



NIRC Newsletter

Volume 44, Number 1

August 2011



NORTHERN ILLINOIS READING COUNCIL

an affiliate of the
International Reading Association 

Mark Your Calendars!

September 8

International Reading Day Celebration
(check the website for more information)

September 10

Fall Conference Registration Deadline
(after this date, register at the door)

September 22

NIRC Fall Conference at Kishwaukee College

October 11

TAR (Teachers As Readers), Two locations

April 3

TAR (Teachers As Readers), Two locations

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Inside This Issue:

- Letter from the President
- Fall Conference Information
- Teachers as Readers (TAR)
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- Children's Choice Update
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August 2011

Dear NIRC Members,

It is our 50th Birthday! What a milestone- five decades of support and professional development opportunities for reading professionals, parents, and the community! We are celebrating our service to northern Illinois at Fall Conference on Thursday, September 22 at Kishwaukee College in Malta. Dr. Pam Farris, NIRC's long-time mentor and this year's keynote speaker, will review our history and our achievements since 1961. Don't miss this opportunity to reflect on our mission.



One of the benefits of being a member of a professional organization such as NIRC is the comradeship with other reading teachers. During this educational revolt which we are all experiencing, it is important to be a part of network of professionals who understand and implement best practices for literacy acquisition. Collaborating with colleagues supports your teaching practice by continuously keeping you abreast of current research and methodology. (It also keeps you sane in this crazy world of public education.) It is vitally important that reading professionals direct educational reforms rather than politicians, government officials, publishers, and corporations. Take an active role by participating this year in the NIRC's professional learning events. Check out the calendar of opportunities listed on the first page of this newsletter. Visit the IRC/NIRC webpage at www.illinoisreadingcouncil.org for updates on what's happening. Request a professional DVD or video from the NIRC library and watch it with your colleagues. The requisition form is included in this newsletter. If there is a topic or researcher that you want to know more about and is not part of the NIRC Library, please contact Kirstin Ellis at Kristin.Ellis@dist428.org

This is going to be a great school year! You are rested and ready to launch learning experiences for your students. You are connected to a professional network that will support your good teaching throughout the year. Know that your determination and dedication does make a difference in the lives of your students, despite what any high-stakes tests indicates.

Thank you for your commitment to our profession,

Betsy Hoelting

NIRC President



50 Years Commendation

International Reading Association

commends the

Northern Illinois Reading Council

*for 50 years' contribution toward the promotion
of reading instruction*

Patricia A. Edwards

IRA President, Patricia A. Edwards

Mark Mullen

Acting IRA Executive Director, Mark Mullen

April 2011

Date



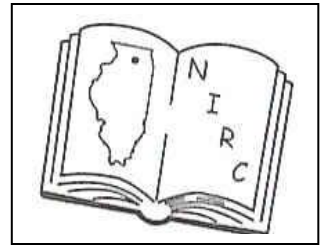
It's the Northern Illinois Reading Council's 50th birthday!

Come help us celebrate at the
Fall Conference on Thursday,
September 22 at Kishwaukee
College in Malta.

Sign-up now! You will not want to
miss the birthday celebration!!

Northern Illinois Reading Council
24th Annual Fall Conference
Thursday, September 22, 2011
4:00-8:00 p.m.

Kishwaukee College Conference Center
Malta, IL



Live the Lincoln Legacy- Read!
Ways to Incorporate Reading and Writing
Across the Curriculum



Featuring: Dr. Pam Farris

- Member of Illinois Reading Hall of Fame
- Associate Professor of Literacy at Illinois State University
 - Author of Crossover Dribble
and
Young Mouse and Elephant, An East African Folktale
- Author of numerous professional books on language arts, reading , writing, handwriting and social studies for elementary and middle school teachers

Registration Form
The 24rd Annual Northern Illinois Reading Council Fall Conference
Live the Lincoln Legacy: Read!

Featuring:
Dr. Pam Farris
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2010

4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Kishwaukee College Conference Center Malta, IL

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone: Home () _____ Work () _____
E-mail _____

(CPDU forms will be available at the registration desk.)

REGISTER NOW!

