



The TEACHER CENTER of Broome County
Teacher Study Group Grant Award
Summer 2006
FINAL REPORT
DOCUMENT PROCESSES AND OUTCOMES

STUDY GROUP TOPIC: Five Essentials of Reading Instruction and ESL/Struggling Readers in the Classroom

List of group members: Wendy Matzen, Heather Mapstone, Patricia Mangan, and Michele Rozen

The final report must be word-processed and submitted both in print and on disk using this form. Include information under each of the following headings.

The Teacher Center of Broome County is requesting that two members of each study group funded as of July 2006 share the information gained through their study with other consortium members by presenting a workshop during the 2006 - 2007 school year. Please indicate on your final report who we should contact to make arrangements for your presentation.

Name	School/District
Wendy Matzen	Wilson/Binghamton
Heather Mapstone	Wilson/Binghamton

Describe the initial goal of the group noting any adjustments that had to be made as time passed.

The goal of our summer study group was to read, review, and discuss a variety of books that have been written about strategies to use with ESL/Struggling readers. We focused our attention on the 5 Essentials of Reading Instruction, as we have recently become a Reading First school.

The only adjustment that we had to make was in condensing our sessions, as we were awarded 10 hours each.

Describe the ACTION PLAN that the group followed.

We met for five days, in five sessions, During each session, we chose to focus on one of each of the five essentials for instruction—

Day 1-Phonics

Day 2-Phonemic Awareness

Day 3-Vocabulary

Day 4-Fluency

Day 5-Comprehension

We each brought a large variety of materials with us to each meeting to share with the group.

Describe how the action plan was implemented.

During each session, we read books that were related to these essentials. We created a special note-taking sheet which we have enclosed with this report. After taking the notes, we would discuss things that we did in our classrooms as well as materials that we could use to help students in these areas of literacy instruction.

Evaluation of the impact of the study group effort on teacher/student performance.

- How has this study group changed you as a teacher? Do you anticipate that any of your teaching practices will have changed?

This study group has really helped to bring us together as teachers. During the regular school year, we rarely have the chance to rally take the time to meet as professionals and discuss what we are doing in our classrooms as well as what we **would like** to be doing in our classrooms. Our teaching will definitely be enhanced by this experience as we are all taking copies of the resources that we were able to accumulate as a group.

- What evidence do you **expect** to see of student achievement improving as a result of your participating in this study group?

We should see evidence of student achievement in all areas as literacy is really the basis for all instruction. By teaching some of the strategies that we have discussed in this group to our students, especially our struggling and ESL students, we will be better able to help to meet their special needs in our classrooms.

- What evidence is there that the goals of the study group has/has not been met?

The evidence that we are providing with this report shows that our goals have been met. We have enclosed the names of the books that we studied, the notes that we took, our study group logs, and copies of some of the resources that we came up with for each of the five areas. We also have opened up the avenue for future discussion on literacy in our classrooms.

Comment on the value of the study group process? Did it work for you?

Yes! We all really got a lot out of this process. We all now have a vast assortment of resources and materials for our own individual classrooms this year. We plan on continuing this process throughout the school year, as well as passing the word on to other teachers in our building!

How can we make this study group program better?

Our group would have liked to have had the amount of hours that we originally wrote the grant for---20 hour each---rather than what we were given---10 hours each. We really had to condense our discussions as a result of this.