

Illinois Title I Association

February 2009

Listen!

Quiet your faces;
 be crossed every thumb;
 Fix on me deep your eyes . .
 And out of my mind
 a story shall come —
 Old, and lovely, and wise.
 —Walter de la Mare

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

*"I'm not a teacher: only a fellow traveler
 of whom you asked the way. I pointed ahead -
 ahead of myself as well as you."*

— George Bernard Shaw



Dear ITA Member,

Happy 2009! At this time of year when the focus is ISAT and AYP, igniting the life-long reader doesn't seem so important. Yet, this is the time when our devotion to our students' reading needs to be at the forefront of everything we do. With the weather keeping many of our learners at home, getting activities into the homes of our learners could be critical. Nothing inspires the reluctant readers to read more than a parent saying, "Boy this looks like fun! Let's try it." Games, gadgets and good books ignite the dormant reader in every member of the family. With older students, let them put together things they would like to try. Encourage them to journal their successes or ways to make the selected activity better. This input lets them feel in control.

Remember to ignite your own reading spirit. Form a reading group with your fellow professionals. Nothing brings colleagues closer together than the discussions of a good book. Renewing your reading energy is important to your students as well. Your enthusiasm will reflect in everything you do with your students. If you point the way, all will follow.

Wishing each of you continued success in teaching,
 Diane M. Rezek Fator, President

Just a reminder: The 2008-2009 ITA Board is working **for** you and **with** you. The contact information for each officer & committee chair is listed on page 2. You are encouraged to contact any of them with questions, concerns, or ideas. There are still openings for the 2009-2010 ITA Board. Please join the board to make this the best ITA year ever.

Important Dates to Remember

March 19-21, 2009

Reading/Engage/Excite/Ignite!
 IRC State Conference
 Prairie Capital Conv. Center
 Springfield, IL

March 20, 2009

IRC Board of Directors
 IRC Conference—Springfld
 Hilton—Meeting—4 pm

April 25, 2009

IRC Board of Directors
 Meeting—9 am to 1 pm
 Chateau Hotel
 Bloomington, IL

Email address:



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STATE LEGISLATORS AT IRC

State legislators will be on hand at the annual Illinois Reading Conference in Springfield. On Wednesday, March 18, 2009, during the welcome session from 6:30-8:30, drop in and talk with your representatives. Send a note to your senator or representative— tell him/her that you look forward to meeting and talking about state education matters. Snacks and a cash bar will be available. Hope to see all of you there.

Barbara Carter, Governmental Relationships

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Adult Literacy:	Diane Fator

HIGHLIGHTS 1/17/09 BUSINESS MEETING

- The ITA Strand for the 2009 IRC Reading Conference has been organized and plans were made for room monitors and door prizes/candy at each session.
- IRC Conference 2009 will be held in Springfield March 19-21.
- 2009 IRC conference will not conflict with ISAT testing
- ITA currently has 158 members but are always welcoming new members—fill out form on the back of this newsletter
- The next IRC Leadership Retreat will be held July 8—10, 2009 at Grand Bear Lodge.
- The ITA By-Laws have been approved and copies will be updated so all are current. Next review of the By-Laws will be 2013.
- The ITA Executive Board welcomed a new member—Debbie Johnson, Parents & Reading Chair.



2008-2009

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ITA Conference Strand

Volume 16 Issue 3

Come support the presenters and gain from their expertise in the area of Title I Reading. The Illinois Title I Association (ITA) is proud to present the following sessions on Friday, March 20, 2009 in two of the Vista Rooms at the top of the Hilton. Take a ride in the glass elevator!! Network with other reading professionals from across the state. Get involved in furthering literacy efforts and literacy education in Illinois.

ITA Strand at the IRC Conference

March 2009

Time & Room	Vista Room I Top of the Hilton Hotel	Vista Room II Top of the Hilton Hotel
<p>8:00 a.m. To 9:00 a.m.</p> <p>Count: _____</p>	<p>Title/ISBE Question Answer Session <u>Double Session</u></p> <p><i>Presenter: Gina Hopper</i></p>	<p>“From Our House To Yours: Freshmen Reading Program” <i>Presenter: Ann Peters</i></p> <p>Room Monitor: Rusti Russow</p>
<p>9:15 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.</p> <p>Count: _____</p>	<p>Title/ISBE Question Answer Session —Cont'd <i>Presenter: Gina Hopper</i></p> <p>Room Monitors: Helen DuFour & Melinda Grimm</p>	<p>“Rtl at Work: Maximizing Student Achievement” Presenters: Jenny Way, Dawn Schwarzkopf & Rusti Russow</p> <p>Room Monitor: Diane Fator and Teddie Tourney</p>
<p>10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.</p> <p>Count: _____</p>	<p>“Boys’ Club Reading Program” Presenters: Kathy Reynolds & Julie Steinke Room Monitor: Rusti Russow</p>	<p>“How to Use Reader’s Theater in Your Classroom” Presenters: Teddie Torney & Cynthia Bringer Room Monitor: Miriam Luginbill</p>
<p>11:30a.m.—1:45 p.m.</p>	<p>Lunch</p>	<p>Lunch</p>
<p>1:45 p.m. to 2:45 p.m.</p> <p>Count: _____</p>	<p>~~~~~ ***** ~~~~~</p>	<p>Round Table For Title I Educators Presenters: ITA Past Presidents— Sue Riddell & Teddie Torney Room Monitor: Miriam Luginbill</p>
<p>3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.</p> <p>Count: _____</p>	<p>Title I Association Annual Meeting Room Monitor: Diane Fator</p>	<p>~~~~~ ***** ~~~~~</p>

Reignite Boys Passion for Reading

By Rusti Russow

Research has proven that boys tend to read less than girls, and some lose the reading bug completely after they turn 11. To compound this issue, many boys value reading for pleasure less and they often prefer nonfiction over fiction. How can we as educators and parents reignite their passion for reading?

