



Literacy Leaders

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 2 OCTOBER 2013

CCRC Partners with Niagara Frontier Reading Council

With your needs in mind, CCRC is collaborating with the Niagara Frontier Reading Council to bring Dr. Tim Rasinski to our area. Look for more details in the next issue of *Literacy Leaders*. Currently, Dr. Rasinski is a professor in literacy at Kent State University. He has authored numerous books and articles relevant to classrooms with struggling readers. Dr. Rasinski wrote the chapter on fluency for the fourth volume of *The Handbook of Reading Research*. Check Dr. Rasinski out at www.timrasinski.com.



<http://www.kent.edu/ehhs/le/faculty.cfm>

Save the date: January 31, 2014. Location TBA

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Inside this issue:

Engage NY	2
New Board Member	2
Biographies	2
Integrating Science and Literacy	3
Contact Information	4
CCRC Events	4

Do the Numbers Surprise You?

The *Daily News* reported that in 2012, children ages 2 to 11 years watched about 3½ hours of television per day (or on average, 24 hours a week). The time spent watching television drops to 22 hours per week for 12 to 17 year olds but then rises (i.e., older individuals watch more television).

Shapley (2010) reports that children read books about 25 minutes a day, magazines about 9 minutes a day, and newspapers about 3 minutes a day. These data do not take into account the time children spend with media (e.g., computers, iPads, and other electronic devices) from which many access television programming. Wouldn't you say that more time could be spent reading?

Register now!

Free? Did I see the word "Free" in a flyer that described the CCRC Fall Literacy Conference? When was the last time you could attend a professional development session from high quality presenters that did not cost you or your school district any money? On October 19th in 105 Fenton Hall (SUNY Fredonia), you have the opportunity to attend a number of sessions that relate to working

within the Common Core Standards: *Enhancing the Use of Vocabulary in Writing for the Core*, *Reading and Writing in the Common Core Classroom*, *The Power and Purpose of Protocols*, and *Using the Charlotte Award to Stimulate Interest in Reading*.

Please register for this event by emailing Emily Gollnitz at egollnitz@ripley.wnyric.org.



Microsoft Office, 2010



Microsoft Office, 2010

Engage NY

If you haven't perused the materials available on the Engage NY website sponsored by the NYS Department of Education, you are missing out on a host of valuable resources. The Engage NY website contains many resources including pamphlets and videos designed to explain the Common Core Standards to parents. Most impressive in these materials is their straight forward explanation of what the standards are and how the standards are being implemented in NYS. Some of the guides are available in languages other than English.

engage^{ny}
 Our Students. Their Moment.

<http://www.engageny.org/parent-guides-to-the-common-core-standards>

Check out Engage NY at

<http://www.engageny.org>

Executive Board Member Feature: Cindy Bird



The newest member of the Executive Board of CCRC is Dr. Cindy M. Bird. With the retirement of Dr. Clara Beier, Dr. Bird assumes the role of SUNY Fredonia Representative to the CCRC. Dr. Bird is an Associate Professor of Education in the Literacy Programs. She brings to these programs a specialization in adolescent literacy. As the Graduate Literacy Programs Coordinator, Dr. Bird oversees the Reading Clinic, and has served as the Supervisor of this clinic.

Although Dr. Bird's primary teaching responsibilities includes literacy theory and research, she finds time to serve as a Program Reviewer for the NCATE SPA Reports of the IRA and to serve as a member of CRE, the College Reading Educators group of NYSRA. Dr. Bird's graduate students regularly present at the NYSRA conference, with guidance from

her. Additionally, she reviews proposals for the annual IRA conference on a regular basis and reviews articles for several professional journals.

Dr. Bird holds a doctorate from the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education at the University of Toronto (OISE/UT) Canada (see the Canadian flag behind her?). She earned her M.A. in English (Literary Criticism) from the University of Regina (Saskatchewan) as well as a Bachelor of Education in Secondary English. Few people know that Dr. Bird also holds a Bachelor of Biblical Studies (BBS) from the Canadian Bible College in Regina, Saskatchewan.

When she is not teaching or advising, Dr. Bird enjoys taking road trips and visiting antique markets. She is an avid photographer (particularly birds!). In fine weather, Dr. Bird often packs camera equipment in her car and heads for the open road in search of whatever comes along.

