

**Bolstering Academic Language and Reading Comprehension
Using High-Interest Nonfiction
Grades 4-12**

Description:

This two-day workshop will equip grades 4-12 English Language Arts, ELD teachers and Social Studies teachers with strategies and resources for teaching academic language and literacy using high-interest nonfiction reading selections. The revised *2007 Reading/Language Arts Framework for California Public Schools* strongly emphasizes explicit instruction in high-leverage academic vocabulary and a more dynamic and consistent focus on informational texts. Students in grades 4-12 need to move beyond a steady diet of narrative reading selections in order to build their nonfiction reading skills and acquire the academic language critical for reading and communicating across the subject areas. Moreover, a high percentage of the CAHSEE and CST test items directly address nonfiction reading competencies that are not effectively developed by occasional forays into informational text.

Target Audience:

- Grades 4-12 English or Intermediate - Advanced ELD teachers, Social Studies teachers, and administrators

Using high-interest nonfiction reading selections, teachers will learn effective ways to:

- Explicitly teach and reinforce high-utility academic words in multiple contexts
- Engage all students in structured, accountable academic discussions
- Accelerate language development for striving readers and Intermediate English Learners
- Enhance student reading comprehension and academic writing
- Assess academic vocabulary knowledge more productively and meaningfully
- Develop an effective unit plan using nonfiction texts
- Pace instruction to ensure success for less proficient students
- Integrate brief, mediated academic writing tasks

In addition to the training materials, participants will receive a starter pack of “ready-to-use” classroom-tested instructional units, and a CD with video clips of target workshop strategies, adaptable resources and planning tools.

Presenter: Dr. Kate Kinsella, Teacher Educator & School Consultant

Dates: Wednesday, October 21, 2009 and Thursday, October 22, 2009

Time: 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Location: Santa Clara County Office of Education
1290 Ridder Park Dr, San Jose, CA 95131

Registration: <http://santaclara.k12oms.org/eventdetail.php?gid=200&id=24289>

Fee: \$355.00 (includes breakfast, lunch and materials)

* No refund if withdrawal is made after October 16, 2009

Registration Deadline: Wednesday, October 7, 2009