- _____ \$15 - Registration for current NIRC Members - Join NIRC now and pay member price!
(See below for membership details.)
- _____ \$30 - Registration for Non-NIRC Members
- _____ \$5 - Registration for Undergraduate Students (Non-NIRC Members)
- _____ FREE! Registration for Undergraduate Students with paid NIRC/IRC membership
- _____ FREE! Registration for a school administrator who registers with a teacher
- _____ FREE! Registration for Literacy Grant Recipient Presenters

Pizza Dinner provided by Alfano's of Rochelle, IL from 4:30- 5:30 p.m.
_____ \$6.00 dinner includes a tossed salad with your choice of dressing, four slices of pizza, and a soft drink or water. The pizza dinner is available only to those participants who preorder.

Please mark a pizza choice! _____ cheese _____ sausage _____ pepperoni

_____ TOTAL ENCLOSED - **Make check payable to NIRC.**

Registration must be postmarked by **SEPTEMBER 10** to:
Linda Oshita 1312 Camp Ave Rockford, IL 61103 Attn: Fall Conference
After September 10, pay at the door.

TO JOIN NIRC AND IRC (Illinois Reading Council) TODAY: Complete NIRC/IRC membership forms found on the IRC website at www.illinoisreadingcouncil.org and include a SEPARATE CHECK MADE PAYABLE TO IRC. Mail with your conference registration and fees to above address.

Date received: _____ Cash or Check # _____
Amount _____



Teachers As Readers



NEW! Dinner Discussions from 5:30-6:30 p.m.
Please join us for dinner.
Participants order from the restaurant menu.

NIRC-TAR is a book discussion group that meets twice per year – October and April. All educators are invited to attend! There are two locations to choose:

Thunder Bay, 7652 Potawatomi Trail, Rockford, IL (near the Holiday Inn on E. State)
Junction, 816 W. Lincoln Highway, DeKalb, IL

Please purchase the book on your own. As you read the book, please write questions and comments on sticky notes. Your thoughts before, during, and after reading are important to our discussion. To register for the book discussion and to receive a \$10 gift card, please e-mail or phone:

- Betsy Hoelting for the Rockford location at BEH1052@yahoo.com, 815-397-7177
- Kim McKenna for the DeKalb location at mckenna@corncountry.net, 815-732-2845.

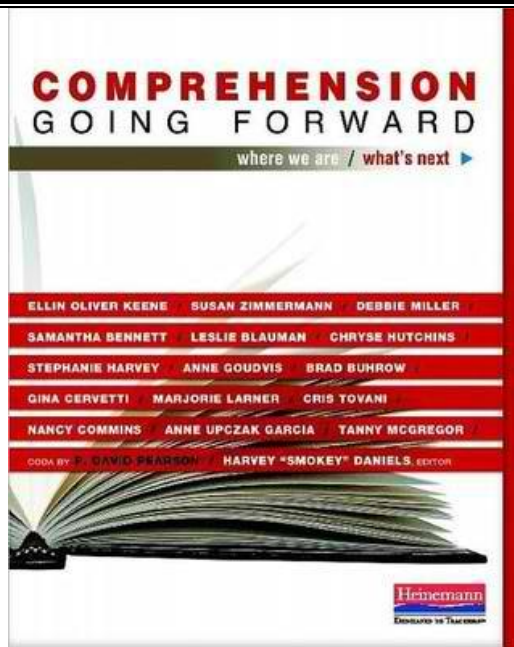
NIRC members will receive a \$10 gift card for attending a TAR session.



NEW! 1 CPDU will also be offered for attending a TAR session!

Tuesday, October 11, 2011
Comprehension Going Forward:
Where We Are and What's Next
by Ellin Keene and other reading experts

Tuesday, April 3, 2011
A Response to Intervention:
A Framework for Educators
by Douglas Fuchs

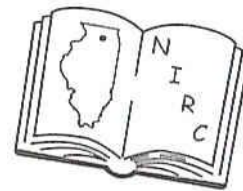


Teachers As Readers – Tuesday, October 11

The book selected for the Oct. 11 discussion is Comprehension Going Forward: Where We Are and What's Next.