Biographies



http://www.reading.org/general/Publications/blog/BlogSinglePost/reading-today-online/2013/10/02/biographies-people-places#.Uk8ISMjD_VK

The Children's Literature and Reading Special Interest Group of the International Reading Association reviewed a picture book about biographies, *People and Places*, this week on the IRA website. This resource would be a wonderful way to introduce students to investigating the lives of famous and infamous individuals. They can use

the book as a starting point to reading actual biographies of depicted favorites.

And you can send your students to www.biography.com where they can view images of daily birthdays as well as synopses of lives of selected individuals (Note: navigation to www.bio.com takes you to the same site).

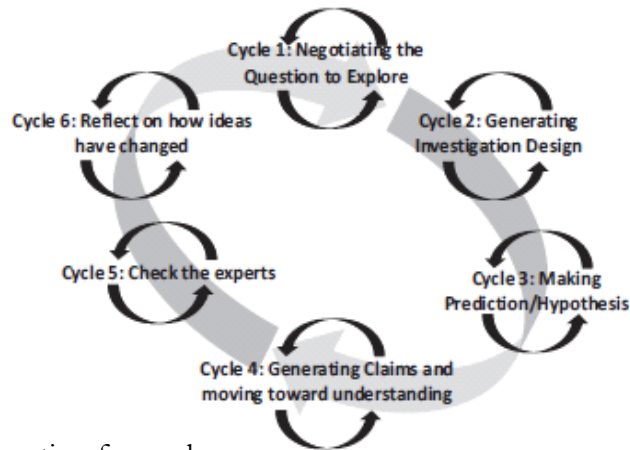
Integrating Science and Literacy with Argumentation

Teachers have sought ways to integrate content areas for some time. With much focus and attention on literacy instruction and mathematics, sometimes science instruction becomes a “fill-in.” That is, science instruction only when there is time. With literacy abilities embedded into content area Common Core Standards, there is urgency to content and skill integration.

The PONG Cycles provide a framework for integrating science and literacy. They embrace the inquiry approach to science learning that is recommended by the *Framework for K-12 Science Education*.

Washburn and Cavagnetto (2013) state that the PONG Cycles provide a means by which teachers can use the Science Writing Heuristic and other inquiry-based methods.

Figure 2 PONG Cycles Framework



(Washburn & Cavagnetto, 2013, p. 131)

of the question for exploration. These pairs produce claims about the answers/solution based on evidence considered in their discussions. Next, the pairs share their claims with the class, which will critique each claim.

series of repeating units of argument construction and critique in which a question is posed, observations are made, and claims based on the observations or logical reasoning are developed, shared publicly, and revised based on the feedback” (p. 131) The repeating units of arguments are depicted in Figure 2.

Teachers can modify use of PONG Cycles in consideration of student needs. The authors include an example of using PONG Cycles in a fifth grade classroom. A science activity includes relevant Anchor Standards for ELA (Speaking and Listening, Writing, and Reading).

Washburn, E., & Washburn, R. (2013). Using argument as a tool for integrating science and literacy. *The Reading Teacher*, 67(2), 127-136.

Figure 1 A Single PONG Cycle: Capturing the Construction and Critique of Argument

1. Problem/Question	
2. Observation	
3. Evidence-Based Claim	
4. Sharing and Critiquing Claim	Negotiation
5. Revision of Evidence-Based Claim	

Goal

(Washburn & Cavagnetto, 2013, p. 130)

Figure 1 depicts the steps of a single PONG Cycle. The teacher would first present a focused question or a problem. Students would generate questions that address considerations in solving the problem/answering the focused question. The questions could be entered into student science journals (Isn't this a practice common in scientists?). Students work with partners to choose one

Based on questions/concerns raised by their classmates (and teacher), each pair revises its claim.

Washburn and Cavagnetto note that PONG Cycles present both flexibility and structure to students in developing and negotiating arguments. They add that the model doesn't require the teacher to micromanage student learning. “...PONG Cycles is simply a

Chautauqua County Reading Council

If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact one of the CCRC Executive Board Members:

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<http://chautauquareading.weebly.com>

Council Events: 2013-2014

Executive Board Meetings

October 17, 2013

November 14, 2013 (after Technology session)

February 25, 2013

March 4, 2014 (after Hot Reads)

April 9, 2014

Scheduled Activities

October 19, 2012: *Literacy Conference*
SUNY Fredonia—Fenton Hall 105, 8:30 to noon

November 14, 2013: *Technology*
Silver Creek Central Elementary Library

January 31, 2014 *Dr. Tim Rasinski*
Location TBA

March 4, 2014: *Hot Reads* Location TBA

May 7, 2013: *Annual Spring Banquet*
Webb's, Mayville, Author to be announced

New
Event