

engchat.

Anyone here?

Denise DiGiovanni at 00:15 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Hi, Denise, I am here!

@mrami2 at 00:15 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Hi y'all! #engchat

Teresa at 00:15 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

I'm here too.

mardieteach at 00:15 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Here for #engchat

Glenda at 00:16 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Hi all, is everyone coming?

ms\_norris at 00:16 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Here, too.

StaceyCKerr at 00:16 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

I think we are missing our hosts

@mrami2 at 00:16 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Someone send them @ with this url, I think they are not seeing my tweets - TIA

@mrami2 at 00:17 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Tweetgrid is working fine for me now!

thereadingzone at 00:17 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

I am here. #engchat

donalynbooks at 00:17 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

I don't know if my last one posted.  
@yaloveblog is here :)

I almost missed, but I'm here :) at 00:17 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Can someone give a brief overview of

Reading Workshop? :)

tkraz (Tom) at 00:17 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Well can we chat a bit while we wait...what grade does everyone teach?

ms\_norris at 00:18 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Reading workshop is a instructional design that follows a predictable structure. #engchat

donalynbooks at 00:18 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Thank you for being flexible, twitter let us down tonight.

@mrami2 at 00:18 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

I teach 9th-12th grade .

Teresa at 00:18 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Tom, My reading workshop is crafting, composing, and reflecting.

Denise DiGiovanni at 00:18 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

an instructional design:(

donalynbooks at 00:18 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

I'm teaching mostly 9th grade, but some 11th & 12th too (electives)

@yaloveblog at 00:19 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Reading workshop is a way of teaching- lots of books, read alouds, mini-lessons, ind. reading, conferring

thereadingzone at 00:19 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

If you want more info on reading workshop, definitely read up on Nancie Atwell

thereadingzone at 00:19 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

For me, reading workshop is an attitude that student choice is important.

Teresa at 00:19 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

This year 12th grade. I also teach speech, three sections this tri, which started today.

Glenda at 00:19 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

I would say reading workshop centers on the student and his/her self-selected book.

ms\_norris at 00:19 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Reading workshop negotiates students' personal literacy goals w/ our instructional goals. #engchat

donalynbooks at 00:19 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

There are some good videos out there that demonstrate workshop, too.

Denise DiGiovanni at 00:20 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

I teach 9th and 10th.

tkraz (Tom) at 00:20 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

I'd really like to use reading workshop, but I don't know how to start it. Though I may have done version w/o knowing it :)

@yaloveblog at 00:20 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@Edu\_Traveler @joannedegroot  
#engchat moved here: <http://tinyurl.com/2d9mmz4>

@cybraryman1 at 00:20 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via [twitter](#)

Students select their own writing topics and books most of the time when in a workshop classroom. #engchat

donalynbooks at 00:20 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Denise, I'd love some video links

ms\_norris at 00:20 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Any people to look up/read who use reading workshop in AP Lit?

Betsy at 00:20 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Teresa, I love that!

Denise DiGiovanni at 00:20 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Teresa, I love that!

Denise DiGiovanni at 00:20 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@frankisibberson #engchat moved here:  
<http://tinyurl.com/2d9mmz4>

@cybraryman1 at 00:20 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via [twitter](#)

Interesting info about students forming own lit crit theory in Doing Literary Criticism. I see possib. for rdg wkshp.

Glenda at 00:20 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

A great primer with loads of resources for reading and writing workshop is Teaching That Makes Sense:  
<http://www.ttms.org/> #engchat

donalynbooks at 00:21 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@yaloveblog I for one had no idea what I was doing when I started reading workshop this year and I am still thrilled with the results.

ms\_norris at 00:21 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Wow, Betsy. Never ever occurred to me to do RW with my honors class...

StaceyCKerr at 00:21 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

When they choose their own reading/writing, do they work in groups based on similar topics and choices?

@yaloveblog at 00:21 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Okay. I am here. Let me catch up.