This book describes what great comprehension looks like through the eyes of 17 leading educators and researchers including Ellin Keene, Debbie Miller, Stephanie Harvey, Harvey Daniels, Cris Tovani, Ann Goudis, Tanny McGregor, etc. The authors provide practical applications for teaching comprehension to learners of all ages. Please join us for an enlightening discussion at one of our two locations- Thunder Bay in Rockford and the Junction in DeKalb from 5:30-6:30 p.m.

See the flyer above for more details.

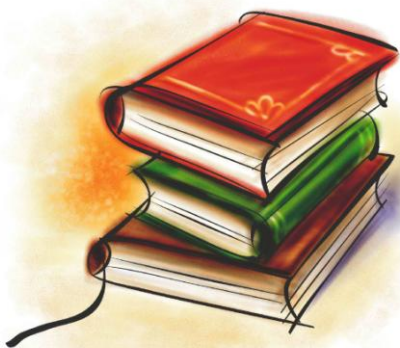


In 2008, NIRC established a partnership with Habitat for Humanity which we call **Books in the Home project**. Our mission is to provide a bookshelf and books for each child who moves into a new Habitat Home in the five- county region we serve. NIRC members attend each home's dedication so that the books and bookshelf can be presented directly to each child and parents. NIRC was awarded the Local Community Service Award at the 2010 IRA Convention in Chicago to acknowledge our commitment to encourage Habitat families to read. This year NIRC will present books and bookshelves to five families in Rockford, one family in Belvidere, and one family in Oregon. *Look on the IRC/NIRC website for dates and times of home dedications. Please plan to attend a home dedication this fall.*

In addition, NIRC members are gathering on Saturday, Aug. 20 from 9:00 a.m.-noon in order to help construct the Rockford homes. All members, their families and friends who are 18+ years old are welcomed to help. No work experience is needed. **Please meet at the registration trailer at 3409 Parkside in Rockford.** After receiving a short orientation, we will be placed on a worksite. Please wear appropriate clothing- no open-toed shoes. You may bring your own gloves and tools. Don't forget to label your tools with your name.

Children's Choices:

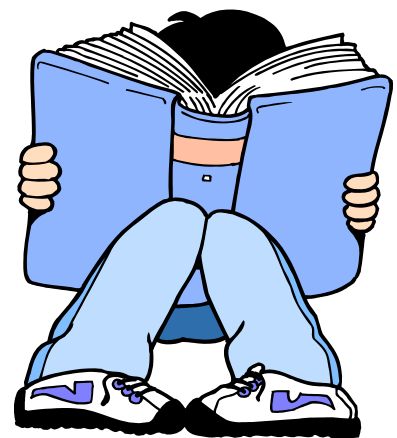
Great Book Picks by Kids!



Each year, IRA joins with the Children's Book Council to co-sponsor Children's Choices Book Awards. The award is unique inasmuch as children vote on the titles they prefer. This fall marks the third year that NIRC is involved with Children's Choices. Select schools in Belvidere, DeKalb, Kings, Minonk, Normal, Oregon, and Rochelle participate in Children's Choices.

For grades K-2, the teachers may read the books aloud with students voting by a thumbs up against their chest, thumbs down, or flat to signify whether they liked, didn't like or thought the book was just "okay." While fewer titles are printed for grades 3-4, the students read the books on their own. At the grade 5-6 level, a plethora of titles exist for students to read as publishers submit middle grade novels as well as several YA books. Increasingly more graphic novels are submitted by publishers as are historical novels. Fewer fantasy book titles are being submitted.

Dr. Pam Farris, Illinois State University, chairs the Midwest division for Children's Choices. Books are shipped to Jefferson Elementary School in Oregon where Mary Gardner directs the unpacking, stamping, and sorting with the assistance of NIRC Board Members Kim McKenna, Linda Tyrrell, Betsy Hoelting, Joan Bereman, Barb Swick, and Sarah Kennay. Books are boxed and shipped via NIRC members to various schools along with ballots. The votes are then tallied and sent to New York to the Children's Book Council. The winners are announced at the IRA conference each spring with brief annotations of the winning books published in the October issue of *The Reading Teacher*.





