



***2011 MSRC CONFERENCE
VOICES OF LITERACY:
CELEBRATE DIVERSITY***

SESSION AND INSTITUTE DESCRIPTIONS

THURSDAY – OCTOBER 20, 2011

KEYNOTE ADDRESS: Nonfiction for Children Has Never Been Better!

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Terrell Young

The new Common Core Standards recommend increasing the amount of nonfiction that students read and write. This keynote will highlight recent examples of award winning nonfiction trade books and creative ways of weaving nonfiction into the curriculum.

What's New in K-12 Literature - Ron and Barb Scherry

The best of recently released K-12 literature will be highlighted. Categories include Picture Books, Novels, Non-fiction, Newest in a Best-Selling Series, Season/Holiday. Suggestions for sharing these books with children will be given including book summaries, curriculum connections, and author and illustrator backgrounds. Bibliographies will be provided.

Building Proficient Readers – Miscese Gagen

This session translates the neuro-scientific “map” of proficient reading into concrete actions you can use to lead students to reading success. Learn effective multisensory activities, successful techniques, useful tools and targeted interventions to directly help all students build necessary skills and develop proficient reader neural processing pathways.

What I Learned from The Maze Runner – James Dashner

This session examines the journey taken by the author from the time he wrote the first draft to the finalized, published version of the book, The Maze Runner.

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Why We Do What We Do – Steve Gardiner

Understanding the levels of extrinsic and intrinsic motivation and how they affect students in the classroom is critical for every teacher. This workshop will present the results of significant research about student motivation through the framework of Self-Determination Theory and Flow Theory.

No More Boring Books – Tammy Erickson

When doing read alouds or book groups, I have found technology to be my best friend. Come discover how YouTube, personal videos, online chat/video tools such as oovoo and Skype, and others help bring books alive. Many examples from my 4th grade lesson plans will be shared

Answers about Dyslexia and Other Learning Disabilities – Elsie Johnson

10-15% of the population struggles with learning are often misunderstood, leading to frustration and low self-esteem. Strategies exist for those working hard and not getting the results they expect. Learn how a natural Ability can cause DISabilities in the 'word thinkers' world and what to do about it.

Friendship Books– A Tool to Improve Literacy and Foster Children’s Social Skills – Silke Jauke

Friendship Books foster children’s social skills in a fun, offline, and educational way. They are very well received by children, parents, and teachers and are designed for children aged 6-12. Friendship Books are proudly made in the USA and bear the official “Made in Montana” seal.

GATE: Direct Instruction for Phonics, Fluency and More! – Esther Eustice

In the high stakes educational world, teachers need research-based reading curricula that provides additional practice for developing readers served in tier 1 and additional support for at-risk readers served in tiers 2 and 3 of an RTI model. Educators will learn about GATE, a direct-instruction, research-based curriculum from Read Naturally for small groups that supports the development of phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency and comprehension using nonfiction stories.

Book It With a Buddy – Elizabeth Fellerer and Marie Smith

Book It With A Buddy is a book club for 4th-8th graders and their adult buddies. It focuses on books not normally introduced in the school setting and allows children and adults to share their points of view as to what they are reading.

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Supporting Voices of Struggling Readers through Use of Technology – Peg Isakson

Although today's students belong to a "digital age," classroom teachers are key to the appropriate use of computer programs and to the software data that informs instruction. Teacher judgment assists student placement at appropriate levels, adjustments for work in "zpd", adaptations for abilities and application of learned skills to extended text.

Readicide: What Can You Do to Prevent it? – Karen Hickey

"Readicide" is defined by Kelly Gallagher as "The systematic killing of the love of reading, often exacerbated by the inane, mind-numbing practices found in schools." Teachers are under more and more pressure each year to meet criteria imposed by district, state and national mandates. An unfortunate effect of this is a killing of the love of reading. Learn how you can help kids become skilled and habitual recreational readers, while still developing the students' academic reading ability. We will look at daily schedules, record keeping, independent reading, reading strategies, mini-lessons and much more. You can help kids become lifelong readers AND meet all of the standards.

Language! eReader—Using Kurzweil 3000 Learnstation – Michelle Lombard

Language! Is an intensive mastery-based language arts intervention program that targets the needs of non-readers, struggling students, and English language learners to accelerate them to grade-level proficiency.