Paul W. Hankind at 00:21 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@thereadingzone - which specific book by Atwell

@mrami2 at 00:21 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@thereadingzone What program or online site did they use for their book trailers? #engchat #engchat

@ReadingThruNite at 00:22 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via [twitter](#)

RT @frankisibberson: RT @donalynbooks Reading workshop negotiates students' personal literacy goals w/ our instructional goals. #engchat

@ddigiova at 00:22 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via [twitter](#)

@ReadingThruNite #engchat moved here: <http://tinyurl.com/2d9mmz4>

@cybraryman1 at 00:22 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via [twitter](#)

RT @mbfxc: The Dyslexic Professor: Be More Like Mr. Falker : <http://wp.me/p1nDO2-1X> #edchat #engchat

#midleved

@3nmeinob at 00:22 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via [twitter](#)

In the Middle by Nancie Atwell is a good first read. #engchat

donalynbooks at 00:22 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Yay - Paul made it too - thanks for your flexibility - you too, Donalyn

@mrami2 at 00:22 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

My co-teacher and I believe the best thing we've instituted is daily independent reading... but having hard time moving from there.

StaceyCKerr at 00:22 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

The Reading Zone by Atwell is a good one.

Denise DiGiovanni at 00:22 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

I like Atwell's original IN THE MIDDLE but her new edition is good too.

franki at 00:22 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Thanks Jerry for showing me the way back to #engchat

Edu\_Traveler at 00:22 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Reading Atwell right now

@mrami2 at 00:22 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@ReadingThruNite They all used different ones- imovie, windows movie maker, animoto, etc #engchat

@thereadingzone at 00:22 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via [twitter](#)

RT @donalynbooks: I choose comp.

strategies, literary elements, or genres as the focus of unit. Students select their own books. #engchat

@palmeram at 00:23 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via [twitter](#)

@thereadingzone #engchat moved here:  
<http://tinyurl.com/2d9mmz4>

@cybraryman1 at 00:23 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via [twitter](#)

Readicide was mentioned but I'll say it again - it is a must read for anyone who cares about reading & students.

@mrami2 at 00:23 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

I really love the letter-essays in Reading Zone.

ms\_norris at 00:23 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@palmeram #engchat moved here:  
<http://tinyurl.com/2d9mmz4>

@cybraryman1 at 00:23 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via [twitter](#)

My students love independent reading, but I don't know where to take it from there all the time.

@yaloveblog at 00:23 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Yes, yes, yes to Readicide!

StaceyCKerr at 00:23 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

RT @RdngTeach: @donalynbooks  
@PaulWHankins JOIN US! RT @mrami2:  
#engchat is moving here b/c twitter isn't  
working: <http://bit.ly/gNhXXJ>

@gmfunk at 00:23 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via [twitter](#)

Does anyone use reading ladders to push

their students towards more challenging books?

StaceyCKerr at 00:24 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

I have some independent reading projects I've used w/success. And my YA class is mostly ind. reading too w/a trimester project they choose.

@yaloveblog at 00:24 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

I agree with @yaloveblog. We do lots of independent reading, but I struggle with where to go with it.

Robin Simmons at 00:24 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Readicide is BRILLIANT. :)

CBethM at 00:24 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Ashamed to admit but haven't read  
\_Reading Ladders\_

@mrami2 at 00:24 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Ashamed to admit but haven't read  
\_Reading Ladders\_

@mrami2 at 00:25 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Ashamed to admit but haven't read  
Reading Ladders

@mrami2 at 00:25 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Ashamed to admit but haven't read  
Reading Ladders

@mrami2 at 00:25 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Upper level tchrs, check out Penny Kittle's amazing craft analysis project. Just used with my 9th graders during



workshop and it's awesome

thereadingzone at 00:25 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Ashamed to admit but haven't read  
Reading Ladders

@mrami2 at 00:25 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@StaceyCKerr I know of books that ladder w/others, but w/trimesters it's hard to get them through enough books to ladder them.

@yaloveblog at 00:25 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@StaceyCKerr I know of books that ladder w/others, but w/trimesters it's hard to get them through enough books to ladder them.

@yaloveblog at 00:25 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

I love this video!