VIDEO/DVD STAFF DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

A \$50 deposit is required to obtain a tape made out to NIRC. A separate check for \$5 must be sent to help defray the postage costs. The tape/DVD will be mailed postage-paid on a 2-week lending basis. The

borrower is required to pay return postage. To obtain a tape, please fill out this form and return it with a check for \$50 and one for \$5 payable to NIRC.

Send to Kirstin Ellis, 10950 Flagg Rd Rochelle, IL 61068. (815)561-8901

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone (home & work) _____

Name & # of video/DVD requested: _____

App. Date of use: _____ (contact coordinator to ask about availability.)

Using for inservice? Yes _____ No _____

Please return my deposit check when videos are returned to NIRC. _____

OR Please tear up my deposit check when videos are returned to NIRC. _____



VIDEO/DVD SELECTION

#1—The Four Blocks: A Framework for Reading and Writing

(Patricia Cunningham & Dottie Hall) (VHS) An introduction to the Four-Blocks® literacy model presented by the originators. Four Blocks is a multilevel, balanced literacy framework that incorporates the approaches of Guided Reading, Self-Selected Reading, Writing, and Working with Words each day to teach children how to become better readers, writers, and spellers. This model acknowledges that not all children learn in the same way and provides ideas for instruction to better meet the needs and learning styles of all students.

#2—Guided Reading (Irene Fountas & Gay Su Pinnell)

Introduction to the basic components and essential elements of a guided reading lesson. Provides examples of the differences in guided reading lessons for emergent, early, transitional, and extending readers in K, 1st, and 2nd grade classrooms.

(DVD accompanied by viewing guide.)

#3—The Daily Five Alive! (Gail Boushey & Jean Moser)

This DVD complements the book by "The Sisters" and focuses on three of the five "Dailies"—Read to Self, Read to Someone, and Work on Writing. (K-2 focus)

#4—Café in the Classroom (Gail Boushey & Jean Moser) (DVD – 2 disc set)

The CAFÉ assessment system was developed to help elementary students understand & master different strategies used by successful readers. CAFÉ is an acronym for Comprehension, Accuracy, Fluency, and Expanding Vocabulary. The workshop kit includes video of individual conferences, small group lessons, & whole class instruction in Jean Moser's K-2 multi-age classroom.

#5-Intermediate Daily 5: Fostering Independent Literacy Learning in Grades 3-6 (Gail Boushey & Jean Moser) The Daily Five of is a series literacy tasks (reading to self, reading with someone, writing, word work, and listening to reading) which students complete while the teacher meets with small groups or confers with individuals. It is more than a management system or a curriculum framework; The Daily Five is a structure that will help students take responsibility for monitoring their behaviors and literacy learning and develop habits that lead to a lifetime of independent literacy. The program includes: launching lessons for each of the five program components; "Good-Fit Books" and "Three Ways to Read a Book" lessons; discussions of the specific needs of older learners; suggestions for using The Daily Five in classrooms of students who have a range of previous experience with the program; and coaching sessions with teachers.

#6- Intermediate CAFÉ in the Classroom: Helping Readers Thrive in

Grades 3-6 (Gail Boushey & Jean Moser) The CAFÉ system was developed to help students understand and master different strategies used by successful readers. CAFÉ is an acronym for Comprehension, Accuracy, Fluency, and Expanding Vocabulary. The system includes: individual goal-setting and conferencing, developing small group instruction based on clusters of students with similar goals, and targeting whole-class instruction based on emerging student needs. The program includes: launching lessons and introduction of the CAFE menu; sample whole-class and small-group lessons; conferring with diverse students; discussion of the specific needs of older learners; suggestions for using the CAFÉ system in classrooms of students who have a range of previous experience with the program; and coaching sessions with teachers.

#7—A Close-Up Look at Teaching Reading (Sharon Taberski) (VHS)

This series set in a primary classroom features renowned expert in the field Sharon Taberski presenting a framework for reading instruction upon which teachers can reflect & expand. Topics include: "Independent Reading & Reading Share;" "Read Aloud & Shared Reading;" "Reading Conferences;" & "Guided Reading."

#8-Thoughtful Reading-Teaching Comprehension to Adolescents (Tovani)

Prepare to enter a remarkable high school classroom where students who are reluctant to read are developing new skills and redefining their sense of themselves as readers.