Plant a Seed.....READ! – Lorraine Verploegen

See how a community connected their resources and have provided literacy for hundreds of children in Hill County.

My Path to Publication – James Dashner

The success of James's career had a long road to get there. Here he will share the lessons he learned along the way about agents, rejection, networking, etc.

The Mystery Thriller: Understanding and Writing Kids' Favorite Genre – Sneed B. Collard, III

Mysteries help young people satisfy one of their most basic instincts: curiosity. However, leading a young reader along at a heart-palpitation pace— while not spilling the beans— requires a delicate touch and good understanding of craft. Learn what makes a mystery a mystery, and get started choosing—or writing— suspenseful, satisfying thrillers that will delight readers of all ages.

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6-Trait Writing: Learn and Write Online – Vince Long

In this presentation, you will learn how to use a free, online suite of tools that allow students to learn the 6-Trait writing process and submit their writing assignments online. Teachers receive reports on students and class progress and can assess the writing assignments online, provide feedback to the student and generate reports.

A Mammoth Tour – Eugene Gagliano and Zak Pullen

Gene Gagliano, author, and Zak Pullen, illustrator, will share the process and development that went into the creation and collaboration of *Dee and the Mammoth*, and its DVD, from inspiration, to sketches and research, on through the editorial and publishing process in an entertaining presentation which includes original oil paintings.

Relevant Literature for Rural Schools – Rachel Waller

Learn about issues currently affecting many rural communities in Montana and surrounding states, such as statistics about rural outmigration. Participants will learn strategies for selecting literature that portrays rural communities in accurate and positive ways, about stereotypes of rural communities in children's literature, and how using place-based education strategies can be used to capitalize on rural children's knowledge of their own communities and surroundings. Participants will also learn how to help children make personal connections with literature.

Literacy in a Digital Age – Lisa Kerscher

Reading remains a fundamental skill in our digital world, but how do educators use technology to make reading itself more engaging or provide incentives to read more? Discover a variety of angles, including a classroom-to-classroom collaboration, an online reading-incentive activity called Read-A-Route, and some free, interactive Web-based resources.

Writing Projects That Make You Think – Jerrie Boksich

Challenge students to think as they participate in writing projects to stretch their writing skills and their skills. Help students have fun while improving their skills.

Learning to Write and Writing to Learn – Sandy Shakes

In this fast paced, highly practical session, you will explore how to hook your students to read like a writer and learn writing strategies to enhance student learning through writing forms and patterns, quick writes, and mini-lessons which focus on the traits and craft of good writing.

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Going WILD with Science Literacy!!!! – Annette Young and Rhonda Yellow-Crantz

Release the WILD side with science vocabulary/concepts! This early childhood curriculum has everything...movement, song, literature, connections, rhythm, arts/crafts, nutrition and rigor. Come walk through the exciting components of the science vocabulary-based *Growing Up WILD* curriculum...an outdoor experience that stands alone or sections can be extracted to fit your needs. (Limit 20)

Reading for Meaning-Fluently – Esther Eustice

Learn how to develop fluency, support vocabulary, and promote comprehension by combining the powerful, research-based strategies of teacher modeling, repeated reading, and progress monitoring. Accelerate the reading achievement of Title I, special education, ELL, and mainstream students using these research-proven strategies. This session describes Read Naturally, but can be used with any classroom reading materials.

KEYNOTE ADDRESS: *The State of the Publishing Industry*

Author: James Dashner

With ebooks taking over, Borders closing their doors forever, and the rise of social media, there's a lot to talk about in regards to the publishing industry. James will share some of his thoughts on what he's seeing out there.

KEYNOTE ADDRESS: *Building Student Literacy through Sustained Silent Reading*

Keynote Speaker: Steve Gardiner

This session will focus on what research says about engagement and motivation in literacy learning. Foundations of motivation and engagement and the elements of motivating instruction will be discussed. Practical ideas and activities that can be used in the classroom will be shared.

Get Your Students Published! – Shannon O'Donnell

This one-hour sectional will discuss the importance of sharing student work outside the classroom. A variety of contests and submission ideas will be provided to help get you started.

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There's a Grant for That! – Tara Hagins

Do you have a fabulous idea for integrating technology into your classroom, but just don't have the necessary equipment? The money is out there and getting it isn't as hard as you think. This session will provide a simple template that can be adjusted to fit almost any technology grant application.

