

## **Reading/Language Arts Program Professional Development**

### **Campus/District Offerings Serving Region 10 Schools 2010 - 2011**

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

#### **A Scavenger Hunt through the ELAR TEKS**

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.

#### **Growing Writers: Teaching Writing in K-2 *NEW***

Can a child really become a better reader by learning to write? Yes! Even with all of the research to support the reading/writing connection, writing still tends to get neglected in the early years of education. This workshop will address teaching strategies that support writing throughout the day and emphasize the use of writing to strengthen early reading skills. Teachers will walk away with a better understanding of how to differentiate writing instruction, as well as how to teach K-2 students both the art and mechanics of writing.

#### **Guided Reading on a Budget: Alternatives to Leveled Texts (K-4) *NEW***

No one wants to sacrifice good literacy practices because of budget cuts! Through the decades, guided reading has proven to be an effective way to differentiate reading instruction for all readers, yet many teachers don't have the materials required to do it well. Traditionally, published leveled readers have been the primary resource used for guided reading. However, there are many, MANY other alternative text resources available at little or no cost! This workshop will give teachers an understanding of how books are leveled and how that information can help in choosing appropriate alternatives to use for guided reading groups.

#### **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.

#### **Kapow! Using Graphic Novels in the ELAR Classroom (4-8) *NEW***

The working definition of "21st Century Literacies" adopted by NCTE includes "analyzing and synthesizing multiple streams of simultaneous information." What can better accomplish this than graphic novels? In this workshop, teachers will explore a brief history of comics/graphic novels, become familiar with the components of graphic novels, review the benefits of using graphic novels with students of **all** reading levels, learn to implement graphic novels into the classroom to teach the TEKS, review some of the most recently published graphic novels for tweens and teens, and discover where to find graphic novel resources. This session is designed for both the novice and the enthusiast of graphic novels.

### **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)**

This workshop will combine a variety of genres to foster authentic student reading. In light of the emphasis on multiple genres in the new ELAR TEKS, participants will explore the features of various forms of text 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 ELAR 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!

### **Poetry Flow! You Don't Need an iPhone App to Introduce Poetry (3-7) *NEW***

The TEKS require students to "understand, make inferences and draw conclusions about the structure and elements of poetry and provide evidence from the text to support their understanding." In this workshop, that is exactly what participants will do. Through the review of classic and contemporary poetry, participants will learn how to infuse poetry into their classrooms on a daily basis, teach students to create original pieces, and build an appreciation for the genre.

### **Prescription Strength Rtl: Effective Implementation in ELAR (K-5)**

This workshop will provide participants the opportunity to build on their knowledge of Rtl (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 in reading/language arts. Documentation of interventions, as well as scheduling will also be addressed.

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

In the new era of Response to Intervention (Rtl), 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.

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

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!

### **Re-imagining Poetry and Fiction in Secondary Classrooms: The Plot Thickens (7-12) *NEW***

Changes in the TEKS have caused teachers to revisit the way they address poetry and fiction. The Literary Texts component of both the Reading and Writing Strands call for students to have a deep understanding of poetry and fiction, and that must be fostered throughout the school year. This session will offer support for teaching poetry and fiction beyond the traditional end of the year "poetry unit" or "creative writing project."

### **Secondary Considerations for Rtl in Language Arts (6-12) *NEW***

This workshop will address the process of implementing Response to Intervention in middle, junior, and high schools in language arts. Discussions will focus on the rationale for Rtl in secondary schools, common myths about RTI in the secondary setting, models of implementation, and possible strategies to use when faced with challenges of implementation.

### **Teaching Reading and Fluency to Big Kids (6-12) *Back by Popular Demand***

This is a combined "short version" of two popular sessions previously offered by Region 10: Teaching Reading to Big Kids and Fluency for Big Kids. During the morning, participants will gain a perspective on the secondary student who struggles with reading, as well as the latest research and strategies for helping those students access text. The afternoon will be spent focusing on ways to increase the oral reading fluency of secondary students.

### **Vocabulary: What Not to Do (K-5) *NEW***

You've heard of the acclaimed TV show *What Not to Wear*? Now learn *What Not to Do* when it comes to vocabulary instruction! During this session, participants will learn how to "make-over" vocabulary lessons using proven techniques based on the research of Janet Allen, Alana Morris, Margaret McKeown, and Isabel Beck. Interactive strategies for selecting, instructing, and monitoring vocabulary instruction will be addressed.

### **Writer's Block: Interventions for Struggling Writers (3-8) *NEW***

In both academic and professional worlds, a person's ability to write well can have significant implications for future success. Unfortunately, many students are receiving writing instruction, yet they do not seem to be meeting minimum standards for written composition. This workshop will examine the reasons that students struggle with writing and what intervention strategies can be used to help them overcome these difficulties. Teachers will have an opportunity to review student writing samples and practice how to adjust instruction according to areas of student need.

### **Writers' Workshop for Tweens and Teens (3-8)**

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!