- ♥ Boys get excited when reading helps them discover new information about subjects they are passionate about. Help your boys make a list of topics that they are into. Is it sports, weather, animals, humor?
- ♥ Prioritize their interests and take them and their list to the library. Introduce them to the staff. Chances are someone on staff will be well-versed in current children's literature and will be able to help find books and magazines that connect to their personal interests.
- ♥ Other materials that may reignite boys' passion for reading are atlases, children's almanacs, field guides, graphic novels and books on tape.
- ♥ Lastly, Guysread.com is an excellent web site that might appeal to boys.

As reading professionals, we have to put time and effort into keeping young males interested in books and discovering their personal interests and connecting them with the right people and books that will keep them involved with print. Be persistent, keep digging and good luck!

Celebrate: Create a Spark Ignite a Fire!

By Helen DuFour

As children grow into becoming independent readers, especially young males, they need opportunities to breathe on the spark you provide. We need to help them ignite the fire. Merely reading the book, taking a test and gathering points will not provide that love of reading that makes a student want to read again and again. Books become unforgettable when readers are able to feel the emotion or to connect events to experiences in their own lives. Provide opportunities to share those relationships with teammates, the class, or through journaling.

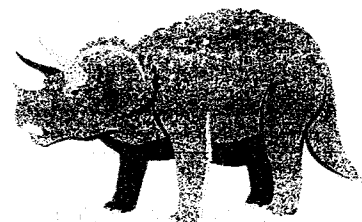
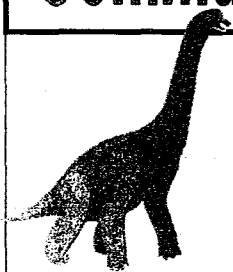
When a class novel is completed, celebrate! Use multiple Intelligence theory to create a list of potential activities from which students, and of course young males, in groups or alone may choose a project. The list is endless but may include:

- ♥ research the author or historical links on the web
- ♥ write to the author and ask questions of interest to the students
- ♥ create a poster to promote the book
- ♥ write a short skit that depicts a special part of the book
- ♥ work with a committee to decorate the classroom door to promote the book
- ♥ create a rap or song or a game board about the book or the characters
- ♥ write a critique of the book – the good, the bad and the ugly

Now celebrate! Students will remember the time they shared their special projects. They will appreciate the warm feelings they get when they think about the story and the time they spent sharing it together.

Reading, Writing, and Imagination

By Noma Simpson



Has your child ever read a story and wished for a different ending? Has he ever wanted to write to his favorite character? Encourage him to use his imagination by writing in his own “reader’s notebook. Try these activities to help your youngster build reading, writing, spelling, and vocabulary skills. In a spiral notebook:

A beginning reader can...

- Draw his favorite part of the story. Have him write or dictate labels for items in the picture. He can add sentences, such as “I liked it when the mouse built a house out of blocks.”
- Write a character. *Example:* “Dear Emily Elizabeth, I have a dog, too. He is small and brown, not big and red like Clifford.” Your child could also ask questions (“Which farm animal was your favorite?”)

An advanced reader can...

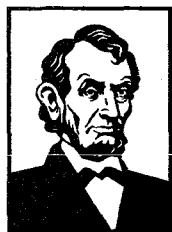
- Create a map. Suggest that your youngster draw and label parts of the rain forest or the castle in the story. He might draw a path the character took.
- Write a new ending. Does your child wish dinosaurs were still around? In his version, maybe the dinosaurs have simply moved to another planet.

Note: Your youngster probably won’t want to write about every book he reads. Remember to encourage reading strictly for pleasure as well.

Click to Spark and Ignite Young Readers

by Debbie Johnson, Parents and Reading

Here is a web site that will provide hours of entertainment. Go to www.enlightenme.com and have a look around. My favorite parent section is PTA, which has reading tips galore to help with literacy at home. Scroll down and check out **Everyday Literacy with Mary Brigid Barrett**. Parents & teachers alike will enjoy reading new and archived articles that are packed with ideas.



Did you know???

Not only is February 12th the 200th birthday of Abraham Lincoln but also the birthday of Charles Darwin. Two very famous men share the same birth date—February 12, 1809.

Happy Birthday to President Lincoln and Mr. Darwin!!



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AN AFFILIATE OF THE INTERNATIONAL
READING ASSOCIATION AND ILLINOIS
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Illinois Title I Association

Please Print/Type

Name _____

Street Address _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Grade/Title: _____

IRA Membership # _____

- I have enclosed \$40.00 for ITA Membership as a new member
- I have enclosed \$15.00 for ITA Membership—add to my current IRC membership

Mail checks payable to:

Illinois Reading Council
1210 Fort Jesse Road, Suite B2
Normal, IL 61761-1836

Already a current IRC member?
To also join ITA, just send \$15.00 until
your next renewal