

T.E.P.S. Conference- 77th Annual Saturday Reunion- Teacher's College/Columbia University

By: Debbie Crahen

This event is an energizing professional development activity for any teacher who is immersed in Reader's and Writer's Workshop!

5 Ways to Enhance your Writer's Workshop

- 1- Carry a toolkit of examples of your writing and former students to enhance your one on one conferences. Put these samples in plastic sleeves so you can use a dry erase marker to 'show not tell' during conferencing.
- 2- Use a metal ring on your students' writing folders so they can articulate by writing or drawing a goal they have for their writing.
- 3- Frame the student's goal within a larger lifelong goal so it is attainable and long lasting.
- 4- Celebrate 'Writer's Block'! Tell the student all writers experience this and they are now officially a writer!
- 5- Think school wide with your colleagues. Set a school wide literacy goal that all faculty works towards. (ex. stamina, volume, conversation, etc.)

5 ways to Enhance your Reader's Workshop

- 1- Use your Share Time to reinforce the mini lesson, address management or develop the content of a unit of study.
- 2- Form partnerships among students for mini lesson, independent and share time work.
- 3- Have class discussions regarding strengths and challenges they are facing as readers. Post these on a chart and use this information for small group work.
- 4- Work on your read alouds. Make them purposeful and meaningful. Let your read aloud engage your students in conversation.
- 5- Create a text set of read alouds surrounding a theme. Plan the order of introduction from familiar to challenging and finally touchstone choices.