



**Judy** has over 20 years of experience teaching in the public school system as well as private tutoring. A lifelong advocate of promoting reading, Judy pioneered a New York State-funded summer community reading program and developed remedial/enrichment reading and writing programs for high school students. Judy has had the opportunity to present at a number of local, state, and national conferences. Audiences find her discussions on writing, reading, and the publishing process to be both entertaining and enlightening. Judy maintains an active membership in organizations such as the International Reading Association. A lifelong resident of the Buffalo area, she resides in East Amherst, New York with her husband, daughter, one big dog, and two cats who came for Christmas and stayed.

### Her Books

*Children's Book Corner: A Read-Aloud Resource with Tips, Techniques, and Plans for Teachers, Librarians, and Parents Grades 5 and 6* (2006)

*Children's Book Corner: A READ-ALOUD Resource with Tips, Techniques, and Plans for Teachers, Librarians and Parents Grades 3 and 4* (2005)

*Children's Book Corner: A Read-Aloud Resource with Tips, Techniques, and Plans for Teachers Librarians, and Parents Grades 1 and 2* (2004)

*Children's Book Corner: A Read-Aloud Resource with Tips, Techniques, and Plans for Teachers Librarians, and Parents Grades Pre-K-K* (2003)

*Christopher Counts!* (series published by McGraw-Hill):

*One Carton of Oops!*

*Double Bubble Trouble!*

*A High-Fiving Gift for Mom!*

*Doggone Lemonade Stand!*

### Workshops

(The length of any workshop can be adjusted to meet specific needs)

#### **SEND YOUR POETRY PHOBIA PACKING!**

- Level: Grade K - Grade 6

From “poetry pauses” that reinforce and extend core curricular units of study to full-blown poetry lessons, the tips, techniques, and resources offered in this workshop will send your phobia of teaching poetry packing. Poetry devices and poetic techniques will be explained. Learn about the poets kids love to read, explore available teacher resources, select anthologies and themed resources that will pique your students’ interest and de-mystify poetry for you and them. Ample time will be provided during this hands-on workshop to develop and share lesson plans for teaching poetry. An extensive bibliography of poetry books for the elementary grades and a list of resources for teachers will be provided to participants. *Poetry phobia be gone!*

- 6 hours

## **TIPS, TECHNIQUES, AND RESOURCES FOR PREPARING AND IMPLEMENTING OUTSTANDING READ-ALOUDS AND RAISING AWARENESS IN PARENTS OF THE IMPORTANCE OF READING ALOUD TO THEIR CHILDREN**

- Level: Pre-K–K

Judy will suggest strategies, demonstrate techniques, and allow time for participants to review outstanding read-aloud choices for this age group. Participants will become familiar with online and print media devoted to children's books and reading. They will also be given time to prepare read-aloud plans for their classrooms and share these with their peers. Participants will explore ways to involve and enlighten parents about the value of reading aloud to their children. This workshop provides lots of hands on experience with a blend of theory and practice. NOTE: Participants are asked to bring a book appropriate for reading aloud to their students-one they have not yet used in the classroom.

- Length: 6 hours

## **PREPARING OUTSTANDING READ-ALOUDS TO REINFORCE 1ST AND 2ND GRADE CURRICULUM**

Level: Grades 1-2

Judy will suggest resources, strategies, and techniques for implementing a read-aloud program that incorporates all strands of language arts and connects books to all aspects of the curriculum. Participants will be given time to review outstanding read-aloud choices for this grade level. Nonfiction, character education, writing-related, math-related, and poetry selections will be highlighted. Suggestions for involving parents also will be examined. Participants will prepare read-aloud plans for their classrooms and share these with their peers. A bibliography of books will be provided.

- Length: 3 hours

## **STRATEGIES AND RESOURCES FOR REINFORCING MATH CONCEPTS USING CHILDREN'S LITERATURE**

Level: Pre-K – Grade 2

Strategies for using children's books to develop and reinforce math skills will be presented. Teachers will become familiar with an array of age appropriate trade books ideal for use in this manner and will develop ways to use these resources effectively in their classrooms.

- Length: 3 hours

## **WRITING EVERYDAY IN COUNTLESS WAYS: TECHNIQUES AND RESOURCES FOR DEVELOPING INTEREST AND SKILLS IN BEGINNING WRITERS**

Level: K – Grade 2

Incorporate writing into the school day everyday using trade books, poetry, content area themes, and holidays. Ideas, strategies, and resources for developing writing skills will be presented and ways to involve parents will be explored. Participants will develop plans and share ideas, strategies, and successes.

- Length: 3 hours

## **FROM DREAM TO REALITY: THE MAKING OF A CHILDREN'S BOOK**

In this overview course, participants will be shown actual examples of the steps to publication, from manuscript to bound cover, and learn what they need to know about the children's book market. Topics include: the stages of development of a book, publishing resources, submission guidelines, how and where to submit, and the state of the market.

- Length: 3 hours

## **THE NUTS AND BOLTS OF WRITING FOR CHILDREN**

*Companion course to: From Dream to Reality: The Making of a Children's Book (see above)*

Attendees will explore the elements of story in fiction written especially for children, investigate genres of children's literature, learn how to write effective and professional cover and query letters (and learn the difference between them), and become familiar with publishing world etiquette.

- Length: 3 hours

## **PARENT WORKSHOP**

### **WHY SHOULD I READ TO MY CHILD?**

This workshop will erase the mystery and anxiety associated with developing a love of reading in children. A variety of suggestions will be offered to parents and caregivers on how they can support the school's efforts to build lifelong reading skills in students by reading-aloud to their children every day. A bibliography of children's books and useful resources especially for parents will be provided.

- Length: 1 hour

## **AUTHOR VISITS AND WRITING WORKSHOPS**

In addition to offering author visits for elementary classrooms and preschools, Judy conducts writing workshops for grades 5 and up. Students receive individual feedback as they experience the writing process firsthand, from brainstorming to publishable piece.

- Length: one to five days

## **Contact Information**

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