

compcon

A COMPREHENSION CONFERENCE FOR K-12 EDUCATORS

>> TWO DAYS THIS SUMMER <<

ATTEND VIRTUALLY OR IN PERSON

TRANSFORM

THE WAY YOU TEACH

**READING
COMPREHENSION**

REGISTER TODAY: www.SmekensEducation.com | (888) 376-0448



FEATURING:
KRISTINA SMEKENS
*Author, The Comprehension
Playbook*



DAY 1

Teach whole-class comprehension skills with explicit instruction

Kristina Smekens will kick off CompCON by highlighting the similarities between teaching reading and coaching an athletic team. Just as an athletic coach breaks down a new play, classroom teachers must provide explicit, whole-class comprehension instruction. Taking on the attitude of a comprehension “coach,” the teacher begins to equip students with a lifelong playbook of reading skills.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOCUS:

Armed with this big-picture understanding, the primary focus of the first morning will be to learn the process for planning and teaching a single comprehension skill across an entire week.

During the first day, Kristina Smekens will:

- ✓ Identify a set of comprehension skills from retelling to synthesizing that honors college and career-ready standards, grade-level expectations, and best-practice instruction.
- ✓ Detail the explicit instructional points that must be told, taught, and modeled for every week’s comprehension skill.
- ✓ Model how to use *The Playbook* to craft a week-long series of comprehension mini-lessons that honor the gradual release of responsibility (i.e., *I do, We do, You do*).
- ✓ Explain the process for selecting text excerpts to maximize teaching time in every whole-class comprehension lesson.



COLLABORATION & GUIDED WORK TIME

During guided work time, you’ll zero-in on your grade-specific list of yearlong comprehension skills. Then you’ll learn how to drill down the order of instructional points to roll out each day of the mini-lesson series. While working independently or with a group, you will have access to Kristina and her team to ask questions, seek feedback, and troubleshoot concerns.

LEARN

- ✓ Classroom-tested tips and tricks to **simplify instruction** and focus on priorities.
- ✓ **Best-practice techniques** to improve achievement in reading and writing.
- ✓ Practical strategies for leading **dynamic and engaging** comprehension mini-lessons.

PLAN

- ✓ **Time to review your standards** and plan for yearlong instruction.
- ✓ **Time to collaborate** with colleagues and other educators.
- ✓ **Lifetime access to digital resources** such as Google Docs, videos, blackline masters, and more.

REJUVENATE

- ✓ **Fun and relevant** professional development that every educator deserves.
- ✓ A motivating atmosphere to **revive your passion** for teaching.
- ✓ A timely event to help you start next school year ready to teach comprehension with confidence.



DAY 2

Map out a year of skills, texts, and writing

Knowing *which* comprehension skills to teach and *how* to teach them is the first step. The next hurdle is to determine *when* to teach these priority skills. The second day of CompCON will reveal how to target new whole-class, grade-level comprehension skills each week while offering differentiated practice for those skills previously learned.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOCUS:

Day two of CompCON examines the grade-level comprehension skills taught across the year— whether you follow the provided scope and sequence or a district-required one.

You'll learn how to:

- ✓ Launch the first weeks of whole-class comprehension lessons from *The Comprehension Playbook* while growing reader stamina and establishing independent routines.
- ✓ Analyze your daily schedule to fit “everything” into the reading block/reader’s workshop.
- ✓ Spiral yearlong comprehension instruction to gradually release from *I-do* lessons to *You-do* assignments and assessments.
- ✓ Weave into the reading block a weekly write-about-reading lesson that supports the broader writer’s workshop and prepares students for standardized test expectations.

“

“So excited to have tools in our hands to dig in and teach the critical comprehension skills right from the get-go along with the pacing guide as well!”

Nicole Horner

Teacher, Concord Intermediate School, Elkhart, IN

“As a first-year teacher, CompCON will have a huge impact on my instruction. It is an additional, highly organized tool in my teaching toolbox.”

David Benson

Teacher, St. John the Baptist School, Fort Wayne, IN

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COLLABORATION & GUIDED WORK TIME

With this deeper understanding, you'll utilize guided work time to study a suggested scope and sequence to then determine how you might revise it to fit your unique district needs. In addition, you'll identify beginning-of-the-year mentor texts to return to for specific lessons later in the year. During this focused collaboration time, Kristina and her team will again be available to answer questions, provide feedback, and troubleshoot concerns.



“Kristina is
**engaging,
motivating,
and
reassuring.**”

David Pyle
Teacher, Park Elementary School,
Fairmount, IN

[PRESENTER: KRISTINA SMEKENS]

“Kristina Smekens anticipates every question, understands how students learn, and thinks of every single move teachers will need...”