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cgN2WUMW6zM>

Denise DiGiovanni at 00:25 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

I used letter-essays with my 6th graders and it was amazing- great place to go with ind. rding

thereadingzone at 00:25 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@StaceyCKerr I use reading ladders, but in a less organized/structured way. Ask students what they've read recently & liked...go from there.

CBethM at 00:25 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

My students do a lot of quote analysis; I

don't know if that is "right" but it helps me evaluate

ms\_norris at 00:25 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@mrami2 I haven't read it either but it's on my TBR list.

mardieteach at 00:25 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@thereadingzone- where can I learn more about craft analysis project a la Kittle

@mrami2 at 00:26 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

re: Kittle's craft analysis- it's on the English Companion Ning

thereadingzone at 00:26 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Honestly, you can teach the same units you always have-- just reposition the end goal towards students' choices. #engchat

donalynbooks at 00:26 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Our curriculum isn't designed to allow reading workshop, but I'd love to find a way to manipulate that.

@yaloveblog at 00:26 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@mrami2 Penny posted it on the Ning during the last webstite. It's fantastic

thereadingzone at 00:26 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Some mini-lessons have instant relevance to ind reading (strategy instruction). 1/2

mardieteach at 00:27 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@donalynbooks Do you have to align what you're doing in your classroom

w/what other teachers in your grade levels are doing? We have to.

@yaloveblog at 00:27 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

I have used Wilhelm's book, Fresh Take on Literary Elements a lot this year. You could take many of your minilessons from it. #engchat

donalynbooks at 00:27 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@TheReadingZone: where can I find the craft analysis project?

StaceyCKerr at 00:27 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@yaloveblog what do you think won't work in workshop? Do you have to teach certain texts?

ms\_norris at 00:27 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@yaloveblog I manipulate mine. And did the same in 6th grade. 6th grade I did pure RW. Now, a hybrid while I find my place. Do what you can

thereadingzone at 00:27 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

I've used the craft analysis project Penny posted. It is good.

Glenda at 00:27 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cgN2WUMW6zM>

Denise DiGiovanni at 00:27 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

I set aside a day a week for students to read indpdt. Any suggestions on accountability? Don't want book

reports.... #engchat

@ReadingThruNite at 00:27 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via [twitter](#)

@donalynbooks How do you make instr. in lit device immediately relevant to ind reading?

mardieteach at 00:27 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Sorry, trying to link something but not working.

Denise DiGiovanni at 00:27 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@donalynbooks We have to meet to design common weekly lesson plans & give the same tests/major assessments. I admit to straying though...

@yaloveblog at 00:28 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@yaloveblog I had required texts and used them as read alouds.

thereadingzone at 00:28 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@donalynbooks That book's within arms reach of me right now. May have to peruse at 8 pm-ish :)

tkraz (Tom) at 00:28 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@yaloveblog We have a district curriculum scope and sequence, but teachers may decide how to teach the curriculum. #engchat

donalynbooks at 00:28 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@TheReadingZone: where can I find the craft analysis project?

@mrmi2 at 00:28 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@yaloveblog Now, I use my required texts (Shakespeare, etc), but also ladder off them for ind. reading

thereadingzone at 00:28 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Link to Penny Kittle's Craft Analysis work on ECNing: <http://bit.ly/hOCOBB>

CBethM at 00:28 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@mardieteach I'm not sure I understand your question. #engchat

donalynbooks at 00:29 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

I just sent my apologies to Donalyn. Hard to follow the thread from here.

Paul W. Hankins at 00:29 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

<http://tinyurl.com/4uzhk7k> Does this one work?

Denise DiGiovanni at 00:30 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@Denise Here's the shortened version of the link you're trying to post: <http://bit.ly/epbi1X>

CBethM at 00:30 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@paul @donalyn - this isn't ideal but thanks for joining us here

@mrami2 at 00:30 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Thanks CBethM!

Denise DiGiovanni at 00:30 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@ReadingThruNite #engchat is moving here b/c twitter isn't working: <http://bit.ly/gNhXXJ> #engchat

@tkraz at 00:30 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via [twitter](#)

@mardieteach I use our read aloud book to teach lit devices & terms even though our curriculum focuses on one book taught.

