



Elementary Literacy Initiative

Presented to the Rye City Board of Education

February 3, 2015

Reader's Workshop Model

- Lucy Calkins and the Teachers College Reading/Writing Project
- A philosophy, not a curriculum
- Aligned to Common Core
- Well respected and grounded in research and practical applications
- A balanced literacy approach

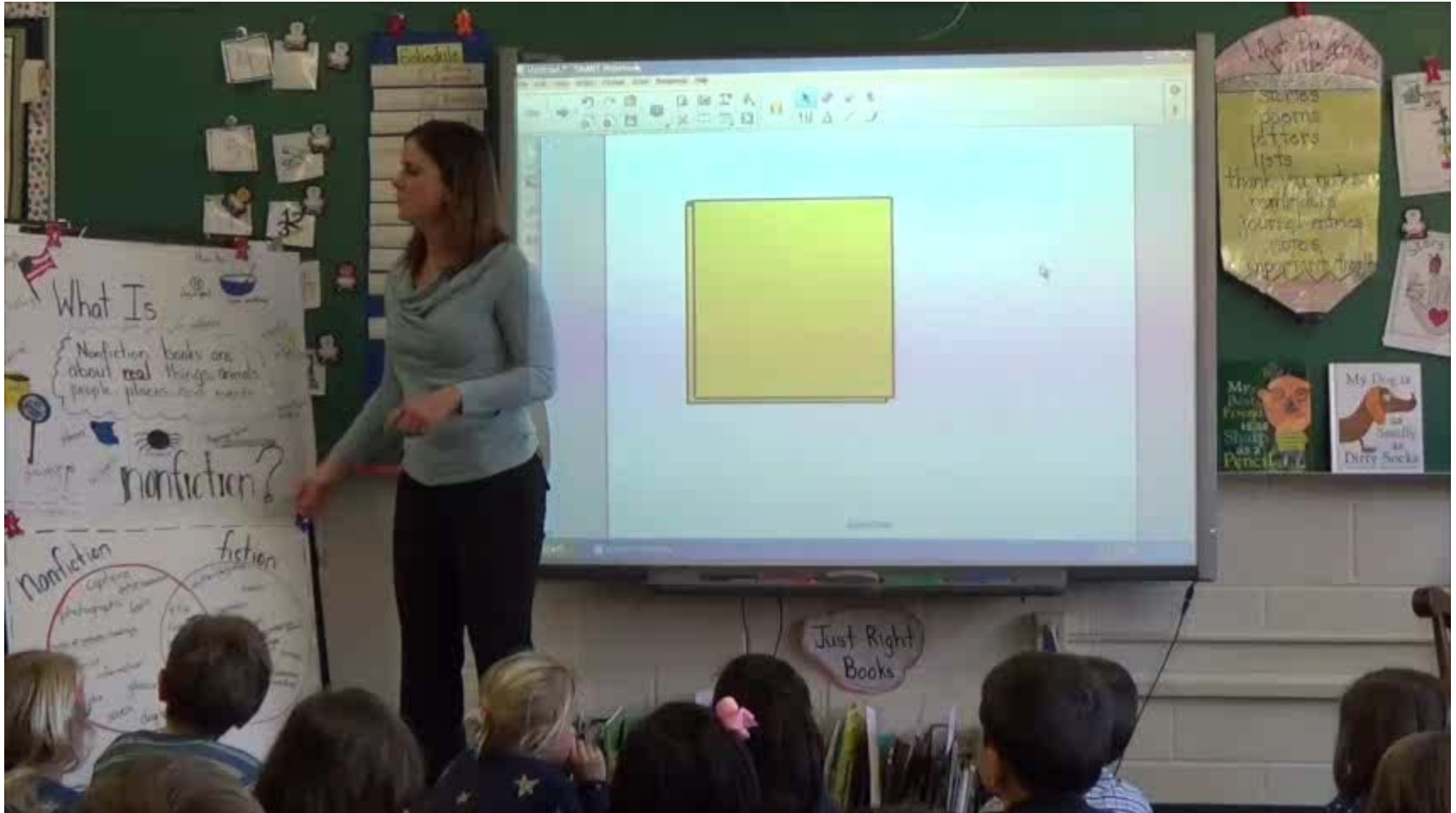
Balanced Literacy Components

- The Read Aloud
- Guided Reading- small group, skill development
- Shared Reading
- Independent reading
- Word Study