Amy Moystner
Teacher, Deerfield Elementary School, Ridgeville, IN

A celebrated educator, author, and literacy consultant, Kristina Smekens has built a reputation for using enthusiasm, humor, and common sense to equip K-12 educators with simple and effective strategies for teaching reading and writing.

Author of *The Comprehension Playbook*, Kristina is constantly developing new strategies to help teachers meet the demands of today's College and Career-Ready Standards. She shares those strategies with teachers across the United States and beyond through on-site professional development, seminars, and an always-growing pool of print, digital, and video resources.

Kristina has a gift for making the complex seem simple—for showing teachers how to meet the needs of readers and writers by bridging the gap between education research and classroom-tested strategies that work.

*“I will stop **doing** reading and start **teaching** reading. You have provided so much support; the Playbook is comprehensive and online resources are amazing. I look forward to seeing the transformation in myself and my students.”*

Mafalda Wu
Teacher, Dominican International School Taipei, Taipei, Taiwan

“Well, finally I can teach reading comprehension. The search has been long and hard—I've been teaching for 15 years. Thank you, Kristina and team, for teasing these lessons out.”

Mike Kosty
Teacher, St. Teresa of Calcutta Catholic Elementary School, Windsor, ON

*“As a district director of curriculum and instruction, I am excited to work with teachers in moving from **doing** to **teaching** reading!”*

Laura Hunt
Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Whitney Independent School District, Whitney, TX

“I love all the excitement and energy for CompCON! As a secondary English teacher, I also appreciated Kristina addressing all grade levels during each session. It makes teachers truly feel revived and ready to begin looking at the next school year without taking away our time to recharge during the summer.”

Nicole Purlee
Teacher, Salem High School, Salem, IN

*“This conference has completely transformed how I view reading instruction. I realized that I have been **DOING** reading and expecting my students to **DO** things that I never showed them **HOW** to do. I feel so much more equipped to **TEACH** reading this year!”*

Elizabeth Prichard
Teacher, St. Paul Lutheran School, Grafton, WI

“[CompCON] prepared me to better support teachers and students. In addition to learning more, we also strengthened relationships, made new memories, and we are motivated to put what we have learned into action.”

Krystal Morrow
Assistant Principal, Christian Academy of Louisville English Station Campus, Louisville, KY

Kit & prizes valued at over **\$140!**

WHAT YOU WILL GET



- Practical and engaging professional development.
- Ready-to-use print and digital resources, including the CompCON kit.

Every kit includes:

- *The Comprehension Playbook* for your specific grade.
- The CompCON Workbook.
- A set of *Comprehension Voice* signs.
- A set of *Think Aloud* cards.
- A “Why-Light” pen-highlighter combo.



THE COMPREHENSION PLAYBOOK

Just as an athletic coach operates from a tried-and-true book of plays, teachers need their own playbook for leading successful whole-class reading comprehension instruction. Supporting a full year of lesson concepts, *The Comprehension Playbook* provides easy-to-follow guidance on how to teach the essential comprehension skills for your grade range.



THE PLAYBOOK INCLUDES LIFETIME ACCESS TO DIGITAL RESOURCES:

- Grade-specific video guidance.
- Resources to help you implement each comprehension “play.”
- Related articles and videos to deepen your understanding.
- Customizable road maps for teaching reading comprehension.
- Ready-to-use Google Docs, PDFs, JPEGs, and more.

INCLUDED WITH YOUR REGISTRATION



IN-PERSON EVENT

- ✓ **CompCON Kit** containing everything you need for two days of fun & learning.
- ✓ Personalized **support from Kristina and her team** during the afternoon guided work sessions.
- ✓ Delicious **breakfast, lunch, and snacks**.
- ✓ High-energy atmosphere and **special surprises**.
- ✓ Fun **evening entertainment** at each venue.
- ✓ The opportunity to collaborate with other educators while you get away from the hustle and bustle and **revive your passion for teaching**.
- ✓ Time to browse the bookstore of **hand-selected books and resources** to support your reading comprehension lessons.
- ✓ A **completion certificate** reflecting 11 hours of professional development.
- ✓ Lifetime access to the **CompCON "Secret Site."**



VIRTUAL EVENT

- ✓ **CompCON Kit** shipped to you containing everything you need for two days of fun & learning, including **special surprises**.
- ✓ The **opportunity to engage** with Kristina and other attendees using the **live chat**.
- ✓ Personalized **support from Kristina and her team** during the guided work sessions.
- ✓ On-demand **access to the recordings** of every CompCON session through June 1, 2024.
- ✓ A **completion certificate** reflecting up to 11 hours of professional development, depending on participation.
- ✓ Lifetime access to the **CompCON "Secret Site."**



RELAX & REJUVENATE *at one of these in-person destinations*



JUNE 27-28 SESSION:

SHIPSHEWANA, IN

BLUE GATE PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

LODGING:

BLUE GATE GARDEN INN

Monday & Tuesday nights

1 King, 1 Queen: \$130.98/night

Mini-Suite: \$130.98/night

Royal Suite: \$165.98/night

State and local taxes are additional.

