



Spring 2010

A Quarterly Update

Just Read, Florida!

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**Celebrate Literacy Week, Florida!
2010**

Celebrate Literacy Week, Florida! 2010 was a huge success all across the state as districts, schools, teachers, parents, and children participated in various literacy week events. The kick off event at the State Capitol was a huge success with the star of the show, Tuffy, the first American Quarter Horse enrolled in a public school! Children from both Leon and Gadsden Counties enjoyed Tuffy, Clifford the Dog, and many other fun activities. Lt. Governor Jeff Kottkamp, Chancellor Frances Haithcock, of the Florida Department of Education, Commissioner Bronson of the Department of Agriculture, State Surgeon General Ana Viamonte Ros, M.D., M.P.H and Dennis Bustle, Capitol Police Director, were all present for the kick off event.

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Celebrate Literacy Week, Florida! 2010

Many law enforcement officers, Department of Education and Department of Health employees volunteered their time to read in classrooms and reached more than 30,000 students. They also donated over 1,300 books. Thanks to all of you!

During Celebrate Literacy Week, Florida! nationally recognized author, Julianna Baggott, visited two local Tallahassee schools. Mrs. Baggott not only encouraged and motivated the students at Pineview Elementary and Griffin Middle Schools to read more, write more and explore their imaginations more, she also donated more than 3,000 books to these schools through her foundation, Kids in Need, Books in Deed. Thank you, Julianna!



Districts across the state celebrated literacy through read-a-thons, book drives and featured local celebrities, such as the superintendent, mayor and others, visiting schools to read and share their passion for reading.

Ocoee Middle School in Orange County (<https://www.ocps.net/lc/west/moo/Pages/default.aspx>) also produced a video using a popular pop song by the Black Eyed Peas to motivate and encourage students to read.

Thanks to all the local area businesses, as well as district and school staff, that helped make this event possible. Great job, Ocoee Middle School!

More than 850 volunteers served in schools during Celebrate Literacy Week, Florida! and received a free Disney Park Pass through the volunteer opportunity "Give a Day, Get a Disney Day" program. Thanks to all those that volunteered and supported this effort.



Celebrate Literacy Week, Florida!

Public Service Announcement (PSA) Contest Winners

Lt. Governor Jeff Kottkamp recognized the winners of the Celebrate Literacy Week, Florida! PSA contest. Winning schools received gift cards to Barnes and Noble Book Stores and the participating students received passes to Disney theme parks. Thank you to Barnes and Noble and the Disney Corporation for making these rewards possible.



James Betz accepted the first place award for the elementary category in the PSA contest. Jim is a teacher at South Lake Elementary in Brevard County and supported the students in the development of their PSA submission. Congratulations to the students of South Lake Elementary.



Students from Teague Middle School in Seminole County were presented with their first place award by Lt. Governor Kottkamp at the State Capitol during the Celebrate Literacy Week, Florida! kick off event. Their PSA can be viewed at the website on page three.



Lt. Governor Kottkamp also presented the first place PSA award to the students of Marchman Technical Education Center, Pasco County. Congratulations to these students for their PSA video submission.

**View the winning PSA at the following website
<http://www.justreadflorida.com/literacyweek.asp>**

Florida Assessments for Instruction in Reading

In August, 2009, the Florida Department of Education provided the new Florida Assessments for Instruction in Reading (FAIR) for K-12 public schools free of charge. Developed by the Florida Center for Reading Research (FCRR) in collaboration with Just Read, Florida! this new assessment system provides screening, diagnostic, and progress monitoring information. FAIR was developed with the data needs of teachers kept at the forefront. Teachers receive information that will enable them to target their instruction to the specific needs of their students in order to positively impact student achievement. Professional development regarding the FAIR was provided to administrators, reading coaches, and teachers beginning in January 2009 and has continued throughout the 2009-2010 school year. Additional professional development on FAIR instructional implications was provided for administrators and reading coaches via video conference on September 30, 2009, and additional training sessions for grades K-12 teachers are provided at the following Just Read, Florida! and FCRR websites.

<http://www.justreadflorida.com/FAIR.asp> ; <http://www.fcrr.org/FAIR/index.shtm>

A FAIR comprehensive question and answer document is available at <http://www.justreadflorida.com/instrreading.asp>.

Celebrate Literacy Week, Florida! 2010



Career & Technical Education Reading Pilot Program (CATER)

The Just Read, Florida! Office is excited about the continued partnership with the Division of Career and Adult Education to enhance literacy throughout the state of Florida. Information about the CATER pilot program is provided below.

