

**Friday, October 23, 2009**  
**Breakout Session I**  
**10:15 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.**

*Improve Content Area Comprehension Using Nonfiction Text Structures*

Room 2068

Dr. Gail Saunders-Smith, Assistant Professor of Reading, Youngstown State University  
Content area textbooks are too often too hard, right? Help students make their way through tough texts by teaching them the structures writers use to deliver information. This session will address various types of structures, the associated key words and comprehension skills, as well as a format for helping students take notes.

Audience: M, J, S\*

*Frozen Moments: The Power of Story*

Jones

Dandi Daley Mackall, award-winning author of over 400 books  
Dandi talks about how to write powerful stories and how to teach students of any age to preserve their own lives through capturing “the frozen moment.” Topics covered include the judicious use of details, writing through the senses, capturing memories, and rewriting. Students become better readers, as they understand what gives “story” its power.

Audience: All

*Using High-Quality and Award-Winning Literature to Teach Inference K-8* Cochran  
Rochelle Berndt, Lisa Bircher, Petra Moran, Liz Ritz, Julie Skilton, and William Bintz,  
Kent State University

Presenters will share a text set of high-quality and award-winning literature that can be used to teach inference across the curriculum, K-8. Definitions and characteristics of inference will be discussed and instructional strategies for using this text set to teach inference across the curriculum will be shared. Urgent questions and new implications on the teaching of inference will be identified and discussed.

Audience: All

*Using Visual Supports and Structured Teaching Strategies to Facilitate Reading Comprehension for Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders*

Coffelt & Pugsley

Dr. Leah Gongola, BCBA, Assistant Professor, Youngstown State University

Many learners with autism spectrum disorders need visual supports, predictability, and consistency to understand literacy content and the social world around them (Gately, 2008). This session will present feasible strategies such as visual maps and social stories to enhance student comprehension in the classroom, community, and at home.

Audience: Pre, P

\*Pre=Preschool; P=Primary; M=Middle School; S=Secondary; C=College

*The Power of Imagination: Fostering Creative Thinking with Picture Books* Humphrey John Ferguson, children's book illustrator, Julie Goulis, author

The presenters have created a series of picture books that use ordinary objects and nothing but a little old fashioned imagination to take the reader on all kinds of extraordinary adventures. Their presentation covers their inspiration for creating picture books that challenge children to use their imaginations to entertain themselves, the process of creating a picture book, and interactive, hands-on exercises to bring the theme of the books to life in the classroom or home – using the imagination to explore and see ordinary objects for what they could become. Their books are published by Bubblegum Books and their third book, *The Topsy-Turvy Towel*, was a finalist for a 2008 Buckeye Children's Book Award.

Audience: Pre, Primary

*The Art & Science of Teaching: The Marzano*

Room 2036

Dr. Carol A Marino, Supervisor of Trumbull County ESC, and Monica Vansuch, Literacy Coach for Warren City Schools

This presentation will highlight information from Marzano's research on the three components of effective classroom pedagogy, which includes: the use of effective instructional strategies, the use of effective management strategies, and the use of effective classroom curriculum design strategies.

Audience: All

*Writing and Then Self-Publishing a Book*

Schwebel Reception Center

Greg Gulas, Youngstown State University, and David Lee Morgan, Jr., *Akron Beacon-Journal*

"Thinking about a book? Think that it's so easy finding a publisher? When a publisher doesn't bite at your proposal, why not self-publish?" When their proposal for a book on middleweight Champion of the World, Kelly Pavlik fell short, that is exactly what Pavlik's co-authors, David Lee Morgan, Jr. and Greg Gulas did! Morgan, an award-winning sportswriter for the *Akron Beacon-Journal* and Gulas, an award-winning sports information director at YSU, both YSU graduates, will offer suggestions and advice on how to turn your manuscript into final book form.

Audience: S, C

*Managing Independent Literacy Centers in the Primary Classroom* Breshnahan I & II Morgan Amend, Teacher, Gilmour Academy, Gates Mills, Ohio

Working with primary students can be challenging, especially during guided reading time. I have researched and implemented literacy centers that successfully work to meet the needs of each learner.