What's New in Children's Literature-2011 Grades 4-8 – Linda Warren

Thirty new books will be summarized for grades 4-8 including books set in or around the West. Bibliographies will be available which specify reading levels and for what programs the books can be used.

Reading Aloud Nonfiction: From Whole to Parts – Dr. Terrell Young

Evidence suggests that nonfiction is the key to success in later schooling, builds knowledge of the social and natural world, and appeals to the reading preferences of elementary students. This session will provide a research-based rationale for reading aloud nonfiction trade books to K-6 students. Moreover, the presenter will model several strategies for reading nonfiction aloud to students.

Nouns, Verbs, Adjectives, Adverbs-What Are Those Really to a Kid? – Tammie Erickson

In my experience, teaching the different parts of speech to 4th graders has proven difficult...until now. I use a more meaningful, literature based, fun way of making this concept come alive for young students. Come find out the secret that helped my test scores soar this past year.

Thinking like a Historian: Using Digital Newspapers in the Classroom – Ruth Ferris

Have you ever wanted a magic window to see the past? The National Digital Newspaper Program, a partnership between the Library of Congress and the National Endowment for the Humanities is such a window. This session is about using historic Montana newspapers in the classroom. Feel free to bring your laptop.

The Art of Reading Aloud: Mastering Rhyming Books and Poetry – Kristina Lankford

This hands-on course helps teachers and reading specialists in the elementary grades master the technical art of reading poetry. Poetry is not just rhythm and imagery; it is music. Participants will be learning and practicing techniques which they can then pass on to their students.

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Who Grew my Soup? – Helen Hanson

Join us for this “souper” fun as Phineas Quinn takes us on a journey to find out where the ingredients in his vegetable soup come from. We’ll follow Phin and magical Mr. Mattoo as they fly from farm to farm, learning about amazing vegetables and the farmers who grow them. Teachers will leave with practical lessons and make-n-takes ready to use in the classroom that are aligned with Montana standards.

Literacy Comprehension and Expansion –Make-n-Take classroom Ready – Wenda Wickland

Teachers will make n’ take projects and gain ideas that they can use in their classrooms come Monday morning. This hands-on workshop will allow you to road test new ideas, lessons and exercises that target OPI literacy standards. Bring scissors, adhesive, paper and pencil.

Lots of Books in Little hands– Reaching out in our Community – Karol Gustin

Using an MSRC Creative Assistance Grant, the Lewis and Clark Reading Council will be able to help purchase, bag, and distribute 1,500 books to young children in our community. I will share how we will contribute with funds and service to provide quality literature for “Little Learners in Lewis and Clark”.

Bringing Kirby Larson to the Big Sky – Central Montana Reading Council

Members of the Central Montana Reading Council will share ideas for an author visit. The CMRC used the Creative Assistance Grant to help fund the visit in 2010 by author Kirby Larson. Find out how you could bring an author to your own school or area. We will provide information about the Creative Assistance grant, scheduling recommendations and lots of ideas for integrating the themes we used with *Hattie Big Sky*, *Two Bobbies* and *Nubs*; friendship, quilting, WWI, homesteading, Montana history. We have lots of handouts, resources, and examples to share.

Best Practices in Early Literacy – Helen Long

Participants will have a greater understanding of the importance of best practices in early literacy through multisensory activities, manipulatives, activities and games. The session will focus on implementing the 5 components of reading; phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary, fluency and comprehension. Participants will learn the unique format of duet stories and solo stories which enable diverse students to hear rich story content and gain background knowledge on general topics.

You Can Do IT – Curt Layman

As a first-time, published author, Curt Layman reflects on his beginning writing experience, and the subsequent publishing of his first story for children; *The Christmas Cheese*.

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FRIDAY – OCTOBER 21, 2011

KEYNOTE ADDRESS: Reading, Writing and Responsibility Passionate Pedagogy at Any Grade Level

Keynote Speaker: Linda Rief

A hundred years ago a child's world was his or her classroom. Today the world is our classroom. We are asked to educate the world's children, who come to us with tremendous differences, both in strengths and needs— physically, emotionally, intellectually, etc. It is through writing and reading about meaningful, compelling topics that students come to know themselves and each other. It is the *write* thing to do. It is the responsible thing to do.