- CATER is a pilot reading intervention program for middle and high school career and technical educators to provide reading intervention for fluent Level 1 and Level 2 students using their course content.
- CATER is provided through a partnership between Just Read, Florida!, the Division of Career and Adult Education, the Florida Center for Reading Research, and Florida school districts.
- The initial pilot included ten teachers from five high schools in Citrus, Polk, and Volusia counties, along with reading coaches for support.
- CATER had a successful initial implementation for the 2008-09 school year.
- CATER expansion is planned for 2010-11 school year.
- In the summer of 2010 five regional CATER trainings will be held regionally for up to 250 teachers statewide for three full days of professional development.
- The participating CTE teachers must have a state issued certificate and have completed CAR-PD, including the practicum.
- District support coaches are required.
- Reading coaches should also participate in the training, if possible, to offer ongoing support to CATER teachers.
- Eligible teachers who complete the program can earn the Reading Endorsement by the end of the 2010-11 school year.

More information, including news articles and a video clip on the CATER pilot, may be found at: <http://www.justreadflorida.com/cater.asp>.

The following are the sites and weeks for CATER training and in some cases,

Continued on back page

Professional Development

Just Read, Florida! 2010 Summer Professional Development Institutes

The Just Read, Florida! will provide summer professional development opportunities for district staff, administrators, teachers and reading coaches through the 2010 Summer Professional Development Institutes in six locations across the state.

| Location | Dates | Time | Place |
|--------------|---|-----------|--|
| Miami-Dade | Tuesday, June 15- Thursday, June 17 | 8:30-4:00 | Alonzo and Tracy Mourning Senior High School 2601 NE 151 Street North Miami, Florida 33181 |
| Escambia | Tuesday, June 22- Thursday, June 24 6000 | 8:30-4:00 | Washington High School College Pkwy Pensacola, Florida 32504 |
| Hillsborough | Tuesday, July 13- Thursday, July 15 | 8:30-4:00 | Strawberry Crest High School 4691 Gallagher Rd Dover, Florida 33527 |
| Washington | Tuesday, July 20- Thursday, July 22 | 8:30-4:00 | Roulhac Middle School 1535 Brickyard Rd Chipley, Florida 32428 |
| Duval | Tuesday, July 27- Thursday, July 29 | 8:30-4:00 | Wolfson High School 7000 Powers Ave. Jacksonville, Florida 32217 |
| Orange | Tuesday, August 3- Thursday, August 5 | 8:30-4:00 | Boone High School 2000 S Mills Ave Orlando, Florida 32806 |

Registration is occurring on a first-come, first-serve basis at the following web site: <http://events.verdigre.com/> and is open until April 23, 2010. During completion of the online registration, participants automatically receive confirmation that they are accepted to attend the Summer Professional Development. Tracks will be capped at 36 participants each and tracks with fewer than 10 participants will be cancelled. Capacity is limited this summer because of budget and staff constraints and therefore, a train-the-trainer model will be implemented. Each track will be delivered with the focus being that those present will be able to go back and train others in the district. Those who cannot register because a track has been filled will be instructed to visit the website from May 3-7 when registration will re-open so that tracks with open slots may be filled. It may be that cancellations create open seats in a track that was formerly full.

We look forward to the participation of your teachers, administrators, and reading coaches in this important professional development initiative. If you have questions, please contact Laurie Lee at Laurie.Lee@fldoe.org or 850-245-5059 or Cari Miller at Cari.Miller@fldoe.org at 850-245-0503.



Spring 2010

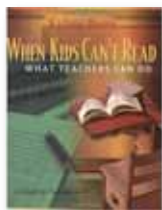
“Reading is a discount ticket to everywhere.”

Mary Schmich

Fast Facts: Current Just Read, Florida! Projects and Resources

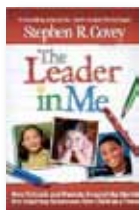
- **North East Florida Educational Consortium (NEFEC) Online Courses**-Provides free Reading Endorsement training to 2,500 teachers annually
- **Florida Reading Initiative (FRI)**-Provides 109 schools in 15 districts with school-wide reading professional development
- **Florida Online Reading Professional Development (FOR-PD)**- Free Reading Endorsement training to nearly 40,000 K-12 educators (nearly 6,000 annually) since 2003
- **Literacy Essentials and Reading Network (LEaRN)**-Provides online videos of research-based reading instruction to 23,000 K-12 teachers, principals, and reading coaches representing all 75 school districts
- **Progress Monitoring and Reporting Network (PMRN) and Assessment Development**-Free screening, diagnostic, and progress monitoring assessments and a data reporting tool used to assist with instructional decision making for nearly 2 million students in grades K-12
- **Summer Principal, Teacher, and Reading Coach Professional Development** provided to approximately 3,000 participants in the summer of 2010
- **Families Building Better Readers/Mysteries in the Middle/High School Quiz Show**-Free training to assist with student reading improvement in the home serving thousands of parents annually