Gradual Release of Responsibility

- Mini lesson (I do.)
- Guided practice (We do.)
- Independent Reading (You do.)
- Conferring
- Small Group work

First Grade Mini Lesson



What Is Nonfiction?
Nonfiction books are about real things, events, people, places, and events.

nonfiction?

Nonfiction (includes: Captions, Photographs, Lists, etc.)

Fiction (includes: Stories, Novels, etc.)

What Do Writers Write?
Stories, Poems, Letters, Lists, etc.

My Best Friend is as Sharp as a Pencil!

My Dog is as Stupid as a Dirty Sock!

Just Right Books

Focus on Comprehension (Creating Meaning)

- Modeling metacognitive strategies
- Practicing strategies (fiction and nonfiction)
- Emphasizing independent reading and developing reading stamina
- Selecting “Just Right Books”
- Providing interactive read alouds of rich texts
- Utilizing organized (leveled and genre based) classroom libraries to meet students’ reading and interest levels

Fact Find



Immediate Classroom Impact

- Dynamic, energetic tone
- Heightened opportunities for student success
- Improvement of reading comprehension
- Increased depth of discussions (close reading)
- Collaboration among students
- Fostering independence/self-confidence
- Promotion of Character Education
- Differentiation of instruction
- Expansion of vocabulary

Retelling Hand Strategy



Correlation to Danielson Rubric

Engagement and Questioning

- All students cognitively engaged
- Productive instructional groups, appropriate to the students and purpose of the lesson
- Student choice in selection of resources and materials
- Coherent structure, allowing for reflection and closure
- Pacing of lesson appropriate for all students
- Students formulate many questions
- Students assume responsibility for success of discussion
- Students ensure that all voices are heard in the discussion

Impact on Faculty of Professional Development

- Structure for Language Arts
- Collaboration among grades and schools- Learning Community
- Development and enhancement of talent, skills, leadership and confidence
- Higher expectations for all students

Anticipated Long-Term Impact on Students

- Improvement of reading comprehension in all subjects
- Greater self-esteem, persistence, and resilience
- Enhanced listening, speaking, and writing skills
- Increased reading stamina
- Better organizational skills
- Development of foundational skills for: creation and support of thesis, debating, persuasion, research, presentation, literary critiques

Rye Professional Development

- Direct instruction
- Discussion
- Classroom modeling
- Parent component (began K-2 in 14-15)
- Resources
 - Google drive
- Collaboration among grade level colleagues
- Units of Study- Writing
- Reading Units of Study – expected to be released late spring, early summer

Professional Development 2013-2014

- K-1- Sharon Taberski (11 days)
- Gr. 2 (began Jan 2014)
 - Comprehension
 - Student conferencing about reading
 - Small group instruction: guided reading, skill and strategy instruction, interactive read aloud, readers theater, oral language intervention, shared reading, literature discussion groups
- DRA work
- Shelia Bertoni – Independent Reading

Professional Development 2014-2015

- Summer curriculum work 2014
 - (9 teachers K-2)
- 20 days during school year
 - Continue K, 1, 2
 - Roll out to 3, 4, 5

Plan for 2015-16

- Include peer coaching model
- Summer of '15 curriculum writing
- Expand to 6th grade staff



- Osborn Teachers Erin Trepasso and Amy Reitzig and their first grade students for providing insight into classroom practice
- Teachers Michelle Ring, Allison Bily and Amy Reitzig
- Alex Pandolfi and Kaitlyn Sassone
- Mr. Boylan, Mrs. Garcia and Dr. Nardone
- Mr. Walley, Mrs. Napolitano and Mrs. Winderman



Thank

You