@yaloveblog at 00:30 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@theswish That's awesome! Love to see more of that kind of collaboration. Next week we will be having joint chat with #engchat #sschat

@Ron\_Peck at 00:30 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via [twitter](#)

Joint #engchat and #sschat...Oh boy, oh boy! I can't miss that!

@TheSwish at 00:31 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via [twitter](#)

I use our literature book or short texts to model/practice concepts. Students take back to ind. reading when possible.  
#engchat

donalynbooks at 00:31 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

We practice lit devices on fairy tales and fables then they apply to their books.

ms\_norris at 00:31 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@mardieteach For ex, I just finished reading Speak aloud to my freshmen & used it to teach lit devices instead of strictly using class text

@yaloveblog at 00:31 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Thanks for the new link...but it is still slow. #engchat

@readingthruthenight at 00:32 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@ms\_norris I like the idea of using fairy tales and fables.

@yaloveblog at 00:32 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@readingthrunite Letter essays (Atwell) are fantastic

thereadingzone at 00:32 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@yaloveblog @donalynbooks I guess students can practice the skill immediately but may not come across 'symbol' or 'metaphor' immed.

mardieteach at 00:33 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@yaloveblog Fables rock for simple setting, character, theme; and everyone loves bloody Grimm's tales. :)

ms\_norris at 00:33 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

The AFI has a filmmaking curriculum available on Discovery Streaming called "Lights, Camera, Education." Used for book trailers.

donalynbooks at 00:33 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

When I did the "Ramp Up" curriculum in NYC, we did a Read-Aloud text to model, then strategy lessons that students applied to their IR books

StaceyCKerr at 00:33 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

I'd love to choose a theme, lit strategy, etc. to design a workshop on independent reading, but we must all have a "similar experience"

@yaloveblog at 00:33 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

But the similar experience ends up having to be "the same experience"

@yaloveblog at 00:34 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@yaloveblog--what if you get everyone on board with the reading workshop experience?

StaceyCKerr at 00:34 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@donalynbooks Can you talk more about your genre requirements and how you've built your library around them?

ms\_norris at 00:34 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@mardieteach Sometimes, I will ask all students to select a specific genre to read during a unit. Particularly poetry or NF.

donalynbooks at 00:35 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@yaloveblog Can you just focus on the ind. rdg aspect? That's something you can do ind. of other teachers.

thereadingzone at 00:35 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@mardieteach I think figuring out symbols takes lots of practice anyway & some books don't provide strong examples.

@yaloveblog at 00:35 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@donalynbooks: do you req. a certain # of texts per semester/year?

StaceyCKerr at 00:35 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@donalynbooks I would also like to know



how you organize your year. Genre studies or anchor texts?

Denise DiGiovanni at 00:35 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@ms\_norris I expect students to read 40 books a year in various genres.

donalynbooks at 00:35 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@donalynbooks OK. That makes sense when you're trying to teach a specific device.

mardieteach at 00:36 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

My workshop this yr isn't "pure" as I am still finding my place at my new job. But ind. rding is my focus this yr.

thereadingzone at 00:36 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

I organize my year around genres, not anchor texts.

donalynbooks at 00:36 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@thereadingzone What do you mean can I just focus on the ind. reading?

@yaloveblog at 00:36 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@mardieteach I use film clips to teach many literary concepts and terms. The visual helps them identify.

tkraz (Tom) at 00:36 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@donalyn - could you say more about organizing around genres

@mrami2 at 00:37 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Tom, can you give us an example?

Denise DiGiovanni at 00:37 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@yaloveblog We have a common curriculum of sorts, but I am free to booktalk, do outside reading requirements as I wish. ;)

thereadingzone at 00:37 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

I often use the first chapter of a book to show a literary element.

donalynbooks at 00:37 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

My classroom library, such as it grows organically, just lacks certain genres like poetry and nonfiction especially

ms\_norris at 00:38 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Cartoons (classic Bugs Bunny, etc.) work great for irony, for example.

tkraz (Tom) at 00:38 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@yaloveblog So I booktalk all the time, challenge kids to 40 book challenge, have all kids on goodreads, do letter essays

thereadingzone at 00:38 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@Donalynbooks Do you teach comprehension strategies along with genre?