#9-Strategy Instruction in Action (Stephanie Harvey & Anne Goudvis) (VHS)

4 video collection including: "Creating a Culture of Thinking", "Modeling Questioning in a Reading Workshop", " Reading and Understanding Nonfiction", and "Using Strategies to Enhance Book Club Discussions"

Learn to help students read for deeper meaning by constructing meaning, making connections, asking questions, and drawing inferences. Shows examples of reader's workshop, including whole group mini-lessons as well as individualized follow-up, in both primary and intermediate classrooms.

#10—Strategic Thinking, Reading, and Responding (Harvey & Goudvis) (VHS)

This 4 video series builds on the comprehension instruction in the book, *Strategies That Work*. Models a week in middle school language arts instruction, focusing on teaching the comprehension strategies of inferring in fiction and determining importance in nonfiction. (Grades 4-8)

#11— Reading the World: Content Comprehension with Linguistically Diverse Learners

(Stephanie Harvey & Anne Goudvis)

Visit culturally and linguistically diverse classrooms, in which kids learn to read, write, talk/listen, and investigate their way through the curriculum, developing a common language for reading, writing, and speaking English. Learn how effective comprehension strategy instruction is integrated with content knowledge acquisition in science and social studies. Observe instruction responsive to the learning and language needs of English language learners in both the primary and intermediate grades, giving them tools to understand and actively use information and ideas, and learn English along the way. Purposeful talk is central to instruction, as kids discuss and try out their ideas with each other, developing the confidence to become independent learners.

#12— Traits of Writing for Primary Grades (Ruth Culham) (2 DVD set)

Part 1 – introduction to trait-based assessment and instruction

Part 2 – provides close-up look at each individual trait

Models how to use assessment to guide focused writing instruction in primary (K-2) classrooms, as well as conferencing with young writers. Provides a close look at each individual trait in practice. (Includes professional study guide.)

#13— Traits of Writing (Ruth Culham) (2 DVD set)

Part 1 – introduction to the TRAITS model

Part 2 – more in-depth exploration of each individual trait

Provides a sampling of the 6 traits in action in 3rd-5th grade classrooms. (Includes professional study guide.)

#14 —When Students Write (Ralph Fletcher)

When Students Write takes us into diverse classrooms where teachers wrestle with the questions of what it means to become an effective writer and what is a teacher's role in developing students' competence as writers. The four parts cover all the practical components necessary for establishing and implementing a successful writing workshop, including the importance of choice, creating a risk-taking environment, the difference between skills and craft, the writer's notebook, the writing conference, revision, the role of literature, and much more.

Part 1: Building a Writing Community

Part 2: Teaching Writing Skills in Context

Part 3: Literature That Supports Writing

Part 4: Craft Lessons to Stretch Young Writers

#15 —Dude, Listen to This! (Ralph Fletcher)

Well-renown writing expert Ralph Fletcher examines what inspires boy writers and what shuts them down, as well as ways teachers can do a better job of nurturing boys' contributions. It deals with important issues surrounding this topic and provides examples of ways educators can become more adept at understanding boys and meeting their needs. (Includes an extensive workshop

guide with questions for discussion, classroom extensions, handouts to accompany the DVD, and student work.)

#16—Inside Reading & Writing Workshops (VHS)

This set of four videos includes: "Reading Mini-Lessons;" "Writing Mini-Lessons;" "Reading Conferences;" & "Writing Conferences." Videos feature 3rd grade students in NYC, showing how their teacher deals with the diversity of students as readers & writers.

#17—Comprehension Strategies that Help Your Struggling Students Be More Successful Readers, Gr.2-5 (Bureau of Education Research) (VHS)

Linda Hoyt, a recognized expert in the field of reading, demonstrates comprehension strategies helpful to all readers, but especially useful to readers who struggle to construct meaning from text.

#18—Using Modeled Writing to Maximize Your Students' Growth in Writing & Reading (BER) (VHS – 2 videos) (K-1 focus)

Modeled writing enables students at a variety of levels of literacy to learn & grow together as the teacher incorporates elements of phonemic awareness, phonics skills, concepts of print, extension of text, use of descriptive language & other key techniques into the daily lesson.

