Virtual Workshops have just been added to the CRA Conference!

VIEW VIDEOS FROM THESE OUTSTANDING PRESENTERS . . .

**Donald Bear / Annie Ittner: Extending Word Study Into Reading, Writing and Talk**
In this video, we share and illustrate strategies and classroom practices and activities to extend word study into reading, writing, and talk. Ways for students to collaborate and share their word hunts and study, and use technology and online resources for vocabulary growth are elaborated.

**Audience:** K-8 Teachers, Literacy Leaders, Reading Specialist

**Kathy Perez:** W.O.W.: The Wonder of Words! Vocabulary Strategies that Boost Comprehension
Come to experience a variety of “fab vocab” strategies that are active, engaging ways to expand the listening and reading vocabulary of your students! These techniques are hands-on, practical and effective — well suited to busy classroom learning programs! Involve your students in the wonderful world of words. Motivating strategies are flexible enough to be successful with struggling readers as well as accelerated students. Ready-to-use ideas for all!

**Audience:** Pre-K - Grade 5 Educators, Curriculum Directors, Principals, Reading Specialist, Instructional Coaches, Special Educators, ESL Teachers

**Don Vu:** The Art of the Book Talk
According to Scholastic Book Fairs, a book talk is a “conversation about a book that one has read, infused with joy and emotion. Best if done daily.” One good book talk has been known to ignite a passion for reading in some kids. Educators who do them often (and effectively) can create a school/classroom environment where reading is joyful and exciting. In this video session, Dr. Don Vu shares with educators the best ideas in Book Talking!

**Audience:** Teachers, Librarians, Administrators

**Alexis O’Neill:** Small Paper, Big Ideas: Using Bitty Books to Motivate Writing
All ages of authors are often intimidated by big blank screen or piece of paper. Where to start? Making a bitty Wonder Notebook helps students organize thoughts and ideas as a first step to expanding into full nonfiction articles or fictional stories.

**Audience:** Grades 3 and up (Could be adapted to younger students)

**Elfrieda (Freddy) Hiebert:** Semantic Maps: Highlighting the Vocabulary That Matters
Semantic maps are central to vocabulary learning as a means of organizing, supplementing, and extending the meanings of words and connections among words. This presentation will also highlight how semantic maps can support students in keeping a record of what they have read and what they have learned.

**Audience:** K – 12

**Joan Bransfield Graham:** Just Imagine... You Are a Poet!
Join poet, former teacher Jan Bransfield Graham as she shares her Five Favorite Poetry Tips and a secret six-letter word which help her write her own poetry. A wealth of strategies, poetry prompts, and ideas for turning imagining being a poet into a reality.

**K – 8, Teachers, Librarians, Parents

**Lori Mariano / Karol Eisenbeis:** Let the Children Speak!
Spotlighting the work of young readers and writers opens up multiple paths to literacy. Lori and Karol will share this valuable approach and how to make the Author’s Chair a viable path to literacy!

**Audience:** K – 12

**Marjorie Rowe:** Refining Our Teacher Language To Promote Comprehension During - Guided Reading
This session will extend teachers’ repertoires for fostering comprehension during guided reading instruction through supportive book introductions and rich comprehension conversations. Strategies will include framing simple leveled books as “fine literature” to mine them for themes and literary elements as well as applying lessons from adult book clubs that contribute to more rewarding and authentic comprehension conversations.

**Audience:** K – 2 Classroom Teachers, Literacy Specialist, Reading Interventionists

**Tricia Marles:** Bringing Stories to Life Through SeeSaw
Tricia Marles will share her tips and tricks for creating retelling story activities through SeeSaw.

**Audience:** K-8
Noella MacKenzie: Just Imagine: Multimodal Text Creation From Day 1
"To be truly literate, children need to learn to create, comprehend and use written, visual, aural and multimodal texts. When they start school, they are usually able to create spoken and visual texts (drawings) but have limited skills in written text creation (writing)". Incorporation of drawing (and talking) into the early writing curriculum is more important than ever, given contemporary understandings of literacy (MacKenzie & Veresov, 2012, p. 22). In this short video, I will provide evidence and practical support for an approach to early writing that starts with what children know and do when they start school: Draw and Talk. However, I will come from the standpoint that although they may know how to engage with these two important forms of communication, they also have much to learn about drawing and talking. I will provide evidence for a pedagogical approach I have called "Draw, Talk, Write, Share" and demonstrate how children’s ability to create multimodal texts develops with conventional print based writing introduced as an additional form or mode of communication rather than a replacement for Drawing and Talking. Using this approach, we recognize that children can create multimodal texts from the very start of their text creation journeys.
**Audience:** Educators working with 3- to 8-year-old children, School Leaders, Literacy Coaches/Mentors, anyone interested in early writing.

