Effective Structures and Strategies to Teach Our Readers and Writers

DATE: Day 1: Thursday, August 17, 2023
Day 2: Friday, August 18, 2023

TIME: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

LOCATION: Wells Conference Center, University of Maine

AUDIENCE: Day 1: K-5 Teachers, MPCL Coaches, Instructional Coaches, Interventionist, Administrators
Day 2: 6–12 Teachers, MPCL Coaches, Instructional Coaches, Interventionist, Administrators

There is a strong and robust research base supporting the effectiveness of strategy instruction (Alexander, Graham, & Harris, 1998; Chiu, 1998; Dignath & Büttner, 2008; Donker et al., 2014; Georgiou & Das, 2018; Haller, Child, & Walberg, 1988; Hattie, Biggs, & Purdie, 1996; Ho & Lau, 2018; Pressley & Afflerbach, 1995; Weinstein, Husman, & Dierking, 2000). When children learn to use strategies, they are more self-regulated and actively work to use what they know to be successful and engaged, which ultimately enhances their learning and overall performance (Duke & Cartwright, 2021; Zimmerman, 1986, 2002). During this workshop, participants will explore various how to identify which strategies will benefit individual learners the most, and will learn structures of teaching they can use to guide student practice. The workshop will be practical so educators can immediately bring what they learn back to their classrooms.

Participants in this workshop will explore:
- The differences between skills and strategies
- How to use Jennifer Serravallo’s reading and writing hierarchies to assess student work and match students to goals
- How to craft strategies for reading and writing and provide students with guided practice
- When and why to use various methods of instruction to help students work toward their goals

Throughout the day, Molly will anchor discussions in student work and skill progressions. Participants will walk away with new lenses through which to view their students and strategies to teach toward what they see. If participants have their own copy of Jennifer Serravallo’s The Reading Strategies Book or The Writing Strategies Book they are welcome to bring it and use it throughout the day, but the texts are not required for participation.

Molly, an alum of both Cornell University and Teachers College Columbia University, was a NYC public school teacher for several years before focusing her work exclusively on literacy. During her time in the classroom, she was a key contributor to numerous units in widely-used curriculum, and presented at a variety of national conferences.

Molly works closely with Jennifer Serravallo on her team of consultants and as a freelance writer. She wrote the research whitepaper for Complete Comprehension, collaborated with Jen on three book-based study guides, and is the primary developer of additional assessment texts for Complete Comprehension. Molly currently supports school districts in their implementation of best practices within their literacy blocks and feels fortunate to work alongside incredible teachers, coaches, and administrators.

If she’s not in a school, Molly can usually be found at the Northport Library or co-leading her local chapter of Not in Our Town, an organization to stop hate, bigotry and bullying, and build safe, inclusive communities for all.

Early Bird Registration: $175.00 before June 15
After June 15: $200.00
(Lunch included)

Choose One: □ August 17, 2023 □ August 18, 2023
Each day is limited to 100 participants.

Enclose: □ Check/money order: Make payable to the University of Maine □ Purchase order

Return to: Katherine Wing, ATTN: Molly Feeney Wood Workshop, University of Maine, 5766 Shibles Hall, Orono, ME 04469-5766
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