The Bookshelf: What Literacy Leaders Are Reading



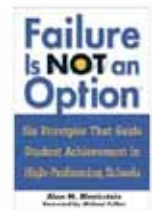
When Kids Can't Read: A Guide for Teachers
By Kyleen Berry

When Kids Can't Read, What Teachers Can Do is a comprehensive handbook filled with practical strategies that teachers of all subjects can use to make reading skills transparent and accessible to adolescents. Blending theory with practice throughout, Kyleen Beers moves teachers from assessment to instruction from describing dependent reading behaviors to suggesting ways to help students with vocabulary, fluency, comprehension, word recognition, response to text, and much more.



The Leader in Me
By Stephen R. Covey

The Leader in Me is the story of the extraordinary schools, parents, and business leaders around the world who are preparing the next generation to meet the great challenges and opportunities of the twenty-first century. Drawing on the many techniques and examples that have already seen incredible success around the world, *The Leader in Me* shows how easy it is to incorporate skills for success into daily life.



Failure is NOT an Option
By Alan M. Blankstein

Covering theory into practice, this state-of-the-art resource gives school leaders the tools they need to create and sustain effective professional learning communities. *Failure is not an Option* puts students first and then examines all the systems and processes that need to be in place to help them.



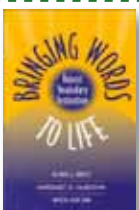
What Great Teachers Do Differently
By Todd Whitaker

What Great Teachers do Differently describes the beliefs, behaviors, attitudes, and interactions that form the fabric of life in our best classrooms and schools, focuses on the specific things that great teachers do... that others do not.



Reading Reasons
By Kelly Gallagher

This book introduces and explains in detail nine specific “real-world” reasons why students should be readers, as well as forty practical, classroom-tested and reproducible mini-lessons that get to the heart of reading motivation and can be used immediately in English (as well as other content-area) classrooms.



Bringing Words to Life
By Isabel Beck

Bringing Words to Life succinctly addresses the challenges of teaching and developing vocabulary, providing research-based, clearly spelled-out strategies and many, many rich examples. It gives teachers the tools they need to effectively increase students' vocabularies.



It's Never Too Late
By Janet Allen

Dr. Allen has always had a special interest in working with students who are at risk in terms of literacy and has spent much of her teaching career researching and working with these students. Anyone working with “at-risk” students will find here a reflection of their own experiences, plus thoughtful and creative strategies for making those experiences positive ones.



Becoming a Literacy Leader
By Jennifer Allen

Becoming a Literacy Leader chronicles the work of Jennifer Allen, an elementary teacher who moved to a new school and a new job as a literacy specialist and found herself tackling everything from teacher study groups to state-mandated assessment plans. This insider's view helps to define what leadership looks like and shows how to create an environment that fosters professional development.

Focus on Instruction: Explicit and Systematic Instruction

Reading instruction should be explicit and systematic. “Explicit” instruction involves teacher-led, interactive instruction where the teacher explains and models expectations and then supports the students by providing immediate feedback as the students demonstrate their learning.

“Systematic instruction” refers to a carefully planned sequence for instruction, similar to a builder’s blueprint for a house. A blueprint is carefully thought out and designed before building materials are gathered and construction begins. The plan for systematic instruction is carefully thought out, strategic, and designed before activities and lessons are developed. Systematic instruction is clearly linked within, as well as across the five major areas of reading instruction (phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension). For systematic instruction, lessons build on previously taught information, from simple to complex, with clear, concise student objectives that are driven by ongoing assessment. For example, children are not expected to read long, complex words until they first can read simpler words.

In explicit comprehension strategy instruction, teachers tell readers why and when they should use strategies, what strategies to use, and how to apply them. To view explicit instructional routines for grades K-3, visit <http://www.fcrr.org/assessment/ET/routines/routines.html>. The steps of explicit comprehension strategy instruction typically include:

- **Direct explanation.** The teacher explains to students why the strategy helps comprehension and when to apply the strategy.
- **Modeling.** The teacher models, or demonstrates, how to apply the strategy, usually by “thinking aloud” while reading the text that the students are using.
- **Guided practice.** The teacher guides and assists students as they learn how and when to apply the strategy.
- **Supported Application.** The teacher helps students practice the strategy until they can apply it independently.
- **Independent Practice.** Students apply the strategy independently during reading.

