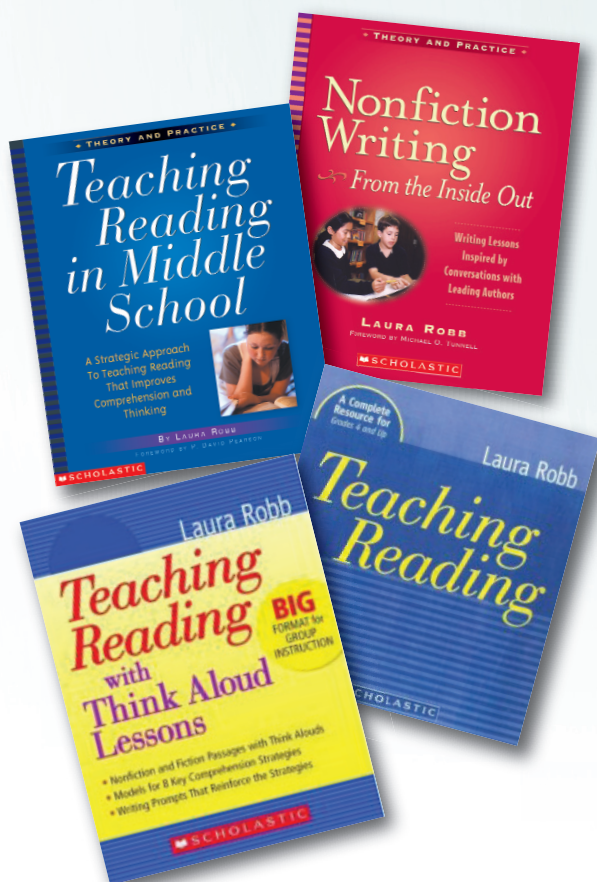


# DIFFERENTIATING READING INSTRUCTION: REACHING EVERY READER WITH STRATEGIES THAT BUILD HIGH LEVEL THINKING

Grades 4-9

December 3, 2007: Marriot in Saddle Brook, NJ

In this hands-on, active learning workshop, participants will experience differentiating whole-class reading instruction by using short biographies. Starting with establishing routines and introducing the kinds of planning that support differentiation, Laura Robb will share and discuss with participants the planning template she uses. Laura will show with several interactive think alouds how the read aloud becomes the common teaching text when students read books at their instructional reading levels. Participants will see how an issue, a genre such as biography, and inferential reading strategies move students into high level thinking. In addition to developing open-ended prompts and questions that can be used to discuss any biography, participants will also develop queries that emerge from the issue to be explored. Laura will model how to apply strategies such as Questioning the Author, Determining Importance, and Making Inferences. Then she'll invite participants to each read a different biography and explore it through discussion and journal writing using the issue, open-ended biography questions, and reading strategies. In addition, participants will discuss the importance of formative, daily assessments and how these continually inform instructional decisions and interventions.



**Laura Robb** has written 15 books for teachers—her most recent titles are *Nonfiction Writing From the Inside Out: Lessons for Teaching all Elements of the Craft*, *Inspired by Conversations with Leading Authors*, *Teaching Reading in Middle School*, *Teaching Reading in Social Studies, Science, and Math*, *Grammar Strategies*, and *Lessons That Strengthen Students' Writing* (all Scholastic). Robb's latest Scholastic project is a binder called *Teaching Reading: A Complete Guide for Grades 4 and Up*. Robb has designed classroom libraries for Scholastic. She is presently working on a genre reading project for grades 6, 7, and 8 that will include trade books below, at, and above grade level as well as a booklet for organizing and managing instruction for three strategic reading groups. A co-author for The Great Source's *Daybooks* and *Sourcebooks*, Grades 2, 3, 4, and 5, Robb also co-authored The Great Source's *Summer Success Reading Program* for Grades K-8. Presently, Robb is the senior author of *Reading Advantage*, a Great Source program for middle and high school students who read two to eight years below grade level. She has just completed designing *Writing Advantage* for The Great Source, a scaffolded writing program for students in middle and high school. Robb is a keynote speaker at conferences all over the country and writes articles for education journals. She leads workshops on reading and writing for teachers throughout the United States in elementary, middle, and high schools.

## About the Presenter