

**USING MENTOR TEXTS AND STUDENT CHOICE TO IMPROVE THE WRITING OF RELUCTANT WRITERS**  
Intervention students who are reading two or more years below grade level are often reluctant writers. They resist writing and get easily discouraged with the process of drafting, writing, and revising. This workshop will provide strategies to build the stamina and skills of your students. A special education teacher will demonstrate how she provides a year-long structure for student choice, uses mentor texts and modeling for student inspiration. Leave with ideas that can bring new energy and enthusiasm to your writers. *Presenter: Lois Homma, Retired Special Education Teacher (Elementary), Val Verde USD*

**MAKING WRITING PURPOSEFUL AND PERSONAL: USING POETRY AND THE "I AM FROM" POEM**  
Poetry is communication form that says a lot with as few words as possible. It can express emotion, importance or the longevity of an idea or event. It makes an ideal tool for summarizing thinking and assessing understanding. The variety of forms maintains novelty and engagement in your classroom and provides a unique vehicle for student choice within a directed level of structure. Learn how this popular and personal poetry form can be used across the curriculum to enhance student writing experiences. *Presenter: Cindy Lopez Elwell, Ph.D., Ontario Montclair SD; Teacher, TK*

Reading is like  
*breathing in*  
Writing is like  
*breathing out*  
~Pam Allyn

## WANT MORE FROM IAWP?

**PLEASE CONTACT US FOR INFORMATION ABOUT OUR:**

- Invitational Summer Institute
- IAWP Annual Conference
- Improving Students' Analytical Writing Workshop (ISAW)
- High School Outreach Program
- Young Writer Academies



## ABOUT IAWP

The Inland Area Writing Project is a university-based, educator-centered, professional learning organization, dedicated to improving student learning by helping educators TK-University become better writers and teachers of writing across the disciplines. An affiliate of National and California Writing Projects, IAWP has been supporting educators in the Inland Area since 1978 and shares the the vision of the National Writing Project:

*"Writing in its many forms is the signature means of communication in the 21st century. The NWP envisions a future where every person is an accomplished writer, engaged learner, and active participant in a digital, interconnected world."*



## CONTACT US

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INLAND AREA WRITING PROJECT



**WRITE NOW**  
TRANSFORMING ELEMENTARY LITERACY



# K-6 WORKSHOP OFFERINGS

*NOTE: All workshop sessions are interactive and will touch upon mentor texts and setting up a Writers Community. Workshops are 90 minutes long unless otherwise specified and can be customized to meet the unique needs of your staff.*

## **BECOMING A WRITER! (EVEN IF YOU'RE 5...)**

Participants will be shown the very first steps that primary students take to become writers. This workshop shows how listening and speaking are the building blocks of reading and writing, and how the use of literature and meaningful experiences are critical in any writing classroom. *Presenter: Janet Timm, Teacher, grade K, Lake Elsinore USD*

## **ESTABLISHING A WRITING COMMUNITY**

In this interactive workshop you will be offered a wealth of ideas for building a safe learning environment where all students feel comfortable writing and sharing their voices with one another. *Presenter: Laura Smart-Osoff, Ontario-Montclair SD, ELA Coach*

## **VISUAL NOTE-TAKING IN SCIENCE**

By using the “cross-cutting concepts” from the Next Generation Science Standards in conjunction with visual pre-writes, you can guide students toward more complex understanding of science by producing writing in science. *Presenter: Amanda Shanahan, Teacher, Riverside USD*

## **POWER WRITING TO ENCOURAGE POWERFUL WRITING!**

Through the writing routine Power Writing, learn how and when to use power writing to enhance new units of study as well as to increase fluency and assess student writing. Starting with an essential question, students will generate ideas through the use of graphics/pictures, videos, collaborative dialogue, and interactive games to process new learning and engage in writing. *Presenter: Gustavo Macuil, Teacher (Elementary), Ontario-Montclair SD*

## **WORD UP!**

Many students lack a strong word bank to draw upon when they read or write. Learn strategies to help students develop their vocabulary superpowers with a series of fun, interactive activities designed for all students, whether they are ELD, SAI, or GATE. *Presenter: Betsy Newmeyer, Teacher, Beaumont USD*