Could it be Dyslexia? Susan Barton answers this question in this video session – TerraBeth Jochems

Educators at every level provide research-based, standards-based reading strategies for virtually every skill necessary in order to ensure “no child is left behind”. So what has happened when a child exposed to all this wondrous instruction cannot yet spell and/or read even the most rudimentary words? Learn the warning signs of this pervasive reading difficulty and find out what can be done in your classroom, school and district.

My Morning Meeting...Yours, too? – Tammie Erickson

Come experience my own version of the Morning meeting. Both academics and all 6 character traits are infused into these classroom unity building lessons. This method is based on the book, ***The Morning Meeting***, by Roxann Kriete and my own coming-out-soon book co-authored with Rusty May. My other session, Teaching Character Traits, is a companion to this one.

Assignment: Military Kids – Caroline Dettle and Sara Cease

Join us for **Operation Military Kids: Assignment: Military Kids!** Gain a better awareness of issues youth of military families face by learning about military culture, the deployment cycle and the effect on kids. Learn ways you can support Montana's military youth in your schools and communities.

Interpretation of Literature Using Percussion – Sandie Rietz, Alan Christensen and Reagan Saulsbury

Crickets, frogs, slide whistles, shakers, and rattles, cymbals, drums, chimes, bells and other percussive things orchestrated for read alouds, including Bill Martin's *Listen to the Rain*, and Arnold Lobel's *Mouse Soup*. Join our reading orchestra— play and read.

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Foldable Fun: Reinforce Reading Skills and Strategies – Steven Tutunick

Foldables are interactive, three-dimensional, “student-made” graphic organizers. These student created projects are visual and kinesthetic activities that assist students with organization and retention of information. You will leave with several Foldables to incorporate the next school day!

Teaching Tall Tales in the Classroom – Anne Isaacs

This workshop will explore curriculum activities in all disciplines. After a brief review of tall tales, we will start trying out some new ways to teach with tall tales. We will engage in lessons such as writing a new version of Swamp Angel (starring Snow White) or conducting mathematical investigations of “averageness”, or a study of language devices. Detailed handouts will be provided.

Inside the Writer’s-Reader’s Notebook – Linda Rief

In this session we will look at the ways kids use notebooks in a systemic and organized way to capture and develop their thinking, how and why they are integral to a writing-reading workshop, and the value in asking kids to maintain this academic journal. We will also consider a variety of ways in which they can be focused for various grade levels.

Fiction that Gets Real – Sneed B. Collard, III

Sneed will give an insightful journey through his novels, including his new Slate Stephens Mysteries, *The Governor’s Dog is Missing*, and *Hangman’s Gold*. He’ll explore how science, history, and humor drive his plots and protagonists, and especially discuss how Montana has come to play a central role in his work.

Transforming Reluctant Writers-Improving Their Skills and Altering Their Attitudes – Ann DeOnis

Reluctant writers have likely had less-than-positive experiences with writing; accordingly, they see writing as something that others do... something that others are good at. The hands-on activities presented in this session are teacher-tried and student-endorse, and draw from the ideas of Gail Tompkins and Marjorie Franks, who have successfully transformed hesitant writers in I-can-do-it kids.

Writing Children’s Books in your Classroom – Rhea Ashmore

View children’s picture books written by university students. Learn how to incorporate this project in your lesson plans. Create a flipbook, obtain its grading rubric, and leave with a literacy activity for your students.

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Take Aim! At Vocabulary – Esther Eustice

Vocabulary knowledge has been identified by the National Reading Panel as one of the strongest predictors of reading achievement (NICHD 2000). There is also evidence that limited vocabulary development is a major deterrent to reading success. Participants will learn how Read Naturally's research-based Take Aim! At Vocabulary curriculum can be used to promote the development of vocabulary in middle grade students

What's New in Children's Literature 2011—Grades K-3 – Linda Warren

Thirty new books will be summarized for grades K-3 including books set in or around the West. Bibliographies will be available which specify reading levels and for what programs the books can be used.

Effective Reading Intervention – Miscese Gagen

Struggling readers require direct effective intervention. Learn how to identify skill deficiencies, apply neuroscientific research, design effective individual remediation plans, and target instruction to develop proficient reader phonologic processing pathways. This session overviews actions to directly help students build skills and is linked to key components of Montana's RTI Framework.