Published rates valid until May 26, 2023.

TO RESERVE YOUR ROOM:

Call (888) 545-4725 and mention Smekens Education.



JULY 11-12 SESSION:

FRENCH LICK, IN

FRENCH LICK SPRINGS HOTEL

LODGING:

FRENCH LICK SPRINGS HOTEL

Monday & Tuesday nights

Traditional Guest Room: \$175/night

(Single or Double Occupancy)

State and local taxes are additional.

Published rates valid until June 9, 2023.

TO RESERVE YOUR ROOM:

Call (888) 936-9360 and mention Smekens Education.

TO RESERVE YOUR ROOM ONLINE:

Visit <https://www.smekenseducation.com/hotels/> for direct links & discount codes.

Select the appropriate location:

IN-PERSON

- Shipshewana, IN**
JUNE 27-28, 2023
- French Lick, IN**
JULY 11-12, 2023

ONLINE

Virtual Conference

- JUNE 20-21, 2023
- JULY 18-19, 2023

Attendee name: _____

Title: _____ Grade(s) taught: _____

Home / cell phone: _____

Email address: _____

SCHOOL INFO

School building assignment: _____

School building address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____



IN-PERSON ONLY

T-shirt size: (100% cotton) Small Medium Large X-Large 2XL 3XL 4XL

Dietary restrictions: (Please list.) _____

Do you plan to secure overnight accommodations at the conference hotel? YES NO
(Don't forget to make your reservations early! Lodging is not included in conference registration.)



VIRTUAL ONLY

Where should we ship your materials? Home address School address

Street address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

NOTE: Kits will be shipped in June & July. If shipping to a school address, make sure your building will be open for summer deliveries.

REGISTRATION FEE

IN-PERSON

Early Bird Registration - \$599
(Received by April 1, 2023)

Standard Registration - \$649
(Received after April 1, 2023)

VIRTUAL

Early Bird Registration - \$379
(Received by April 1, 2023)

Standard Registration - \$409
(Received after April 1, 2023)

OPTIONAL ADD-ONS

On-site bookstore voucher \$25 \$50 \$100 Other \$_____

Subscription to Playbook Pro (\$375 per person, per year)

PAYMENT

Check made payable to Smekens Education Solutions, Inc.

Purchase Order attached (#_____)

Charge to: Visa Mastercard Discover

Card Number

Expiration Date

Authorized signature: **X** _____

Cardholder's name (please print): _____

TOTAL
Amount Due:

REGISTER EARLY

Save up to \$50 by registering early! The deadline for the Early Bird discount is April 1, 2023.



BRING A TEAM

When you register a team of 10 or more, take 10% off the current registration fee. Contact our office to make arrangements for team registration.

Cancellations & Substitutions

Cancellations can occur up to 10 days prior to the workshop. In such cases, a refund, minus up to 5% transaction fees, will be available. Cancellations occurring less than 10 days prior to the in-person workshop do not qualify for any refund. Substitutions may occur at any time.

Four ways to register

ONLINE:

www.SmekensEducation.com

PHONE:

(888) 376-0448

FAX:

(888) 376-0489

MAIL:

Smekens Education
P.O. Box 332
Warren, IN 46792



IN-PERSON

SHIPSHEWANA, IN

June 27-28, 2023

FRENCH LICK, IN

July 11-12, 2023

ONLINE

VIRTUAL-INTERACTIVE

June 20-21, 2023

VIRTUAL-INTERACTIVE

July 18-19, 2023

EARN 11 HOURS!

Continuing Education

CompCON attendees will receive a completion certificate at the conclusion of the event as evidence of participation in up to 11 hours of professional development.

EARN UP TO 4 CREDITS!

Graduate-Level Credit

For an additional fee of \$62 per credit/unit, CompCON attendees are eligible to pursue 1-4 graduate-level university semester credit units from the University of the Pacific, Center for Professional Development and Continuing Education. Please check with your district to determine course acceptability. Visit the CompCON website for additional details.

ATTEND ONLINE

Virtual Conference Option



Educators who select the "Virtual & Interactive" option may participate live and online from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. EDT on June 20-21 or July 18-19, 2023. All virtual attendees will enjoy on-demand access to the video recordings until June 1, 2024.



Who attends CompCON?

K-6 General Ed Teachers

Literacy Coaches & Coords.

ELL Teachers

High-Ability Teachers

K-12 Special Education Teachers

6-12 Language Arts Teachers

Title I Teachers

Principals & Assistant Principals

WHO BENEFITS THE MOST?
English/Language Arts Teachers
from grades K-12!