



TEACHER
WORKSHOP



Featuring
**KRISTI
McCULLOUGH**

Effective Strategies for Leading Small-Group Guided Reading

TWO DAYS • FOUR MIDWEST LOCATIONS



"Kristi is a completely engaging presenter. This was a completely practical and immediately applicable workshop presentation."

Kyle Bush • principal at Early Childhood Center, Loveland City School District, Loveland, OH

DAY 1 February 1, 6, 15, & 27

Teaching K-5 Reading with Small-Group Instruction

DAY 2 February 2, 7, 16, & 28

Utilizing Data to Differentiate Small-Group Guided Reading



Kristi McCullough

Teachers love the authentic, “from-the-trenches” insight that Kristi McCullough offers during her professional development sessions. Her own experience as a reading and writing teacher and literacy coach provide the perfect backdrop for Kristi to share practical ways to deliver research-based best practices.

As a full-time literacy consultant with Smekens Education, Kristi has worked with thousands of teachers across the United States delivering regional seminars and customized on-site school trainings that focus specifically on teaching reading. In addition, she is also the author of the “6-Week Planning Guide for Launching the 90-Minute Reading Block,” a popular resource for K-5 teachers.

Kristi wore many hats in public schools for 13 years during which time she was trained in Reading Recovery® and many other well-known instructional models. She is passionate about helping teachers implement a balanced literacy approach focused on real-life, purposeful literacy activities that result in improved student achievement.

A personal invitation from Kristi McCullough

Dear Colleague,

With the school year well underway, I’m sure you have already ironed out many of the “kinks” in your daily reading block. But even if your block is running smoothly, are you struggling to meet the unique needs of *all* your readers?

After more than a dozen years leading my own elementary classroom, I understand the challenge involved in growing *every* reader. And for me, it wasn’t until I learned the research-based strategies for teaching reading with small-group guided reading that I was able to make headway on improving student achievement.

Now, after applying those strategies in my own classroom and also coaching and training thousands of K-5 teachers to do the same, the goal of growing every reader doesn’t seem as daunting! I’m excited to be the messenger of these powerful strategies this winter during a pair of full-day workshops that zero-in on techniques for leading small-group instruction effectively.



During the first day, the focus will be on helping you plan and lead small-group guided reading sessions that offer the appropriate support for every student. We will address the mechanics of running small groups within your classroom as well as what type of text to use to support the strategies and skills from your whole-class lessons.

Then on the second day, my emphasis will be how to make sense of all the data that you are collecting about your student readers. We’ll learn to combine what we know from the data to construct a targeted action plan that provides differentiated support for every student.

If you are ready to learn classroom-tested strategies for growing readers with small-group guided reading, then I hope you’ll join me for this timely workshop.

Kristi McCullough

P.S. Remember to invite your principal to attend with you. With the paid registration of a staff member, your principal may attend this workshop at no charge.

What teachers say about Kristi McCullough

“Kristi is amazing! Her enthusiasm is contagious!”

Debbie Schmidt • teacher at Camden Primary School, Camden, OH

“Kristi’s ability to be enthusiastic, realistic, and helpful at the same time is amazing to experience!”

Jennifer Regruth • teacher at Margaret R. Brown Elementary School, Seymour, IN

“Every idea was thought-provoking. What a dynamic speaker, presenter. She really made me think of how/why I do routines the way I do in my classroom.”

Glenda Ferguson • teacher at Burris Elementary, Mitchell, IN

“Kristi is a fabulous presenter & has great practical ideas.

I would LOVE to learn ANYTHING from her!”

Lindsey Putman • teacher at Towne Meadow Elementary School, Carmel, IN



“Thank you for **sparkling my fire** for teaching again!”

Megan McAdams • teacher at Frances Slocum Elementary, Marion, IN

Powerful topics

DAY 1: Teaching K-5 Reading with Small-Group Instruction

DAY 2: Utilizing Data to Differentiate Small-Group Guided Reading

Attend both days or choose just one.

Who Should Attend?

K-5 Teachers

Literacy Coaches

Literacy Coordinators

Title I Teachers & Coordinators

ELL Teachers & Coordinators

K-5 High-Ability Teachers

Curriculum Directors

Elementary Principals & Assistant Principals

Satisfaction Guaranteed

If you are not completely satisfied with this workshop, we will refund your entire registration fee—no questions asked.

Direct Ties to Standards

The strategies shared during this two-day workshop target the reading and writing standards outlined within the College & Career-Ready Standards.



What's the research?

Rooted in research-based best practices, the strategies shared during this two-day workshop complement the principles and framework outlined in *Making the Most of Small Groups* by Debbie Diller and *The Next Step Forward in Guided Reading* by Jan Richardson.