Continued on next page

Spring Recommended Reading Suggestions from the Just Read, Florida! Staff

There's a Zoo in Room 222

By: Judy Sierra

Recommended for Kindergarten- 2nd grade



Miss Nelson is Missing!

By: Harry Allard

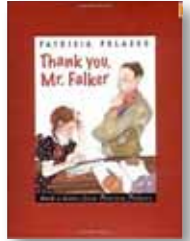
Recommended for Kindergarten- 2nd grade



Thank You, Mr. Falker

By: Patricia Polacco

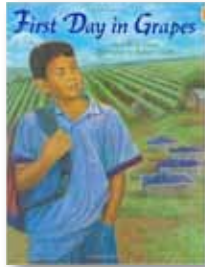
Recommended for 3rd-5th grades



First Day in Grapes

By: Perez, L. King

Recommended for 3rd-5th grades



Frog Face and the Three Boys

By: Don Trembath

Recommended for 6th-8th grades



Tangerine

By: Edward Bloor

Recommended for 6th-8th grades



Speak

By: Laurie Halse Anderson

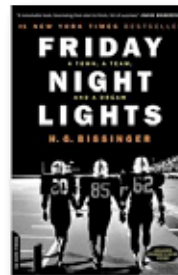
Recommended for grades 9th-12th



Friday Night Lights

By: H.G. Bissinger

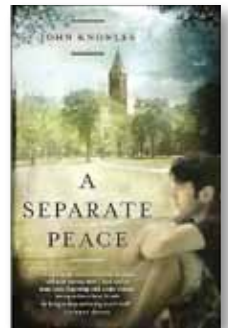
Recommended for grades 9th-12th



A Separate Peace

By: John Knowles

Recommended for grades 9th-12th



Celebrate Literacy Week, Florida! 2010

Tuffy Entertains the Children at the Capital



Focus on Instruction *Cont'd*

Explicit and systematic instruction is teacher-led, interactive instruction where the words and actions of the teacher are unambiguous and direct following a systematic scope and sequence of skills. The teacher begins with a clear explanation of the targeted skill, followed by modeling of the skill. Ample practice opportunities, including guided practice with corrective feedback, supported application and student independent practice using aligned student materials help the student to apply what they have been taught. The purpose of explicit instruction is to convey the content and skills clearly so that students can be led to mastery of the information. For more information on explicit and systematic instruction visit Empowering Teachers at <http://www.fcrr.org>.

Manatee County “School Bus Book Club”

Students on bus 546 in Manatee County are now enjoying the benefits of a “Bus Book Club,” and so is the bus driver. Rosemary Peterson, the school bus driver, started the book club in order to provide a more pleasant bus experience for all the students on board, and it worked. Students are challenged to read while on the bus, and every three weeks Ms. Peterson recognizes a boy and girl that has read and submitted the most book reports during the three week block. The book club winners receive prizes such as a pink watch, skating tickets and sometimes even cash! But don’t worry, everyone is a winner on the bus and all book club participants receive smaller prizes for reading and participating in the book club.

According to Scott Boyes, principal of the school on 33rd Avenue East in Bradenton, it has created a most pleasant and less eventful bus riding experience.

The Just Read, Florida! team and the Florida Department of Education would like to say “Thank You” to Ms. Peterson for her commitment to the students on her bus and also to her fellow bus drivers, who have developed similar activities on their buses. But most of all, thank you, Ms. Peterson, for inspiring the children of Manatee County to read and enter into a world of imagination.

CATER Training *Cont'd*

are offered in conjunction with the Just Read, Florida! Summer Professional Development Institutes.

Escambia 6/22-6/24
Washington High School

Citrus 6/29-7/01
Withlacoochee Technical Institute

Hillsborough 7/13-7/15
Strawberry Crest High School

Duval 7/27-7/29
Wolfson High School

Broward 8/10-8/12
Stranahan High School

Please contact Kevin Smith with any questions concerning the CATER trainings via email at Kevin.Smith@fldoe.org

Just Read, Florida! and Simon Mall Book Drive is a Success!

Just Read, Florida! supported a state-wide book drive sponsored by Simon Malls during the months of February and March and collected more than 475 books. The books were donated to the local area Boys and Girls Clubs.

Pictured are a few of our favorite donors!

