



**Reading/Language Arts  
Professional Development Offerings  
2007-2008**

Available On-Site and by Request

All titles are available as of 7/1/07 for members of the Region 10 Instructional Cooperative

**Changing Demographics: Moving from “Those” Kids to “Our” Kids (Grades K-12)**

This **two-day workshop** is slightly different in scope than ones you may have attended at Region 10 in the past. Typically, workshops present a few minutes of research/theory and then model activities and strategies to use in your classroom. Sessions that are informative, fun, and entertaining are the “norm” with Region 10! In this workshop, rather than providing entertainment, we seek to engage participants in a dialogue about the real issues facing our nation’s schools. **Day One** is filled with thought-provoking statements, opportunities to explore your own culture and the culture of others, and a time for reflecting about how to best reach and teach **ALL** students in your classroom. **Day Two** is devoted to enhancing instruction through culturally responsive teaching methods. These methods, such as project-based learning, thinking aloud, and crafting strategic questions provide the “tools for thinking” to make **ALL** students in your classroom become engaged, confident learners.

**Conquering Comprehension: Active Strategies to Understand Text (Grades 2-8)**

Active comprehension strategies allow students to read and understand text at deeper levels than previously experienced in a classroom setting. Students go from "I read it, but I don't get it" to "Whoa! Wait until you read this!" This session explores the current research/theory base behind active comprehension and identifies key strategies for student achievement and success.

**Effective Demonstration Lessons in Writing (Grades K-12)**

Demonstration lessons, complete with a debriefing session, are available upon request for interested campuses. These lessons, presented by Region 10 consultants, are designed as powerful models of effective writing instruction covering pre-writing, drafting, revising, editing, and sharing. Instructional leaders may request from a predetermined list of research-based lessons for impacting instruction.

**The “Eyes” Have It: Using Visuals to Engage Tweens and Teens in Literacy (Grades 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 gets 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.

### **Facilitated Scoring of TAKS Writing (Grade 4)**

This session is designed specifically for 4<sup>th</sup> grade teachers to bring samples of their benchmark compositions and share in the scoring of papers. Participants will revisit the subtleties of the TAKS rubric and then mimic the TEA scoring process with each paper being scored twice – and possibly a third and fourth time if inconsistencies appear. A Region 10 language arts consultant will facilitate the scoring and offer suggestions for instruction.

### **Facilitated Scoring of TAKS Writing (Grade 7)**

This session is designed specifically for 7<sup>th</sup> grade teachers to bring samples of their benchmark compositions and share in the scoring of papers. Participants will revisit the subtleties of the TAKS rubric and then mimic the TEA scoring process with each paper being scored twice – and possibly a third and fourth time if inconsistencies appear. A Region 10 language arts consultant will facilitate the scoring and offer suggestions for instruction.

### **Facilitated Scoring of TAKS Writing (Grades 10-11)**

This session is designed specifically for 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade teachers to bring samples of their benchmark compositions and share in the scoring of papers. Participants will revisit the subtleties of the TAKS rubric and then mimic the TEA scoring process with each paper being scored twice – and possibly a third and fourth time if inconsistencies appear. A Region 10 language arts consultant will facilitate the scoring and offer suggestions for instruction.

### **Fluency for Big Kids (Grades 6-12)**

Reading fluency instruction gets a lot of attention in elementary grades; however, more and more evidence points to the link between reading fluency and reading comprehension for secondary students as well. 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.

### **More Than Guided Reading: Strategies for Small Group Instruction (Grades K-2 and 3-5)**

Guided reading – the practice of focused literacy instruction in a small group setting – has been standard practice in classrooms across our nation over the last twenty years. This session takes the concept of guided reading and advances it to include strategic and explicit reading instruction designed to increase students' reading levels and deeper comprehension of text. If you've always wondered about how to teach guided reading, or if you've been a guided reading teacher for years and want to take your skills to the next level, this is the session for you!

### **Preschool and Kindergarten: Classroom Environment and its Impact on Literacy (Grades PK-K)**

Teaching Pre-K/Kindergarten students can be a daunting task. This training will examine how essential elements such as daily routine, scheduling, room arrangement, centers, and classroom management impact reading performance. We will also examine the “whys” of what we do by exploring the theories prevalent in early childhood practices.

### **Reading Informational Text: Critical Thinking for Today's Students \*\* Back by Popular Demand \*\* (Grades 3-8)**

This workshop – a repeat from last year and back by popular demand – identifies the challenges faced by older elementary and middle school students with informational texts and provides specific strategies for immediate use in the classroom. More and more often, students are required to read, make inferences, and think critically about concepts learned from informational text sources in all content areas. Since these texts differ in structure, vocabulary, and purpose, new strategies will be provided for participants to support students to read and comprehend these increasingly complex types of texts.

### **The Write Stuff: Writers' Workshop in YOUR Classroom (elementary and secondary versions)**

Writers' Workshop improves writing ability, teaches the writing process, increases enjoyment in writing, and most importantly, empowers writers. This session examines the components of an effective Writers' Workshop and provides 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!

### **So, Your Kids Hate to Write: Engaging Kids in the Writing Process (K-2 and 3-8)**

*"I hate to write!"* Every classroom teacher has heard this mantra at one time or another. Yet, teachers still struggle with finding meaningful methods for engaging students in writing. This session provides both research and methodology to make writing come alive in your classroom.

