Development Opportunities
Serving Region 10 Schools**

All titles are available on-site and by request as of 07/01/09
to members of the Region 10 Professional Development Cooperative

A Scavenger Hunt through the ELAR TEKS *New*

In this session, teachers will be exposed to the newly adopted ELAR TEKS. Participants will explore the TEKS in a scavenger hunt format and will walk away with an understanding of the *new* student expectations and the impact they will have on teaching and learning.

Effective Vocabulary Instruction for *All* Students (K-2, 3-8)

We know effective vocabulary instruction for all students is critical for achieving academic success, but how can teaching about vocabulary be added to a school day that is already too full? Is it possible to build vocabulary with students who have limited experience and background knowledge? What instructional methods work best for ELL learners? Can differentiation truly be accomplished in an inclusive classroom? This session answers all of these questions (and more!) using fun, innovative strategies to make vocabulary instruction both painless and effective. Give yourself and your students the gift of increased word knowledge and better comprehension by attending this session on building better vocabularies.

Fluency for Big Kids (6-12)

The requirements of House Bill 2237 have focused more attention on reading fluency for middle and high school students. More and more evidence points to the link between reading fluency and reading comprehension for secondary students. Most secondary teachers, however, have not had opportunities for training on fluency, and feel ill equipped to address fluency needs of their students. This session offers help. Come increase your awareness of the research, the implications for middle and high school classrooms, and the ways to add fluency instruction to your overloaded curriculum. **While this workshop is open to all secondary educators, it might also serve as the perfect follow-up to the Texas Adolescent Literacy Academies (TALA) or the Texas Middle School Fluency Assessment (TMSFA).**

Intervention to the Rescue! Call 911 for Strategies That Work (K-5)

In response to the recent emphasis on RtI (Response to Intervention), this session will explore the components of effective intervention strategies in language arts. Participants will engage in activities for each component which can be used in small group instruction. In addition, model lessons will be viewed so that participants will leave with a strong understanding of research-based differentiated instructional strategies.

Literacy through Literature Circles (4-8)

Who needs Oprah's Book Club when you've got literature circles? In this workshop teachers will learn to integrate flexible grouping to highlight quality literature through small group interaction. Based on the action research of Harvey (Smoky) Daniels, participants will learn how to set-up literature circles in their classrooms to foster an interest in reading and increase comprehension skills.

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Looking Back: The Art of Reflective Writing through Contemporary Memoir (6-12)

According to the dictionary, a memoir is *a narrative composed from personal experience*. Dealing effectively with this sometimes vague term can be challenging for teachers, as well as students. The contemporary memoir—an evolving, emerging genre—presents several solutions to this challenge. This workshop takes participants through an abbreviated process of writing their own memoirs and offers a model for teaching the memoir to students. The work of Dawn Latta Kirby and Dan Kirby serves as a foundation for this training. We hope you'll join us as we take a fresh look at the genre of memoir.

Multigenre Reading: Exploring Poetry, Literary Nonfiction, and Technical Text (3-8) *New*

This workshop will combine a variety of genres to foster authentic student reading. In light of the emphasis on multiple genres in the new ELA TEKS, participants will explore the features of various forms of texts and will be exposed to numerous ways to get students excited about reading. In addition, the **phrase *provide evidence from the text to support understanding*** (verbiage commonly seen in the new ELA TEKS) will take on new meaning as participants learn engaging ways to document text evidence.

Multigenre Writing: Researching through Literary Nonfiction and Technical Text (6-12)

This workshop will combine a variety of genres to foster authentic student writing. Participants will explore the work of Tom Romano and Camille Allen and delve into motivational methods to engage students in writing assignments beyond book reports. Multigenre writing arises from research, experience, and imagination; it is not uninterrupted expository monologue, nor a seamless narrative; it's composed of many genres connected by theme and/or topic. Join us for an engaging day of new learning that will inspire students in their writing.

Penniless and Paperless: Literacy Activities without Worksheets or Cost! (K-5)

Research indicates students learn best when they are actively engaged in the learning process. In a day filled with hands-on reading and writing activities, this workshop demonstrates how to build vocabulary, increase comprehension and boost fluency – all with materials that don't cost you a penny! Join us for a fun-filled day of literacy activities that don't use a worksheet and won't cost you a cent!

Prescription Strength RtI: Effective Implementation and Reading (K-5) *New*

This workshop will provide participants the opportunity to build on their knowledge of RtI (Response to Intervention) by offering strategies to improve implementation at the campus level. Participants will gain knowledge and skills in using assessment data and student work from formal and informal assessments to better drive instruction. Documentation of interventions as well as scheduling will also be addressed.

Progress Monitoring for Reading: Keeping Tabs on Your Kids (K-8) *New*

In the new era of Response to Intervention (RtI), gathering data is essential for documenting the progress of students receiving intervention services and for making appropriate decisions about instruction. This workshop will provide an overview of the research related to curriculum based measurement (CBM), why it is recommended for use in progress monitoring, and a step-by-step procedure for conducting progress monitoring in the area of reading intervention.

