

# MID-STATE READING COUNCIL

Spring 2010

April

## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK -

KATIE ALBRITTON (PRESIDENT)

Happy Spring!!! As spring and summer are approaching, MID-State is proud to present our Summer Conference. We are hosting a one day conference with Ralph Fletcher. (flier is attached). Hope you are able to attend.

As the year comes to an end, we are looking forward to Liz Luring becoming MIDState new President and Teresa Arendell serving as your vice president. These ladies are such an asset to MIDState.

I hope you enjoy your summer!! Remember read to a child daily!!  
Wishing you a Happy Summer and warm weather,

*Katie Albritton*

## MRS. SIMPSON'S READING CORNER — NOMA SIMPSON (COMMUNITY CHAIR)

### Reading for meaning

*Who? What? When? Where?*

*Why?* Experienced readers ask themselves these questions as they read. Finding the answers helps them understand the story.

To boost your child's comprehension, ask a few simple questions before reading and after reading.

### What do you know?

Together, look at the cover of the book before you begin reading. Read the title and talk about the cover's picture. For example, a book called "Polar Bears of the Cold" may have a picture of a mother polar bear with her baby. Ask your child, "What do you already know about polar bears?" She may say: "They eat fish." This gets your child thinking about polar bears before she

starts to read the story.

### What do you want to know?

Have your youngster think of questions she has about the story. She might ask: "How much do polar bears weigh?" How do they keep warm in icy water?" Do they teach their babies to fish?" By deciding what she wants to know, she has set a goal to reach by reading.

### What did you learn?

Ask your child questions about the story after you've finished reading it together. *Examples:* "Did you learn what you wanted to know about polar bears?" Did you learn some new things?" What were they?" This will reinforce what she has learned.

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Check out your local library's current events at these websites:

<http://www.bloomingtonlibrary.org>

<http://www.normal-library.org>

Contact your President at:

Katie Albritton-  
[albrittk@unit5.org](mailto:albrittk@unit5.org)

Visit the wiki on YA-YNot? at  
<http://yaynot.wikispaces.com>  
and find out about an interesting way to meet and discuss young adult literature!

# Carol Berry Memorial Literacy Grant

Again this year, MID-State Reading Council will award the Carol Berry Memorial Literacy Grant for up to \$500. Grants are awarded based on the worthiness of the project described in the application and the completeness of the information provided. The grants chosen will be awarded at our Summer Conference on June 16, 2010. Applications are due no later than June 1, 2010.

Recent grant winners have chosen to use their money in a variety of creative ways. MID-State has funded projects to develop multi-cultural literature collections, for the use of literature in hands-on science, family literacy programs, integrating technology and books, and resources for interdisciplinary units.

Fire up those creative juices that are constantly flowing in your classroom, put them down on paper, and try for the funding this grant provides! Don't miss this opportunity to help fund your classroom or group. We look forward to awarding these grants and finding out what this year's recipients will be doing with their funding. If you have any questions, call Trisha Warner, MID-State Grant Chairperson, at 309.287.3804.

**MID-State Reading Council's  
Carol Berry Memorial Literacy Grant Application  
Award Amount: Up to \$500**

Your application should include the following items:

- Program/Project Title:
- Date of Project:
- Place:
- I. Statement of Purpose
- II. Needs Statement
- III. Description of Population Served
- IV. Description of Project
- V. Itemized Budget
- VI. Plan for Publicity
- VII. Plan for Evaluation
- Contact Person:
- Phone:
- Street Address, City, Zip code:
- Date of Application:

Return your application to:  
Trisha Warner  
Kingsley Junior High School  
303 Kingsley St.  
Normal, IL 61761

MID-State Reading Council presents  
The 2010 Prairie Literacy Conference

~ featuring author ~

Ralph Fletcher



Wednesday, June 16, 2010

8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Kingsley Junior High School, Normal Illinois

\$75 Registration fee includes light breakfast, box lunch and 5 CPDU's

Plus a chance to win a director's chair signed by Patricia Polacco, Jim Aylesworth, Tedd Arnold, and many other children's authors.

Ralph Fletcher provides teachers with ideas and strategies to set students up for success as writers. He offers educators the opportunity to think about their practices as teachers of writing and how to best serve their community of learners so they flourish. His most recent title for teachers, *Pyrotechnics on the Page: Language Play That Boosts Writing* is available from Stenhouse. Some of his previous professional titles include:



Mr. Fletcher's books for young readers and the young at heart include:



MID-State Reading Council's  
2010 Prairie Literacy Conference with Ralph Fletcher  
Wednesday, June 16, 2010 at Kingsley Junior High School, Normal, Illinois

Registration: 8:30 a.m.

Conference: 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Registration Information

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ (Work)

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

(5 CPDU credits will be available at the registration desk at the end of the conference.)

\_\_\_\_ Yes, I would like to receive 5 CPDU's for attending this event.

MIDState MEMBERS MAY REGISTER NOW THROUGH April 1<sup>st</sup> (space is limited, the first 100 to register, guaranteed auditorium seating) OPEN REGISTRATION after April 1st.

\_\_\_\_ \$75 - Registration for current MIDState Members - includes lunch

\_\_\_\_ \$125 - Registration for Non-MIDState Members - includes lunch- Join MIDState now and pay member price! (See below for membership details.)

\_\_\_\_ I need a vegetarian lunch.

\_\_\_\_ TOTAL ENCLOSED - Make checks payable to MIDState Reading Council.

**Registration must be postmarked by June 1<sup>st</sup> to:**

Kathryn Albritton 313 Glenn Ave Normal, IL 61761 Attn. Summer Conference

Join MIDState and IRC for reduced registration!

TO JOIN MIDState AND IRC (Illinois Reading Council): Complete MIDState/IRC membership forms found on the IRC website at [www.illinoisreadingcouncil.org](http://www.illinoisreadingcouncil.org) and include a SEPARATE CHECK MADE PAYABLE TO IRC. Mail with your conference registration and fees to above address. If you have any questions about registration, you may e-mail Katie at [albrittk@unit5.org](mailto:albrittk@unit5.org).

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