Stacy Griffin: Get Inside Your Interactive Read Aloud: Literally and Virtually!
Viewers will learn how to put a picture book into a PowerPoint presentation and then insert it, and themselves, into a virtual read aloud on Zoom. This method allows students to see the pages of a book and the teacher at the same time! Using a culturally responsive text, the presenter will model how to use effective interactive reading strategies to engage students in virtual learning environments.
**Audience:** Educators at any grade level who conduct real aloud

Greg Ellers: Re-Embrace Your Google Workspace
This session will assist educators in continuing to build on everything they learned during distance learning and continuing to build off of that by providing tips and tricks in Google Workspace and integrating those to Literacy Pedagogy and instructions.
**Audience:** K-12, Educators, Coaches

David Harrison / Tim Rasinski / Mary Jo Fresch: Partner Poems, Word Ladders and Classroom Strategies to Help Improve Literacy Skills
Our video demonstrates how to bring the powerful combination of partner poems and word ladders into your classroom, strengthened by engaging strategies that will capture your students’ interest as they improve their vocabulary, understanding, and early reading skills.
**Audience:** Teachers of Grades 1-3, Elementary Administrators

Allison Crotzer Kimmel: Just Imagine...Helping Students Discover Heroes, Heroines in Their Lives
As the author of Unbeatable Betty and The Eternal Soldier, I sought and found stories of two of history’s unsung heroines. As a teacher, I help students do the same with ten simple interview questions and a structured CER writing strategies. This talk will help teachers and librarians create young biographers with a project that encourages families to be part of their student’s learning.
**Audience:** Teachers and Librarians

Kathy Brown: Selecting the “Just Right” Book Using the Sources of Information
Participants will learn about the different sources of information that need to be considered when selecting a book for an individual student or a group of Guided Reading students.
**Audience:** Primary Grades, K-2 Classroom Teachers, Literacy Teachers/Coaches and Reading Recovery Teachers.

Nancy Akhavan: We Are Back in the Real Classroom! Avoiding Distraction and Short Attention spans by Helping Students Develop New Readerly and Writerly Behaviors
During the pandemic students learned reading and writing behaviors that worked in the distance learning classroom. So, now they might be easily distracted in the face to face classroom, or not have stamina to read independently. This session will help you guide students to new readerly and writerly behaviors to accelerate their learning.
**Audience:** K-12

Toluca Rivers: Creating Hungry Minds With Inquiry-Based Learning
Help your students develop the necessary skills needed to thrive in the complexity that makes up our world. This session teaches you the key components of inquiry-based learning and why it’s important to give your students the opportunities to engage in such learning. Afterwards, you will be provided with a partner learning template as you learn how to design your own inquiry-based learning assignment. If you use Benchmark Advance, there is a part of this session (towards the end) that shows you how to analyze and improve the inquiry-based projects that come with the curriculum.
**Audience:** K-6 Elementary ELA Coaches and Teachers

Tanya Flusman: Using High-leverage Practice to Embed Literacy Across the Curriculum
In this session, participants will learn the benefits and rationale for utilizing high-leverage literacy practices in science. In particular, we will focus on the importance of representing science learning and how teachers can ascertain if children are both thinking like scientists and representing their thinking in ways consistent with evidence. Curricular examples will illustrate how to support students’ abilities to use evidence-based argumentation in writing where students use explanatory models in conjunction with evidence from scientific observation and from scientific texts to support reasoning. A primary objective of the session is to help teachers find ways to embed high-leverage literacy practices, such as using claims, evidence and reasoning (CER) in writing, in science.
**Audience:** 3-8th grade teachers

Molly Snider / Nancy Rogers Zegarra: Just Imagine Using Text, Talk and History/Social Science Primary Sources to Cultivate Empathy and Empower Student Voice
Explore how to use varied texts connected to key HSS themes that lead to global citizenship as learning portals for understanding. Practice...how to use talk strategies to bring life texts, inspiring critical and creative thinking and empowering a student’s voice.
**Audience:** Primary Grades, 3-5 Classroom Teachers, Literacy Teachers/Coaches

Nancy Rogers Zegarra / Carla Peterson: Creating Family Literacy Partnerships
Learn interactive strategies that model how to increase family partnerships, engagement, and empowerment at your school using ideas from CRA’s upcoming publication on Family Literacy ideas. Return to school ready to engage all families in supporting their children’s literacy.
**Audience:** Primary Grades, K-6 Classroom Teachers, Literacy Teachers/Coaches and Administrators