Three reasons to attend this workshop

1. The stakes are high, and the heat is on.

Student achievement in reading is as important now as ever. Teachers need the tools and strategies to deliver research-based best-practice methods. **(Our strategies are classroom-tested and practical!)**

2. Using time effectively is essential.

In order for small-group guided reading instruction to be effective, time with the teacher has to be carefully planned and purposeful. **(Learn to make the most of your small-group time!)**

3. Differentiation is challenging, but necessary.

Teachers are used to dealing with students who have diverse needs, but knowing how to meet those needs in the area of reading is a priority. **(Meet students at their instructional level!)**

Top questions teachers ask about teaching K-5 reading with small-group instruction

- ▶ How does my whole-class instruction impact my plan for small-group support?
- ▶ How do I know which students to group together?
- ▶ What types of books/passages can I use for small groups?
- ▶ What other ways can kids read in a small group other than “round robin”?
- ▶ How can I use the assessments I already do to drive my whole-class instruction?
- ▶ How can I use the guided reading block to support content-area learning?

Top questions teachers ask about using data to drive small-group guided reading

- ▶ What types of data should I collect about my readers?
- ▶ How do triangulate data to plan differentiated instruction?
- ▶ How do I collect formative assessments during a lesson?
- ▶ How often should I revisit my data?
- ▶ How does my data impact whole-class instruction?
- ▶ What procedures should I use to organize my data?

Kristi McCullough provides the answers to these questions and many more!

Phone: (888) 376-0448 • Fax: (888) 376-0489 • Online: www.SmekensEducation.com

Teaching K-5 Reading with Small-Group Instruction

Workshop Overview

In this powerful workshop, teachers will learn how to plan and conduct differentiated small-group reading sessions that result in improved student achievement. During the workshop, Kristi McCullough will show teachers how to support students at their developmental levels, how to engage students in authentic text, and how to provide students with targeted lessons to increase their comprehension in both literature and informational texts.



Small-Group – Itinerary

7:30–8:30 a.m.

Registration, book shopping, & breakfast

8:30–10:00 a.m.

Cycling through the 3 types of instruction in a reading block

Observing 3 phases of a small-group lesson
Examining components to build a reader

10:00–10:15 a.m.

Morning break & book shopping

10:15–11:30 a.m.

Achieving comprehension
Improving fluency

11:30 a.m.–12:45 p.m.

Enjoy lunch on your own

12:45–2:00 p.m.

Targeting word study

2:00–2:15 p.m.

Afternoon break & book shopping

2:15–3:30 p.m.

Engaging students with book clubs

Training topics:

- Learn how to develop a schedule where small-group reading occurs in tandem with students working independently in literacy stations.
- Obtain ways to utilize teacher-led small groups during the reading block.
- Understand how to interpret reading levels of students and match them to an appropriate book level.
- Gain strategies to support readers at all stages of reading: emergent, early, transitional, and fluent.
- Learn how to tie whole-group mini-lessons to small-group instruction in order to support the five components of reading.
- Learn types of before, during, and after-reading strategies and how they fit into small-group reading lessons.
- Acquire methods for supporting readers by incorporating oral reading strategies beyond using “round robin.”

When you leave, you’ll be able to:

- ▶ Use small groups to support and deepen mini-lesson skills first taught during whole-class direct instruction.
- ▶ Introduce a new text to students in a way that provides support for them to be able to decode *and* understand the text.
- ▶ Increase the amount of time students spend reading the whole text.
- ▶ Cultivate student interaction with the text during reading.
- ▶ Organize your space and supplies to make small-group instruction both efficient and effective.

Free follow-up training video

Teachers who attend this workshop will be given a complimentary one-month subscription to Kristi’s matching video on webPD, *Creating & Conducting Differentiated Small Groups (Grades K-5)*. During the complimentary subscription period, teachers are encouraged to share access with every colleague in their school, allowing the entire staff to learn key concepts from the workshop.



What others say about Kristi’s workshops

“Absolutely love these workshops! I leave inspired every time. Everyone should be Smekened!” **Erica Shadley** • teacher at Ada Elementary School, Ada, OH

“A lot of takeaways to use right away in my classroom with my small groups. I feel better equipped to organize and utilize the data I have been collecting all year.” **Stefanie Berdine** • teacher at Crown Point Christian School, St. John, IN

“Kristi was wonderful! The small-group setting really made the objectives that much better & easier to grasp. All three strategies are very powerful, and I can’t wait to implement them into my classroom ASAP. Thank you so much!!” **Nancy Packovski** • teacher at John I. Meister Elementary School, Hobart, IN

Utilizing Data to Differentiate

Small-Group Guided Reading

Workshop Overview

Once the planning and mechanics are in place for leading small-group guided reading, the next step is to utilize this instructional time for targeted and intentional teaching that addresses the unique needs of each child. In this workshop, Kristi McCullough will provide K-5 teachers with a five-step process for utilizing multiple data sources to differentiate instruction during guided reading.



Utilizing Data – Itinerary

7:30–8:30 a.m.

Registration & breakfast

8:30–10:00 a.m.

Assessing your readers

Collecting & compiling data

10:00–10:15 a.m.

Morning break & book shopping

10:15 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Examining reader behaviors for strengths & needs

Creating an action plan

11:30 a.m.– 12:45 p.m.

Enjoy lunch on your own

12:45–2:00 p.m.

Convening strategy groups

Incorporating writing about the reading

2:00–2:15 p.m.

