



Creating Successful Writers through 6+1 Trait Instruction

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Course Description:

This course provides an introduction to the 6+1 Trait Model of writing instruction. It is a shared vision and vocabulary for describing the qualities of writing across all genres. By understanding the traits: ideas, organization, voice, word choice, sentence fluency, conventions and presentation; we can offer a precise language to be used for assessment and instruction in the elementary school. Topics will include: definition of The Traits, focused instructional strategies, rubrics for student and teacher use, sample lessons and practice in scoring actual pieces of writing.

Course Objectives:

- * Discuss the definition of the Traits as they relate to student writing.
- * Develop focused learning opportunities for students to use the traits.
- * Demonstrate use of the scoring rubrics for both students and instructors with actual pieces of writing.
- * Develop the ability to provide constructive feedback to students through the use of the 6 + 1 Trait vocabulary and vision.
- * Create an understanding of audience and purpose when writing.

For more information go to the NW Regional Lab web page www.thetraits.org

Required Books:

- * Culham, Ruth. Theory and Practice, 6+1 Traits of Writing: The Complete Guide Grades 3 and Up. New York: Scholastic, Inc. 2000.
- * McMahon, Carolyn & Warrick Peggy. Wee Can Write. Oregon: NWREL. 2005

About the Instructors

Ellen Baker is currently the Program Coordinator for Elementary Education at the University of Vermont. She works with pre-service teachers at the University. In this capacity, she advises students at all levels of the program, teaches courses and supervises students in the field. She was a classroom teacher for 33 years in the elementary schools. Her experiences range from grades 1-5. Ellen has been adjunct faculty at Norwich University, Vermont College, Community College of Vermont and Johnson State College for the past 23 years. She was a member of the Professional Standards Board for Vermont Educators and collaborated on the original document, which created the Five Standards for Vermont Educators. She received her BA in Education from Queens College in New York City and her Masters Degree in Education from Johnson State College.

Location: LAPDA, Montpelier, VT

Dates: August 17-21, 3:00-6:00pm

September 14-18, November 9-13, 2009 4:45-7:45pm

Location:

LAPDA Meeting Space, Montpelier, VT

Cost:

\$525 for Members

\$670 for Nonmembers

Additional \$294 for 3 Graduate Credits from Union Institute

Participants must purchase

Textbook 17-21, 2009 8:30-4pm

date

DatesD