



Best Practices in Reading

Professional Development Series

In order to launch and/or sustain the most effective approach to literacy instruction, “Balanced Literacy with Guided Reading at the Heart”, the following series is available to classroom teachers, literacy specialists, and administrators. Select sessions to meet your school/district needs, or enjoy the entire series.

- Session 1: Guided Reading in a Balanced Literacy Environment – Why and What (3 hours)
- Session 2: Grouping for Guided Reading Instruction – Assessment and Scheduling (3 hours)
- Session 3: Zooming in on Guided Reading – Lesson Components (3 hours)
- Session 4: Reading Strategies in Guided Reading - Explicitly Teaching for Transfer (3 hours)
- Session 5: Guided Reading in Action – Let’s Watch (3 hours)
- Session 6: Literacy Work Stations and Independent Reading – Practice (3 hours)
- Session 7: Best Practices in Review and Self-reflection – Where do I go next? (3 hours)

Recommended Companion Resources:

TEACHING FOR COMPREHENDING AND FLUENCY by Fountas and Pinnell (Heinemann)

THE CONTINUUM FOR LITERACY LEARNING by Fountas and Pinnell (Heinemann)

Benchmark Assessment System by Fountas and Pinnell (Heinemann)

Prompting Guides 1 and 2 by Fountas and Pinnell (Heinemann)

Fountas and Pinnell Video Libraries (Heinemann)

OKAPI Flying Start/Despegando Guided Reading Leveled Books/Lesson Guides

Beth Olsen is a third generation teacher with a passion for best practice literacy education. She studied at Oklahoma State University and began her career teaching at a March of Dimes preschool where she learned that early intervention is the key to a child’s success. Beth earned her Master’s Degree in Early Childhood Education from Emporia State University Teachers’ College and began her work with public schools teaching kindergarten, first grade, second grade, 1-2 Multiage, and fourth grade. She completed her Reading Recovery training and discovered a passion for literacy education. Beth recently received her District Literacy Coach Leader certificate through National-Louis University. She has been recognized for her service as a recipient of the Outstanding Young Educator Award and Christa McAuliffe Fellowship nominee. She has served as a Language Arts Curriculum Specialist and Literacy Coach. She enjoys reading, writing, presenting, and listening to music. Beth believes that a commitment to lifelong learning and a kind demeanor are the hallmarks of a great teacher.