Denise DiGiovanni at 00:38 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

I look at state standards to identify the genres I must teach, then I add any that I want to teach.

donalynbooks at 00:39 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Love the film idea-never thought of Bugs Bunny/cartoons:-)

franki at 00:39 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@yaloveblog But this yr I don't have a lot of the rest of reading wkshp :(

thereadingzone at 00:39 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@donalynbooks How do you do assessments in wrkshp?

Robin Simmons at 00:39 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

I began collecting them here:  
<http://visuallitterms.pbworks.com>

tkraz (Tom) at 00:39 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

any of you use your public library to supplement collection?

dianajw at 00:39 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Sorry my page froze

@yaloveblog at 00:40 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

I teach comprehension strategies, too. I use Mosaic of Thought/ Strategies That Work as guides in this regard. #engchat

donalynbooks at 00:40 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

I spend some years purchasing a genre I am missing for my library. Took 2 years to build a good poetry collection. I look for gaps.

franki at 00:40 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Awesome, Tom. Thanks for sharing. Can't wait to explore!

Denise DiGiovanni at 00:40 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

doing a reading xross curr for staff weds. nervous. anything i should make sure I hit on???

Suzanne at 00:40 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@Denise Not that I'm as good as @donalynbooks ,but I teach comp strat through mini lssns, have kids respond to ind rdng using strat

Teresa at 00:40 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Assessment: student notebooks, ind. practice of skills/strategies taught in class, response projects, genre study work

donalynbooks at 00:40 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@franki Do you find the students drawn to poetry?

tkraz (Tom) at 00:40 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Teresa, thank you! I didn't mean to leave you out! I'm just a Donalyn groupie.

Denise DiGiovanni at 00:41 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Great resource thanks Tom

@mrami2 at 00:41 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Our biggest problem in my building is that no one provides books in their room or stays current. So they won't use SSR & consider ind. rdg

@yaloveblog at 00:41 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@Suzanne Be sure to stress to staff that we read dif contnt in dif ways. They r experts who can model that in their content

Teresa at 00:41 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

I agree that our class library needs more poetry and good NF. Visit the school library often for these!

donalynbooks at 00:41 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@Denise I'm a Donalyn groupie, too! :) No offense. Just didn't want to be rude and jump in ? you asked someone else.

Teresa at 00:42 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@donalynbooks love Mosaic and STW

mardieteach at 00:42 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Teresa - thanks - Modeling is huge;too many assign text/Q's w/out modeling.

Suzanne at 00:42 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

I have some good poetry in my room - some of it disappears though...plenty of NF + lots of magazines.

CBethM at 00:42 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

I'm really interested in using Interactive Notebooks. Has anyone used them?

@readingthruthenight at 00:42 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@donalynbooks can you talk more about how you do independent practice? are students searching for examples in their books after a minilsn?

Robin Simmons at 00:42 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Status of the class (Atwell) was 1 of the biggest Aha's 4 mr when I started RW. Can catch stud. rdg patterns/concerns quickly!

@cb6luvs2read at 00:43 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@Suzanne: at a Tovani wkshp, she said "content teachers need to understand that I'm teaching students to read--how to read MY content."

StaceyCKerr at 00:43 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

I need more poetry & NF in my class library. I'm building GNs right now (along w/everything else!) :)

@yaloveblog at 00:43 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

We're trying to convince our teachers to try workshop. They always ask about grades. Any ideas?

Denise DiGiovanni at 00:43 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

We don't have the same kids all year w/trimesters so 40 book challenge would be difficult, but I could modify it.

@yaloveblog at 00:44 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Sometimes, students apply what they learn during minilessons directly to their independent books.

donalynbooks at 00:44 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

I found that Atwell's Status of Class also gives sense of community and begins conversations between students.

franki at 00:44 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Other times, they show mastery using another short piece of text.

donalynbooks at 00:44 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@thereadingzone Maybe I could do side lessons. I already booktalk and have my kids booktalk all the time.