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Readers' Workshop for Tweens and Teens (4-8) *New*

Based on the work of Nancie Atwell (*The Reading Zone*), this workshop will provide a structure for authentic reading, where teachers individualize instruction, and where all students can and will be successful - not just as test takers but as life long readers and writers. Participants will examine the components of an effective Readers' Workshop and receive practical tools and strategies for organizing a successful workshop. Join us for an interactive and insightful day to get Readers' Workshop working for your students!



Reeling in Readers: Using Children's Literature (K-5) *New Books*

In this *webinar* participants will be introduced to the latest children's literature combined with practical, ready-to-use language arts lessons to engage students in literacy. Learn how to illuminate strengths of the texts (e.g. literary devices, author's craft, the traits of writing etc.) and develop appropriate activities that will strengthen student reading and writing all at your own pace and from the comfort of your personal computer.

Response to Intervention Overview: The 411 on RtI (K-5)

The Response to Intervention (RtI) Model has been gaining recognition through research in recent years. But what is it? This session is designed to give educators a general understanding of the RtI Model with respect to reading instruction. Participants will explore the basis for this school-wide approach and how it blends strategies for effective tiered intervention, including collaboration of general and special education staff, data-based decision-making to increase accuracy of special education referrals, and methodology for increasing the number of successful students in the general education classroom. All attendees will leave with practical strategies for moving forward with the RtI model.

TAKS Composition Holistic Scoring Training for NEW Teachers (4, 7, 10, 11)

This session is designed to serve as either a refresher course or an introduction to TAKS Holistic Scoring. During the training, participants will scrutinize student writing samples from the state's scoring guides, and then practice their scoring/grading on additional student samples. Teachers will leave with an enhanced understanding of the state rubric.

TAKS Open Ended Questions Scoring Training for NEW Teachers (9-11)

This workshop will provide a thorough review of the scoring criteria for TAKS open-ended questions, scoring practice, and limited strategies for teaching students to answer open ended questions. It is designed to familiarize new teachers and teachers new to their grade levels with the scoring of the Open Ended Questions portion of the TAKS.

TAKS Open-Ended Questions: Scoring Review and Strategies (7-11)

This training is designed for teachers who have already taken the Open Ended Response Scoring Training or for those who are very familiar with the rubric. The training will highlight information and expectations from the state and offer strategies for addressing those expectations. The session will include a brief review of the rubric and scoring guide, but will *not* include scoring practice. Both middle school and high school teachers are encouraged to attend.



The computer icon indicates an alternative delivery method.

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Taking a Closer Look at CSCOPE: Differentiated Instruction in ELA Lessons (K-5) *New*

If CSCOPE is being used on your campus, this is the workshop for you. Participants will gain knowledge in brain-based research and how it connects to the 5Es. This workshop offers strategies for differentiating lessons found in CSCOPE and ways to consider adjusting or adapting instruction to meet the needs of various students. Review of schedules and lesson plans for a 5 day week will also be part of the training.

Teaching Reading to Big Kids (6-12)

In a perfect world, students would be careful, fluent readers well before they entered middle school. Educators know, however, that we don't teach in a perfect world. This workshop provides a perspective on the secondary student who struggles with reading, as well as the latest research and strategies for helping those students access text. While the session is open to all secondary educators, it might also serve as the perfect follow-up to the Texas Adolescent Literacy Academies (TALA).

Twenty-one Days to Effective Literacy Centers (K-2, 3-5)

This workshop will help participants build a toolbox of ideas, strategies, and systems for implementing literacy centers throughout the year. Participants will become familiar with the features of effective instruction, and how to establish small group instruction through the lens of RtI (Response to Intervention).

The “Eyes” Have It: Using Visuals to Engage Tweens and Teens in Literacy (3-8)

Due to NCLB legislation, students in grades 3, 5, and 8 – our tweens and teens – must demonstrate mastery in grade-level reading in order to be promoted to the next grade. The pressure felt by both students and teachers is a reality! In response to this pressure, this workshop is designed to engage kids in literacy – to get kids *into* text rather than teaching them *about* text. With access to visual templates, participants will learn new strategies to actively support students' critical thinking and synthesizing of information in fun, multi-sensory ways.

Writing: A Year-Long Perspective (1-5)

How do we move beyond the daily writing prompt and prepare for TAKS so that students truly become life-long writers? The answer . . . effective instruction and time! In this workshop, participants will explore the works of Lucy Caulkins and Regie Routman to see how implementing mini-lessons, small group instruction, and writer's workshop throughout the year can help students reach their full writing potential.

Writers' Workshop for Tweens and Teens (4-8) *New*

This workshop will provide a structure for authentic writing, where teachers individualize instruction, and where all students can and will be successful - not just as test takers but as life long readers and writers. Participants will examine the components of an effective Writers' Workshop and receive practical tools and strategies for organizing a successful workshop. Join us for an interactive and insightful day to get Writers' Workshop working for your students!