

# Turning Classrooms into Reading Workshops, K-2

Readers' Workshop offers an effective model for teachers striving to differentiate instruction for all students. It is an instructional model that invites students to connect their thinking to reading as well as to writing and discussion about literature. During Readers' Workshop, teachers match students to books and elicit responses to literature that help them develop into thoughtful readers. Together, teacher and student become part of a learning community engaged in reading for the purpose of deepening comprehension, expanding vocabulary, and drawing strong connections between reading and writing—for the sheer enjoyment of reading!

During the first meeting, Kathy Collins, author of *Growing Readers* (2004), will present an overview of Readers' Workshop and discuss how its components connect to address student needs. Three additional video-casts by Ms. Collins will support teachers in implementation of the Readers' Workshop Model in classrooms over the course of the year. These video-casts will be accessible at participants' convenience during a one month window for each video-cast in December, January, and February. Participants will also have the opportunity to post questions and reflections for Ms. Collins on SERC's web-based learning forum as they implement the program in their classrooms. Ms. Collins will tailor the content of the follow-up video-casts to participants' needs. Participants must have access to the Internet in order to access SERC's learning forum and video-casts.

Ms. Collins has more than fifteen years of experience watching children grow into readers as a primary classroom teacher and researcher with Teachers College Reading and Writing Project. She remains an integral part of the literacy initiative that Teachers College launched in New York City Public Schools. She currently travels throughout the country as a private consultant in the area of literacy.

## In order to improve outcomes for students in grades K-2, participants will:

- identify the units of study in the reading workshop;
- enhance the role of the read-aloud and "accountable talk" that leads to higher comprehension;
- plan for independent reading and reading partnerships;
- establish structures for presenting mini-lessons and conferring with students;
- review the use of fiction and nonfiction texts; and
- organize instruction to improve comprehension, fluency, and vocabulary strategies.

Please Note: This session has been designed to fulfill partial requirements for P.A. 99-211, which mandates 15 hours of training (or 1.5 CEUs) on the teaching of reading during a five year CEU cycle.

## Date, Time, Location:

Thursday, October 25, 2007  
9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.  
Four Points Sheraton, Meriden  
and

three (3) follow-up video-casts  
accessible via Internet for one  
month each during December 2007  
and January and February 2008

## Presenter:

**Kathy Collins**  
National Literacy Consultant  
Anchorage, Alaska

## Audience: Grades K-2

Seventy five (75) K-2 general and  
special educators

## CEUs: 1.2

Includes:  
Full Attendance  
Participation in Video-Casts  
Post-Activity Application of Learning

## Registration Fee:

**\$75.00 per person**  
Payable to Rensselaer at Hartford  
Payment is due prior to the session  
upon confirmation of participation.

## Questions/ Special Needs:

**Contact:** Leticia Garcia Guerra  
Senior Project Assistant  
(860) 632-1485, ext. 233

## Register By:

October 16, 2007



www.ctserc.org



Literacy Initiative

Please return application to SERC, **Literacy Initiative**, 25 Industrial Park Road, Middletown, CT 06457-1520. Participants will be selected on a first come, first served basis with regional consideration. Applicants will receive written confirmation regarding participation shortly after the registration closing date. The registration fee is payable upon notice of acceptance.

APPLICATION FORM: **Classrooms into Reading Workshops** (08-45-007 – FN/Literacy)lgg (Please print clearly.)

District/Region \_\_\_\_\_ School/Program \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Position/Role \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Level \_\_\_\_\_ Email (Please Print.) \_\_\_\_\_

Release time is approved for educators: Administrator's Signature is required \_\_\_\_\_

In which region do you receive/provide services?  ACES //  CES //  CREC //  EASTCONN //  ED CONNECTION //  LEARN