Intervention Games and Small Group Activities for Beginning and Struggling Readers – Randall Klein

Randall will demonstrate a sequence of games and activities that launch students into strong alphabet knowledge, confident decoding and proficient word identification.

Strategies for Engaging Students in Informational Text – Dr. Terrell Young

There is a broad consensus that informational text is both appropriate and important for elementary students. This session focuses on strategies that engage students in reading informational text. Participants will experience three strategies they can use with their students in grades 2-6.

What Works: Engaging (Emerging) Secondary Readers –Sylvia Heselwood

The older struggling reader poses unique instructional dilemmas for secondary teachers. Learn how to increase student engagement for students using "tried and true" techniques alongside new and unique ones! "Clunkers," "Who Dun Its," and "The Shadow Knows" are just a few of the ideas presented.

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NaNoWriMo– Challenging Young Authors – Corrie Douglas and Janelle Wilson

National Novel Writing Month is an online challenge to write an entire novel in 30 days. The Young Author's program sets reasonable goals, provides lesson plans, and gives you access to many tools to encourage student success. Leave with new ideas to get your students excited about writing! Laptop recommended.

Bright Ideas to Keep the GT Child Engaged with Language Activities – Jerrie Boksich

Language is the vehicle for all learning and regularly engaging students in language activities is incredibly beneficial. Come and take part in language based activities to enhance learning and make students think in the elementary classroom.

Montana Common Core Overview– English Language Arts – Cynthia Green

The Common Core standards are coming. This session will give you an overview of the English Language standards.

One Minute Reader – Esther Eustice

To develop strong reading skills, students need to read after school in addition to during the school day. The One Minute Reader is designed for use at home to provide practice using effective modeling, repeated reading, and monitoring of progress to improve fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension as well as self-esteem.

KEYNOTE ADDRESS: *The Power of a Book Read in Childhood: My Life*

Author: Anne Isaacs

Ms. Isaacs will talk about her life and its impact on her work. In spite of the fact that tall tales are the only uniquely American literary form, Ms. Isaacs is the only American currently creating new tall tales. In talking about the sources of ideas and the surprising roads she travelled in making her books, Ms. Isaacs will share a hitherto-secret discovery: that some of the best stories are hidden away underneath the creation of each book

Getting Kids Reading – Gary Johnston

Most teachers send similar messages about reading at home, "Make sure your child reads and sign his/her folder." Yet most kids never open a book at home and the parents still sign the folders. Come to this session to turn this around and really get kids reading!

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Using Visual Tools to Strengthen reading and Writing – Linda Rief

In this session we will look at how drawing as thinking, using stick figures and key words, truly engages students as writers and readers, in ways that show us as teachers how they can craft an idea, as well as comprehend others' ideas as readers.

Teaching Character Traits Through Literature Books – Tammie Erickson

Come find out how I use simple picture books in my 4th grade classroom to create unity and positive character traits in my students. Kids today need training in all areas of character, and the discussions students offer are very enlightening. Lots of titles and lesson examples will be shared.

Multi Media Approaches to Reading—How to Make it Work – Bill Porta

Bill Porta is a multi-talented author, entertaining speaker, and Real Estate instructor. He has published articles and books, owns two music publishing companies, a jingle writing company, record label and several other businesses. Come for the fun and walk away encouraged!

Word Warm-Ups: Quick Exercises for Word Mastery – Esther Eustice

In the high stakes educational world, educators need research-based reading curricula that provide additional practice for developing readers served in tier 1 and more support for at-risk readers in tiers 2 or 3 of an RTI model. At this session, educators will be informed about Read Naturally's Word Warm-ups, an independent, supplemental research-based curriculum for students.

Read like a Writer: Work with Mentor Texts – Ruth Ferris

Why use picture books with older students? Why use picture books to teach writing? Picture books are great ways to show specific writing styles, and use of writers craft. It is also a great tool to savor word choice. Picture books are treasures just waiting to be opened.

Building Confidence and Creativity in Your K-8 Readers – Sandie Rietz, Bonnie Bentley and Rhonda Yellow-Crantz

This session will have on display several ideas and models of creativity for literature in and throughout the elementary grades. Are you tired of the same old ways of story recollection and need some new and different ways for your students to present a story? This session might be for you.

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Newspapers Across the Curriculum – Joanne King

Find out how to get newspapers for your classroom. Your students will learn what is going on in our world and the world beyond by becoming acquainted with the newspaper.