

2019 The Literacy Retreat: New Strategies for Building Successful Readers and Writers

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Qualifications: President and Lead Consultant

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Program Name: 2019 The Literacy Retreat: New Strategies for Building Successful Readers and Writers

Credit Hours: 11

Program Description

The 2019 Smekens Literacy Retreat is a professional “getaway” for teachers...a time to rethink and recharge...a chance to learn best practice literacy strategies that can be applied right away. During six powerful sessions over two days, attendees will acquire the tools and the motivation to address some of today's biggest challenges in teaching reading and writing.

Session 1: Synthesize information from several sourcesIn an era when we are inundated with information, it's essential that students know how to read multiple sources and conduct informal research in order to infer new insights. After recognizing the synthesis process that occurs in your everyday life, this session provides strategies students need to execute this task on standardized tests.

Session 2: Provide writers with prompt & purposeful feedbackWhen students are offered productive feedback throughout the writing process, writers grow faster and grading becomes more efficient. While this session doesn't promise to make assessment easy, it will equip teachers with the tools to provide support that is prompt, purposeful, precise, and personal.

Session 3: Tempt & tease reluctant readers with BooktalksIn order to turn the tide for our most reluctant readers, we have to entice, engage, and entertain! By implementing a fresh approach to “Booktalks,” teachers can abandon the traditional 15-second book bio and instead implement techniques that will tempt, tease, and turn students on to reading.

Session 4: Use annotation to activate & articulate understandingKnowing students have to read and respond to complex texts, teaching them to engage in purposeful annotation can be a game-changer. When students intentionally code, mark, and highlight while reading, their after-reading responses inherently improve.

Session 5: Model literacy lessons that move students toward masteryThe most effective reading and writing mini-lessons follow a gradual release of responsibility. This is the slow and deliberate transfer of knowledge and know-how from teacher to students. With scaffolded instruction, students learn to make decisions and solve problems as independent readers and writers.

Session 6: Mix mediums to build a balanced reader & writerToday's real world demands individuals possess a broad set of literacy skills, including those with and without paper. The key to preparing students for this reality is to provide them explicit instruction utilizing both mediums.

Objectives of Program

Session 1 Objectives/Teachers will learn how to:--Differentiate between summarizing and synthesizing, as defined by standardized tests.--Decode the after-reading writing prompt in order to establish a

reading purpose.--Organize and combine information pulled from multiple sources.--Develop a writing unit based on the essential lessons that build students' synthesis skills. Session 2 Objectives/Teachers will learn how to:--Provide immediate feedback without extensive and excessive responses.--Utilize writer conferences and writing rubrics to provide meaningful feedback.--Incorporate both formative and summative assessments into the writing curriculum.--Shift your instructional focus from grading writing to growing writers.Session 3 Objectives/Teachers will learn how to:--Identify the ingredients of powerful Booktalks after viewing multiple demonstrations.--Plan Booktalks that are effective and engaging.--Transition to student-led Booktalks that double as an assessment opportunity.--Utilize Booktalks in the content-area classroom as a means of motivating readers.Session 4 Objectives/ Teachers will learn how to:--Scaffold age-appropriate codes and markings to build skills across all grade levels.--Annotate textual evidence based on specific reading purposes.--Progress from simplistic annotations that summarize to sophisticated thoughts that synthesize.--Troubleshoot common challenges in order to embed annotation strategies within every classroom.Session 5 Objectives/ Teachers will learn how to:--Apply the phases of I-do, We-do, You-do within reading and writing mini-lessons.--Strengthen teacher modeling to go beyond telling what to teaching how.--Recognize when students need more (or less) support during a mini-lesson.--Increase student engagement during instruction in order to nurture greater independence after the lesson.Session 6 Objectives/ Teachers will learn how to:--Balance reading and writing experiences within various mediums across the year.--Teach students to successfully compose first-draft writing using both paper and digital mediums.--Vary instruction to fit the demands of reading on paper versus reading off a screen.--Apply popular Smekens strategies utilizing traditional paper and digital devices.

Additional Tags:

- Best practice, Literacy Strategies, Reading & Writing Instruction, Smekens Education

Grade Level:

- High (9 - 12), Intermediate (3 - 5), Middle (6 - 8)

Audience:

- Principal, Teacher

Discipline:

- Reading and Writing

Personnel Evaluation Measures:

- Instruction

Aligned to Kentucky Professional Learning Standards:

- Implementation, Outcomes

Session Type: Single Session**Face to Face:**

Date: 06/11/2019

Address French Lick Springs Resort 8670 West State Road 56, French Lick, IN, 47432

Registration Deadline:

06/03/2019

Link or directions to register:

<https://www.smekenseducation.com/literacy-retreat-2019-french-lick.html>

Arrangements Required: Yes

Breakfast and lunch are included for both days. Each participant receives a binder filled with full-color handouts to support each of the six sessions. Discounted room rates are available for the French Lick Springs Hotel. Itinerary Day 17:05–8:05 a.m.—Registration & breakfast 8:05–9:45 a.m.—Session 1, Part 19:45–10:05 a.m.—Break & book shopping 10:05–11:30 a.m.—Session 1, Part 211:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.—Lunch & book shopping 12:30–1:45 p.m.—Session 21:45–2:05 p.m.—Break & book shopping 2:05–3:30 p.m.—Session 33:30 p.m.—Day 1 conclusion Day 27:05–8:05 a.m.—Breakfast 8:05–9:45 a.m.—Session 49:45–10:05 a.m.—Break & book shopping 10:05–11:30 a.m.—Session 5, Part 111:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.—Lunch & book shopping 12:30–1:30 p.m.—Session 5, Part 21:30–1:50 p.m.—Break & book shopping 1:50–3:00 p.m.—Session 63:00 p.m.—Retreat conclusion

Services provided(Follow-up, support, etc.): Yes

Teachers receive lifetime access to a members-only website that features lessons, templates, videos, web links, and more--all of the resources to support each of the sessions provided during the Literacy Retreat. During the Literacy Retreat, teachers will receive "prizes" that go along with each of the six sessions. The prizes then become ways to implement the strategies into their own classrooms. In addition, participants are invited to email or call with any questions. Smekens Education provides ongoing support to all teachers who attend or participate in any live or online workshop.

Possible costs(Participation, materials, etc.): Yes

Registration: \$480 Discounts available! For teams of 3+: Save \$10 per person. For teams of 10+: Contact our office for a 10% savings. What's included in the registration fee? Beyond two days of dynamic instruction, attendees also receive a full-color binder of materials, private access to exclusive web resources, fun prizes, plus breakfast, lunch, and snacks each day. NOTE: Lodging fees and tuition for graduate credit are not included with registration. If teachers wish to pursue graduate-level credit, the cost is \$62 per credit through a partnership with the University of the Pacific. An onsite bookstore will be available for teachers who wish to purchase recommended resources. Schools can purchase bookstore vouchers for their teachers ahead of time. Bookstore vouchers will be presented to teachers when they check in at the Literacy Retreat.

EILA Program: 2019 The Literacy Retreat New Strategies for Building Successful Readers and Writers

EILA Status: 19 EIL 2087