## **OPINION WRITING: THE ARGUMENTATION FOUNDATION**

Explore the role that opinion writing plays in laying the foundation for the argumentation anchor standard. From oral rehearsal to genre-based exercises, participants will have an opportunity to reflect, plan, question, and of course-write, as they come to an understanding of what argument/opinion looks like in the primary grades. *Presenter: Cindy Lopez Elwell, Ph.D., Ontario Montclair SD; Teacher, TK*

## **REVISION TO THE RESCUE**

In this hands-on session we will cover activities designed to help students find their inner critic, give suggestions for using mentor texts, and manage critique groups within a classroom setting. You will walk away armed with the knowledge and skills needed to rescue their revision lessons and give your classroom a writing makeover. *Presenter: Betsy Newmeyer, Teacher, Beaumont USD*

## **GROWING INDEPENDENT WRITERS WHO LOVE TO WRITE**

Practice a variety of effective writing strategies and activities that promote independent writing, improve achievement, and support a writers workshop approach to teaching writing. We will explore options for adding to your writing environment in a way that provides scaffolded support for student access, writing stamina, and choice. *Presenter: Cindy Lopez Elwell, Ph.D., Ontario Montclair SD; Teacher, TK*

## **USING MENTOR TEXTS TO TEACH NARRATIVE REVISION**

Participants will write narrative texts and then see how to use selected mentor texts to revise their writing by using craft moves of published authors. The focus will be on demonstrating how to teach children to read like writers, offering participants practice identifying craft moves used by children's authors that their own students can use when writing or revising narrative texts. *Presenter: Lois Homma, Retired Special Education Teacher (Elementary), Val Verde USD*

## **THREE POETRY FORMS: THE ODE, THE FOUND POEM AND THE COUPLET**

Hit the ground running with three fun forms that you can use with students in your class tomorrow. These are flexible poetry forms that run a wide course of challenge for the tentative, as well as the adventurous writer. In addition, explore how to use these forms across the curriculum to beef up your trans-disciplinary repertoire. *Presenter: Cindy Lopez Elwell, Ph.D., Ontario Montclair SD; Teacher, TK*

## **3 HOUR WORKSHOPS**

*\*Sessions can be condensed to fit a 90 minute session*

### **INQUIRING MINDS WANT TO KNOW**

Explore the role that an inquiry approach to instruction can have in giving students power to construct concept-based knowledge. Engage in an investigation on your current practices and explore how to include inquiry-based strategies within current units of study and investigations in your own classroom. From provocation and guiding questions to summative assessment, this workshop will challenge participants to spark students' curiosity and raise the rigor of their expectations. *Presenter: Cindy Lopez Elwell, PhD, Teacher, Ontario Montclair SD, Teacher, TK*

### **THE 411 ON OPINION WRITING**

Learn how to use mentor texts to create meaningful mini-lessons that meet the Common Core Writing Standards for Opinion/Argumentative Writing. In this session you will explore the Claim, Evidence, Reasoning Model (CER), which is used by scientists to construct valid explanations and arguments, as a way to strengthen students' argumentative thinking skills in order to prepare them for opinion writing. *Presenter: Laura Smart-Osoff, Ontario-Montclair SD, ELA Coach, grades K-6*

### **WRITE INFO TEXTS LIKE THE PROS**

Learn how to use mentor texts to create meaningful mini-lessons that meet the Common Core Writing Standards for Informational/Explanatory Writing. In this session, we will look at the specific techniques non-fiction authors use to provide facts about a given topic. You will also learn strategies for supporting students with paraphrasing. *Presenter: Laura Smart-Osoff, Ontario-Montclair SD, ELA Coach*

### **MEANINGFUL MENTORS FOR NARRATIVE WRITING**

Learn how to use mentor texts to create meaningful mini-lessons that meet the Common Core Writing Standards for Narrative Writing You will walk-away with strategies to help your students generate personal narratives and use scenes to make their writing come alive. *Presenter: Laura Smart-Osoff, Ontario-Montclair SD, ELA Coach*