



Georgia Department of Education

Educating Georgia's Future

ELA Updates

October 2015

HIGHLIGHTS OF OCTOBER ISSUE

Now that you have settled into the new school year, we offer you some suggestions for upcoming ELA-related conferences, literary competitions, and instructional resources. New this year, the Booth Western Art Museum is offering an art literary competition. The competition recognizes students' writing success and achievements in arts and academics.

The recommended resource for this month comes from Comprehensive Reading Solutions: Bookworms Lesson Plans. This resource will guide K-5 teachers in providing on-level lesson plans to aid children in reading comprehension.

Also, in this issue we have included the links to register for the Georgia Reading Association and the Georgia Council of Teachers of English Conferences. Conference deadlines are fast approaching, so do not hesitate.

Additionally, check out georgiastandards.org for newly posted Developmental Trajectories for K-5 and the Georgia Classrooms Live! teaching videos.

We encourage you to take advantage of these learning opportunities.

ART LITERARY COMPETITION

Writing Through Art Literary Competition is to encourage students to develop enthusiasm for and expertise in their writing. Sponsored by the Booth Western Art Museum, students use works of art from the museum's collection as inspiration. The competition provides an authentic context to celebrate students' writing successes and to recognize their achievement in both the arts and academics.

Students may enter short stories, essays, narrative poetry and/or Cowboy poetry. Entries must be the result of a required writing assignment based on selected works of art from Booth Museum's collection. Each entry must be submitted to a teacher for a grade. Images and lesson plans are available by grade level on the Museum's website, www.boothmuseum.org.

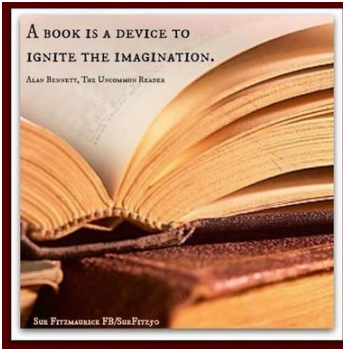


For additional information regarding contest rules and entry form, use the following link:

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GEORGIA READING ASSOCIATION



The Georgia Reading Association (GRA) is hosting the annual Fall Forum on October 26, 2015 at Middle Georgia State University in Macon.

“Exceeding Literacy Standards through Subjects that Matter” is the theme for this year’s outstanding forum. Keynote speakers are State Superintendent Richard Woods and International Literacy Association Board member Lauire Elish-Piper and author Ted Dunnagan. Breakout sessions will feature literacy in content areas of science and social studies. There will be several sessions focused on differentiating instruction and writing. Lesley Reshling and Lisa Eickholdt, authors of several books on writing, will conduct a special presentations on “writing that matters.”

For more information, contact Julie Walker, President-elect, at jawalker@tiftschools.org or Sheree Bryant at b.sheree@gmail.com, or use the following link to access the GRA website:

<http://www.georgiareading.org/>



Georgia Reading Association

GCTE CONFERENCE 2016

Since 1923, the Georgia Council of Teachers of English (GCTE) has been Georgia's professional home for English Language Arts teachers from pre-K to university levels. GCTE is the Georgia affiliate of the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE). Membership is open to teachers, administrators, college faculty, education majors, and others interested in the teaching of English Language Arts.

Registration for the 2016 conference is open. Visit the [Conferences page](#) for more information.

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ELA Program Page:

<http://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Curriculum-and-Instruction/Pages/English-Language-Arts-Program.aspx>

ELA Resources on georgiastandards.org:

<https://www.georgiastandards.org/Georgia-Standards/Pages/ELA.aspx>

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COMPREHENSIVE READING SOLUTIONS


Are you looking for resources to help your children achieve on-grade level reading? [Comprehensive Reading Solutions](#) (CRS) offers a series of exemplar literature-based lessons. Drs. Mike McKenna and Sharon Walpole have developed “Bookworms” for teachers to access interactive read-a-louds and shared reading lesson plans that support high levels of student engagement, rich discussion, comprehension, and vocabulary growth. The CRS site also highlights modules with videos of lessons being conducted by teachers in the classroom as a way to demonstrate the lesson plans in action.

Interactive Read-Alouds

Grade 1

First Nine Weeks

 2 Days	 2 Days	 2 Days	 1 Day
 1 Day	 1 Day	 2 Days	 1 Day
 2 Days			

Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day Judith Viorst Lexile: 730 Grade Level Band: 2-3 Days: 2 (plus 1 day for rereading) Grade 1	
Develop or Activate Background Knowledge	
Have you ever had a day when everything goes wrong and nothing goes right? No matter what you try to do, nothing seems to work. I know I have had days like that, and it always makes me want to go right home and go back to bed. This is a story about a boy named Alexander who has the worst day you can ever imagine. It was so bad that the name of the book is <i>Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day</i> . It was written by Judith Viorst. Bad things start happening to Alexander before he even gets up.	
Model Comprehension Strategies and Ask Questions During Reading	
As I read, be thinking about a really bad day you had once. Later you can write and tell me about it.	
[Top of first page] Before I show you the picture on this page, I want you to try to make a picture in your mind of Alexander and his bedroom. Pay attention to all of the things he mentions. When you have your picture in mind, I will show you how the illustrator, whose name was Ray Cruz, pictured it for the book.	

LITERACY AND THE DIGITAL AGE

MAKING THE CONNECTION

The Teaching Channel highlights five sites that will help educators access content rich, informational texts. The sites differentiate the same texts for different learners in the classroom.

Newsela—Newsela makes it easy for an entire class to read the same content, but at a level that’s just right for each student. <https://newsela.com/>

TweenTribune—As a Smithsonian resource, this is a perfect website to find content-specific resources for history and science teachers.

<http://tweentribune.com/>

Wonderopolis—Each day, Wonderopolis poses an intriguing question and explores it in a variety of ways to both inform and encourage new questions, spark new paths of wonder and discovery in family and classroom settings. <http://wonderopolis.org/>

Google—A searchable archive of newspapers from around the world, dating all the way back to the 1700s. <https://news.google.com/newspapers?hl=en>

DOGO—Students can connect with peers from around the world virtually and build their own personal learning network around digital texts in the ELA classroom. <http://www.dogonews.com/>

Figurelli, S. and Franzi, N. (2015, August 19).

Literacy in the digital age. Retrieved from <https://www.teachingchannel.org/blog/2015/08/19/literacy-in-the-digital-age-informational-text-sap/?>