#19—Using State-of-the-Art Strategies for Teaching Writing to Maximize Your Students' Growth in Writing & Reading (BER) (VHS)

This video training program demonstrates practical & dynamic ways to support & stretch the writing progress of K-1 students.

#20—Using a Six Trait Model to Strengthen Students' Writing (BER) (DVD)

This program focuses on effective primary-grade writing instruction. Get advice about the best way to launch students as writers early on and begin six trait writing instruction with primary-age children. (K-2 focus)

#21—Using the "Making Words" Strategy to Strengthen Your Students' Phonemic Awareness and Phonics Skills (K-2) (BER) (VHS - 2 video tapes)

An introduction to Making Words, including the benefits, along with a full length model, with discussion and demonstration of lesson structure, pacing, student involvement, cueing and coaching strategies. Part 2 includes word sort and activities designed to promote transfer.

#22—Step-by-Step Assessment Guide to Code Breaking (Richard Gentry)

A practical assessment/teaching resource that guides you as you learn the five phases of reading development. Learn to determine a child's literacy phase, so you have the power to make sure that every child cracks the code!

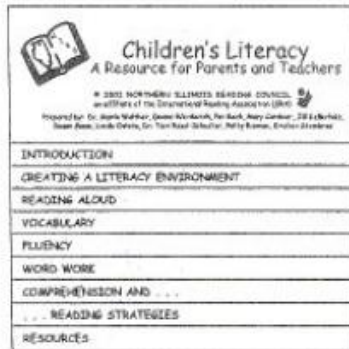
#23—Editing Invitations—This fifteen minute DVD takes you into Jeff Anderson's sixth-grade classroom as he demonstrates how he naturally links grammar instruction to writer's craft through his "Innovations to Notice," a warm-up activity used at the beginning of writer's workshops to help students learn to pay close attention to mechanics, style, and craft. They can be used as an alternative to "Daily Oral Language."

#24—Making the Most of News Magazines—Learn how upper grade elementary students organize weekly news magazines for use as a resource throughout the year as part of content area curriculum. Includes discussion of natural curriculum extensions that come from having an assortment of current short text accessible to students for skimming, sorting, and classifying.



NORTHERN ILLINOIS READING COUNCIL
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Presents
Resources for Parents and Teachers



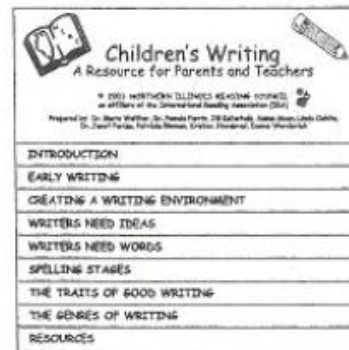
\$1.00 Each
Children's Literacy (English) (2002)

NEW!! Literatura Infantil (Spanish) (2005)

Children's Writing (English) (2003)

To order these valuable resources please
 send completed form and payment to:

Kristen Stombres, Coordinator
 Judson University
 1151 N State St.
 Elgin, IL 60123
 847-628-1083
 kstombres@judsonu.edu



Order Form

Name: _____ Phone Number _____

E-Mail Address _____

Ship to: _____

Shipping Address _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Children's Literacy Number of Copies _____ X \$1.00 per copy = _____

Literatura Infantil Number of Copies _____ X \$1.00 per copy = _____
 (Spanish)

Children's Writing Number of Copies _____ X \$1.00 per copy = _____

*Shipping = _____

TOTAL = _____

* Shipping
 1-5 copies \$0.75
 6 or more copies 15% of total

Payment: _____



Now Available! NIRC T-shirts!



NIRC t-shirts can be purchased at any NIRC event for \$15. They are 100% cotton and come in only one design (V-neck) and color (purple). They are made for adult women in sizes M-XXL. When purchasing one, please select a size larger than you usually wear to accommodate any shrinkage when washing it. If you want to order a t-shirt on-line directly from the maker, log on to the website of Tattooed Tees at www.tattooedtees.com

Are you a member of the Illinois Reading Council?

Check out the website at
www.illinoisreadingcouncil.org
to find the membership form!



Northern Illinois Reading Council

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