

Pre-Conference Institutes 2015 VSRA Conference

\$40 Each

Early Morning Literacy Institutes
8:00 AM-9:45 AM

Cathy Collier- "Don't Tell Me Kindergarten Can't Do That"
Kindergartners can write words, sentences, AND stories. Success is all about carefully planned lessons that are developed for individual success. Use both traditional and original methods to have your students writing in no time.

Lynne Bland- "Transforming Classroom Dynamics: Teaching Students to Ask Their Own Questions"
This session will dive deeply into the Question Formulation Technique, a simple, evidence-based protocol that helps students learn to produce their own questions and strategize on how to use them.

CANCELLED: Michelle Antonacci & Lori Gross- "Robust Vocabulary Instruction to Enhance Reading and Writing Skills"
Learn how to plan and deliver vocabulary lessons, using content related text, that enable students to learn the definitions of Tier 2 vocabulary words across multiple contexts.

Rose Frazee & Sarah Horn- "Making Literacy a Priority in the Secondary School"
This presentation focuses on concrete ideas and strategies to help make improving student literacy important throughout secondary schools, from both the perspective of a classroom teacher and an administrator.

Valerie Robnolt – "Teaching with Technology is Magical"
Learn ways to integrate electronic devices to engage your students and make your literacy instruction magical. Ideas will be shared for both whole group and small group instruction.

Katie Garner- "Following Einstein through the Brain's Backdoor: The 'Secret' Missing-Piece of the Reading & Writing Puzzle!"
Sneak K-2 (& struggling 3-5) learners through the brain's *BACKdoor* for easy-access to the hardest phonics skills! Take away the best brain-tricks for tapping-into the affective learning network and increasing learner-momentum in reading AND writing far beyond just simple decoding! These brain-based teaching-tools for accelerating literacy-skill mastery are guaranteed to become the most relied-upon staples of your teacher-repertoire!

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Mid-Morning Literacy Institutes

10:00 AM-11:45 AM

Stephanie Blackburn- “Engaging Your Student Experts: Practical Strategies to Support Reading and Writing”

In this highly interactive session, you will learn 12-15 strategies that engage and support reading, writing, and vocabulary development across the curriculum, and can be implemented immediately with your students!

Jennifer Floyd-“Engaging the Internet for Daily Literacy Instruction: The Possibilities are Endless!”

This presentation will introduce a variety of web-based tools and demonstrate how those tools can enhance instructional practices. Participants can bring their own devices to explore the targeted tools.

Cyndy Amrhein & Cathy Root- “Abracadabra-abracadoo... I Can Explain an Inference to You!”

Teachers of K-6 students will be able to take the mystery out of inferring by using grade level appropriate categories to help students focus and understand inference.

Beth Estill- “Increasing Reading Comprehension Through Writing”

Research tells us that if you want to increase reading comprehension teach more writing. During this extended session participants will learn how to link the standards of reading to the standards of writing both in the areas of narrative/fiction and expository and research and nonfiction. A variety of mentor texts and interactive strategies will be shared.

Kinko Michaels-“Inquiry-Based Learning Ensures Critical Thinking and Academic Rigor”

Discover the power of Shared Inquiry to engage all students in close reading and critical thinking about complex texts. High-level questioning ensures academic rigor while developing 21st century learners.

Margo Southall- “The Next Step in Differentiated Literacy Centers: Brain-Based, Multilevel Practice”

Gain a set of differentiated comprehension, fluency, word study and writing centers designed to make literacy skills accessible to every student. Target the literacy goals of your students and make a year of differentiated centers doable for you!

Kelly Boswell- “Strategic Support for Striving Learners”

In elementary classrooms across America, there are increasing numbers of students with specialized learning needs – striving readers who need additional support to reach their academic potential. In this session, we’ll explore strategic interventions and a variety of instructional tools to help students navigate the texts of their world.