Audience: P

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*How To Teach "How-to" Text*

Gallery

Dr. Nell Duke, Professor of Reading, Michigan State University

Instructions for conducting a science investigation, steps for carrying out a project, directions for playing a game, craft books, recipe books...procedural or how-to text is an important genre in and outside of school. In this presentation you will learn about characteristics of procedural/how-to text and strategies for helping students learn to read and write. You will leave with several ideas for assignments and projects involving procedural text that both engage students and foster learning.

Audience: All

**Friday, October 23, 2009**

**Breakout Session II**

**11:15 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

*Writing to Learn*

Schwebel Reception Center

Brandi Gribble Mathers, Geneva College in Pennsylvania

Writing facilitates the learning process by providing students opportunities to think deeply about the ideas they encounter while reading. This session will examine specific writing strategies designed to enhance reading and learning.

Audience: M

*Writing Made Easy with Picture Books*

Jones

Dandi Daley Mackall, award-winning author

Using her three award-winning historical picture books, (*Legend of Ohio*, *Rudy Rides the Rails: A Depression Era Story*, & *A Girl Named Dan*, Sleeping Bear Press) the author illustrates how teachers can help students with their own stories of family history, discrimination, and dreams. Picture books lead students to an understanding of basic story structure, freeing them to branch out with confidence into every other kind of writing.

Audience: All

*How Depression Impacts Young Children and Ways You Can Help*

Coffelt & Pugsley

Dr. Don Martin, of Youngstown State University, and Dr. Magy Martin, of Walden University

NIMH statistics indicate 3-8% of young children have symptoms of serious depression. Other children have less severe behaviors but are facing difficult issues such as trauma, divorce, deaths of loved ones and poverty. The presenters will share their over 60-years' experience with assessing and counseling children and the subtleties of recognizing and helping these children.

Audience: Pre, P

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*The Power of Student-Sponsored Writing Projects: Writing that Supports* Humphrey  
*Content Area Learning*

Dr. Alexa Sandmann, Jessica Anderson, Gary Vojtush, Michael Phillips, Stephanie Molnar, Kent State University

A rationale for using writing projects to support content area learning will be provided; then pre-service teachers will share their own writing projects, designed to be models for their future classrooms. Their reflections on the efficacy of these projects will be shared as well.

Audience: M

*A Reading Journey with ELL Students*  
Sandra Jenkins, The University of Akron

Room 2036

Preteen boys present an interesting challenge to reading teachers in that they tend to be very opinionated about their reading preferences. Through implementation of book chat sessions, four preteen beginning level ELL students showed gradual increase in reading behaviors. Book chats were thematic, used high-quality non-fiction books and both students and teacher evaluated the students' progress.

Audience: M

*Literacy + Technology = 21<sup>st</sup> Century Readers and Writers*  
Kristin Webber, Diana Zidian, Teachers, Eagle Heights Academy

Cochran

Welcome to the digital age! Come learn how to integrate free technology tools into your literacy curriculum. Resources such as blogs, wiki's, class web pages and Google Docs will be presented. An extensive resource list will be provided.

Audience: All

*Moving Beyond the Words in Bold: 10 Quick Ways to Engage Students*  
*in Content-area Vocabulary Learning*

Gallery

Dr. Nancy Padak, Distinguished Professor, Education, Kent State University  
Content are texts loaded with unfamiliar vocabulary. In this session, we will think about how to select words for focus. We will also demonstrate and discuss 10 quick (5-10 minute) vocabulary instruction and practice activities.

Audience: All

*Buckeye Children's Book Award: The Power of the Children's Voice*    Bresnahan I & II  
*for Awards*

Janis Tysko, Teacher, Morrison Elementary School, Athens

The Ohio Buckeye Children's Award is one of the few awards in the country that books are nominated and voted upon by children for a state award. Come find out how your students and you have the "power" to make this happen.

Audience: Pre, P, M, J, S

*Implementing Talking Dictionary as an Authentic Fluency Assessment*    Room 2068  
*To Inform Instruction*

Dr. Joyce Feist-Willis, Associate Professor, Literacy, Youngstown State University

Jackie Dunnigan, Literacy Specialist, Salem City Schools

Becky Gallagher, Teacher, Salem City Schools

Talking Dictionary is a fluency technique to increase accuracy and automaticity. Session focuses on explaining implementation procedures, changes in student performance, and progress in second grade teachers' assessment-based instructional decision-making.

Audience: P

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