

# DEVELOPING HABITS OF MIND WITH OUR YOUNGEST WRITERS

(AN ALL NEW WORKSHOP)

November 28, 2006: Grades K-1

Nov. 28, 2006: Holiday Inn, Saddle Brook

Utilizing extensive video from both kindergarten and first grade writing workshops, we'll examine how predictable ways of talking and thinking about writing are critical to young writers learning important habits of mind. The role of questioning in teaching, particularly, will be highlighted.

## We'll consider issues such as how to help children:

- Understand and explain the process of writing
- Think about the decisions authors and illustrators make
- Imagine and envision possibilities for their own writing
- Become more intentional in their own writing
- Make connections between their work and the work of other writers

Participants will leave the day with a clear sense of how talk supports young writers in a variety of very important ways



**Dr. Katie Ray** is a frequent speaker at conferences and summer institutes around the country. With a particular focus on the study of writing craft, she leads teacher workshops and summer institutes across the nation related to the teaching of writing. Her professional background includes both elementary and middle school teaching experience and two years as a staff developer at The Reading and Writing Project, Teachers College, Columbia University.

Katie is also the author or co-author of five books on the teaching of writing: *Spelling in Use: Looking Closely at Spelling in the Whole Language Classrooms* (1996, NCTE); *Wondrous Words: Writers and Writing in the Elementary Classroom* (1999, NCTE); *The Writing Workshop: Working Through the Hard Parts (And They're All Hard Parts)* (2001, NCTE); *What We Know By Heart: How to Develop Curriculum for Your Writing Workshop* (2002, Heinemann); and *About the Authors: Writing Workshop with Our Youngest Writers* (2004, Heinemann).

## About the Presenter

# EXPLORING THE RICHNESS OF CRAFT IN WRITING

(AN ALL NEW WORKSHOP)

November 29, 2006: Grades 2-6

Nov. 29, 2006: Holiday Inn, Saddle Brook

In this workshop, we'll examine four "lenses" for thinking about the craft of writing: the approach to the genre, the structure and organization of the text, the particular ways with words inside a text, and possibilities of graphics to enhance meaning.

## We'll consider issues such as:

- How examining the craft of writing expands a writer's repertoire of what's possible
- The importance of rich texts in helping students develop vision for writing
- The importance of using specific language to talk about the craft of writing
- The move from intentional to unintentional in the decision making about craft in writing
- The importance of grounding students' understanding of craft in real world texts

This day is intended for teachers who already have writing workshops up and going in their classrooms. Teachers will leave the day with a deeper understanding of how to study and talk about the craft of writing with their students.



KATIE WOOD RAY