Afternoon break & book shopping

2:15–3:30 p.m.

Tracking progress over time

Training topics:

- Learn how to collect, validate, and organize data relative to each student's reading progress.
- Learn how to analyze various data sources to assess progress over time.
- Discover how to use anecdotal assessments to identify each reader's strengths and weaknesses.
- Learn how to triangulate data already being collected to construct a differentiated instructional plan.
- Learn how to utilize small-group instruction to equip all readers with multiple strategies to process text.
- Gain ideas for how to employ effective teacher language that can be used during guided reading to teach, prompt, and reinforce.
- Learn intervention strategies designed to help readers progress to the next level.
- Examine options for conducting follow-up assessment for the purpose of tracking progress.

When you leave, you'll be able to:

- ▶ View with confidence assessment data you already collect.
- ▶ Combine the data you already collect to construct a triangulation of data for each child.
- ▶ Examine reader behaviors to address strengths and needs.
- ▶ Utilize data to determine where students fall in the scaffold of literacy skills.
- ▶ Motivate reluctant readers to enjoy texts.

Free follow-up training video

Teachers who attend this workshop will be given a complimentary one-month subscription to Kristi's suite of videos on webPD that focus specifically on small-group guided reading. During the complimentary subscription period, teachers are encouraged to share access with every colleague in their school, allowing the entire staff to learn key concepts from the workshop.



What others say about Kristi's workshops

"You have been a breath of fresh air—thank you for the absolutely practical ideas." **Carla Newcomer** • teacher at NorthWood Middle School, Wakarusa, IN

"I have launched guided reading in my classroom, and I struggle with what to focus on with groups/individual students. This information is EXACTLY what I needed!" **Olivia Raley** • teacher at Calvary Elementary School, Lebanon, KY

"Kristi is a high-energy presenter who gives real examples. She does not present in isolation but shows real living examples of practices she uses as she is teaching." **Maureen Hoffman-Wehmeier** • teacher at Greenwood Middle School, Greenwood, IN



What teachers say about Smekens' workshops

"The workshop was packed with ideas to improve guided reading groups. Kristi's personality and energy were fun! You could see her passion for reading the way she presented!"

Karly Douglas • teacher at Heywood Elementary School, Troy, OH

"Awed! Every time I attend a session, I am awed! Where were you 20 years ago? As always, awesome! Always something fresh and energizing!"

Jeanetta Stacy • principal at Holmes Middle School, Covington Independent Schools, Covington, KY

"Everything is presented systematically, aligned with Common Core, and with an easy-to-implement attitude. I can't wait to use these new tools this semester!"

Sheri Espedal • intervention specialist at Arrowood Elementary School, Xenia, OH

"It's encouraging to walk away with activities and plans I can use right away. I'm never disappointed when I come to a Smekens workshop."

Abby Warmoth • teacher at Isom Elementary, Greenwood, IN

How to get there – workshop locations

Need a hotel room?

Smekens Education has negotiated discount hotel rates at each workshop location. To see our hotel recommendations and learn more about special rates, check out our website.



INDIANAPOLIS, IN

February 1 & 2, 2018

The Wellington, 9775 N by NE Blvd., Fishers, IN 46037, (317) 712-3475



CINCINNATI, OH

February 6 & 7, 2018

Holiday Inn Eastgate, 4501 Eastgate Blvd., Cincinnati, OH 45245, (513) 752-4400



CLEVELAND, OH

February 15 & 16, 2018

Crowne Plaza, Cleveland Airport; 7230 Engle Road, Middleburg Heights, OH 44130; (440) 243-4040



CHICAGO, IL

February 27 & 28, 2018

Holiday Inn, CountrySide, 6201 Joliet Road, CountrySide, IL 60525, (708) 354-4200

On-site Registration

This event may sell out. Do not depend on registering on site. Please contact Smekens Education for availability. When space is available, you may register on site for an additional fee of \$20.

Continuing Education Credit

With prior approval from the attendee's school district, participants may receive credit for 10 hours of professional development for attending this two-day workshop. Attendees receive a Certificate of Completion, which can be used to verify attendance. More information about how this workshop fulfills your state's unique continuing education requirements can be found on our website at www.SmekensEducation.com/credit.html.

Illinois-Specific Credit

As an approved professional development subcontractor, Smekens Education is happy to provide all Illinois teachers with state-approved professional development credit for attending this workshop in Illinois.

Graduate Credit

Thanks to a partnership with the Midwest Teachers Institute, attendees may elect to pursue three university-level graduate credits after attending both days of this workshop. These are non-degree credits designed for professional certification renewals and salary step increases. (Check with your district or employers to determine their policies for pay increases.) Registration details will be shared during the workshop. The cost of graduate credit is \$300 and is separate from the cost of attending a workshop.



On-site bookstore

Teachers always look forward to browsing the wide selection of professional books, picture books, and other resources available for purchase during the workshop.



Cash, check, credit, debit, and purchase orders are all acceptable forms of payment.

For an advance peek at the book selection, visit www.TheLiteracyStore.com. During the workshop, attendees will enjoy a 15% discount on all titles available both on site and online.

