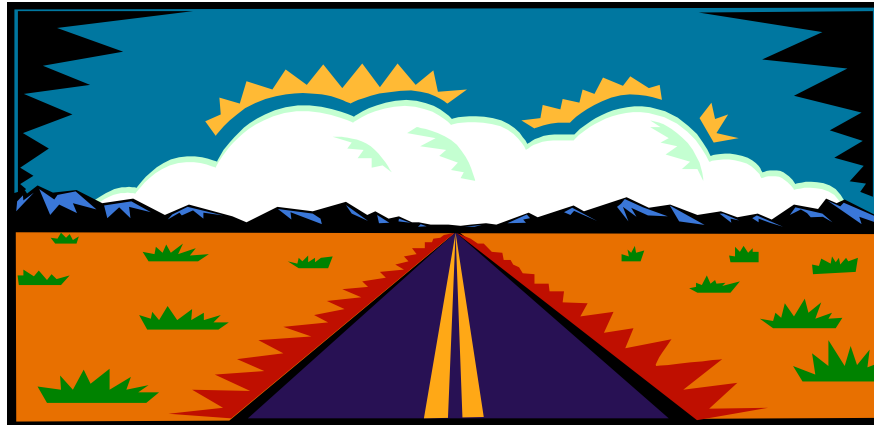


Reading Writing Workshop:

Journey into the Secondary Reading Class



Presented by

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The Foundation: Organization and Management

Typical Workshop Model/Routine:

Warm-up (5-10 min.)

Read Alouds, Videos, Freewriting, Journals, Daily Oral Language, Videos, News Articles, Songs, Weird News, Cartoons

Mini-lesson (10-15 min.)

Begin with lessons that teach the organization, behavior, and management for the class. Don't expect students to know what you want; you must explicitly show them and give them practice with the model.

Suggestions: How to choose a book by exploring many and being given permission to abandon them, recording books on a Reading Record form, organization of notebooks, Writing Record form, and modeling anything you want students to do.

After 2-3 weeks, mini-lessons will focus on skills students need to work on.

Tip: With writing, don't focus on grammatical/mechanical skills too soon. It tends to squelch creativity and self esteem.

Read, Write, and/or Talk (30-40 min.)

Students will use this time to read, talk, and be creative (write in various ways). This time is for students to practice the skills you've introduced in the mini-lesson.

Caution: Don't expect all students to have the stamina to read/write for even 20-25 minutes at a time. Push them a little more each day. Some students may only be able to read/write independently for 10 minutes at a time.

Your Role:

Conference with students individually. Get to know them, have them read to you, talk to them about their frustrations, hopes, fears, and needs.

Begin to form small groups as needs pop up.

Share With the Group (15-20 min.)

Encourage students to share a bit about what they have read, thought, discussed, and/or written. This builds trust and community within the classroom.

Synthesis of learning/closure



If you're used to Being in Control (and what teacher isn't?) then the Workshop Model will make you feel uneasy—at first.

What Has Worked in my Classroom

1. Kelly Gallagher's Article of the Week: Articles are posted weekly on a variety of topics.
<http://kellygallagher.org/resources/articles.html>
2. Providing opportunities each quarter for students to select a project (book and writing) of their choice.
3. Modeling annotations following Cris Tovani's book *I Read it, but I don't Get It.*
4. Transparency: Once you build trust, at the end of a unit, quarter, semester, ask the students for feedback.
5. A select few forms (see attachments) to guide organization.
6. Conferencing with all students on a regular basis, and not letting a few needy students dominate my time.
7. Know that the experts report it takes 3-5 years to really get your workshop running just the way you want it. So don't beat yourself up!