### **Super-Size Me: Reading and Writing as the Perfect Combo Meal (Grades 3-6)**

Overindulgence is not an issue if you're talking about reading and writing! In this workshop participants will use the latest children's literature combined with practical, ready-to-use language arts lessons to improve student achievement. Focus in writing will align with the six traits (ideas, organization, voice, word choice, sentence fluency, and conventions) and in reading with solid research-based techniques.

### **Teacher Tools for TAKS Writing (Grades 4-12)**

This session is designed to provide teachers with specific mini-lessons which align with the requirements of TAKS writing. Teachers will add several strategies (tools) to their repertoires of writing techniques. Both veteran and novice teachers will acquire lessons that will translate to student success in writing--including TAKS compositional writing.

### **Teaching Conventions in an Unconventional Way (Grades 4-12)**

We know that teaching grammar and conventions within the context of writing is the best practice way, but how do we actually do it? If you've asked yourself that question, this is the workshop for you. We'll look at specific strategies to get beyond "worksheet" grammar practice and move toward real grammar and conventions in real writing. Note: Although the editing phase of the writing process by necessity includes other parts (especially revision), this workshop focuses mainly on editing.

### **Texas Primary Reading Inventory (Grades K-3)**

This session offers training on the reading assessment used in most Texas districts, the Texas Primary Reading Inventory. Training sessions are designed for specific grades (K, 1, 2, or 3) and include a broad overview of the entire assessment program.

### **Texas Primary Reading Inventory: Using the Intervention Activities Guide (Grades K-3)**

You've completed the TPRI testing in your class - now what? The TPRI Intervention Activities Guide is the source of many classroom activities to strengthen students' knowledge of phonemic awareness, graphophonemic knowledge, vocabulary, fluency, and comprehension. This session explores every aspect of the Intervention Guide and gives practical, classroom application for each strand of TPRI. You will leave this session excited about the fun activities you've learned to increase early literacy skills in your classroom.

### **The Three T's of Literacy: Texts, TEKS and Technology (Grades 3-12)**

I have computers in my classroom, now what? Take a fresh look at technologies such as PowerPoint, Word, Blogs, Wikis, Pod Casts, and Virtual Field Trips. Discover how these technologies and more can be used as valuable tools to aid students in responding to, interpreting and evaluating text; conduct research; discovering; publishing; and communicating. If you are looking for ways to engage 21st century learners in literacy, join us for a day of interactive learning.

### **Vivid Vocabulary: Engaging the Brain with a Jump from the Arts (Grades 3-8)**

Active learning works! Participants will learn to use readily-available classroom materials to both strengthen vocabulary and engage the brain. Using art, drama, and music, teachers will practice strategies crucial to understanding the concepts of SOCIAL STUDIES and language arts. Join us for a day of very active and fun learning!

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## **Sessions Offered at Region 10 or at Clustered Locations Only:**

### **Language Arts TAKS Cadre (District Reading/Language Arts Representatives)**

This is a series of sessions for literacy representatives from all districts. Participants will receive updates and new information regarding TAKS testing and other pertinent Reading/Language Arts topics (offered only at Region 10).

### **Literacy Institute (Grades K-2)**

This three day institute provides foundational training in the components of early literacy. Through interactive learning, participants will acquire new strategies that foster student success in reading and writing. Day One will focus on working with words, Day Two emphasizes reading comprehension, and Day Three highlights the link between reading and writing needed for every **primary** student. Teachers will walk away with a new perspective for literacy instruction. The institute is ideal for classroom teachers, reading/instructional specialists, ESL teachers, and inclusion specialists.

### **Literacy Institute (Grades 3-6)**

This three day institute provides foundational training in the components of literacy. Through interactive learning, participants will acquire new strategies that foster student success in reading and writing. Day One will focus on working with words, Day Two emphasizes reading comprehension, and Day Three highlights the link between reading and writing needed for every **intermediate** student. Teachers will walk away with a new perspective for literacy instruction. The institute is ideal for classroom teachers, reading/instructional specialists, ESL teachers, and inclusion specialists.

### **Literacy Institute (Grades 6-12)**

This three day institute provides foundational training in the components of literacy. Through interactive learning, participants will acquire new strategies that foster student success in reading and writing. Day One will focus on vocabulary development, Day Two emphasizes reading comprehension, and Day Three highlights the link between reading and writing needed for every **secondary** student. Teachers will walk away with a new perspective for literacy instruction. The institute is ideal for both English and reading teachers, science and social studies teachers, reading/instructional specialists, ESL teachers, and inclusion specialists.

**TAKS Holistic Scoring for New Teachers (Separate Sessions for Grade 4, Grade 7, Grades 10-11, Open-Ended Questions)**

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.

**Write Traits (Grades 2-12)**

In this workshop, instructors will walk you through the six traits of writing – ideas, organization, voice, word choice, sentence fluency, and conventions. Participants will assess student papers with supplied rubrics, make literature connections, and learn new instructional strategies that can be taken into the classroom right away. Participants will leave ready to evaluate student papers using the trait rubrics and be able to identify strengths and weaknesses in student writing while teaching the six traits (offered only at Region 10).