@yaloveblog at 00:44 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Book talks and reader letters/letter essays are easy to grade!

ms\_norris at 00:44 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

The Book Whisperer by @donalynbooks herself - another must read for RW!

@cb6luvs2read at 00:44 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

If we ask them to use their independent books for every lesson, we are turning it into a textbook. Not enjoyable or motivating.

donalynbooks at 00:44 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@Denise Grades- ergh! In my class, 5 pts a day for rdng time. Read- you get full points, sleep, do hmwrk, etc.. no pts.

Teresa at 00:45 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

The Book Whisperer by @donalynbooks herself - another must read for RW! - I agree!!!

@mrami2 at 00:45 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Yes, Book Whisperer a definite must read!

franki at 00:45 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@Denise My dept always worries about grades too. I've tried contract grading before and it worked really well.

@yaloveblog at 00:45 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Although I admit I just started grading book talks. Lots of credit/no credit practice

ms\_norris at 00:45 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Like Franki, I use status of the class. Great assessment early in the year b4 other tools are in place.

donalynbooks at 00:45 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@ms\_norris I love using reading letters! My kids tell me so much bcs it is like we are chatting even when I can't be w/them:)

Teresa at 00:46 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Thank you! That's what I was thinking.. demonstrate mastery with a shorter piece.

Robin Simmons at 00:46 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@Teresa @yaloveblog Thanks for the ideas. Can you tell me more about your contracts?

Denise DiGiovanni at 00:46 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Thanks Stacey! Hard to find strategies that will work for ALL content. Using It Says I Say and So?

Suzanne at 00:46 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@Teresa, my kids also love that they get a second shot at their grade by replying to my reply.



ms\_norris at 00:47 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@donalynbooks OK What you say about using short texts aswrs my ? re devices

mardieteach at 00:47 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

For my YA class, I tell them for an A on their project they need to read at least 3 books & complete the project.

@yaloveblog at 00:47 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

I love doing reading letters, but with 120 students, it takes so long to respond! any strategies to lighten the load?

Robin Simmons at 00:47 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Denise, I take lots of grades!

donalynbooks at 00:47 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

We've been trying Tovani's inner voice sheets for occasional grades. <http://bit.ly/gjHwzs>

StaceyCKerr at 00:47 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

The project has other guidelines, but mostly the contract is their goal & I'm final decision maker on quality & completion of project.

@yaloveblog at 00:47 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@Robin, Auto text in word!!! Has saved my life. Found myself asking the same ?s over and over. I always type replies. Have a similar # of st

ms\_norris at 00:47 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@denise I don't use contract. Book talks,

book blogs, lit letters- all get "credit" If stdnt not shwng progress-we talk

Teresa at 00:48 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Robin, you could have students write a letter when they finish a book-- Atwell does this.

donalynbooks at 00:48 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@Donalyn I've read your book 3 times. Have I missed how you do it?

Denise DiGiovanni at 00:48 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

The contract lets me know their goals & forces them to reach higher. If they choose lower than A, they can't change & move up.

@yaloveblog at 00:48 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@Robin - I have 120 students as well. I can't rd all letters every wk. St write 2 other st. I collect ntbks @ random times 2 respond

@cb6luvs2read at 00:48 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@Robin- I stagger when I collect lit letters. Per 1,2 one week, Per 3, 4 next week. Never have all at once that way:)

Teresa at 00:48 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

I think C. Tovani has a new assessment book coming out soon.

franki at 00:48 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

But they can downgrade if the A work is too much. It forces them to raise their

expectations b/c they choose the A.

@yaloveblog at 00:49 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

I have big classes this year. 2 classes of 34 and 1 of 35. I had to change how I confer. I couldn't meet w/ every child once a week.

donalynbooks at 00:49 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@msnorris thanks for the suggestion! i love doing letters but i've gotten away from it because of grading. hope to start again 4th 9 wks

Robin Simmons at 00:49 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@donalynbooks How often do your students write letters? Do they follow a specific structure?

mardieteach at 00:49 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

I am really interested in this "write a letter when you finish" idea for next year...maybe even when you finish 2...

ms\_norris at 00:49 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@cb6luv thank you! great idea

Robin Simmons at 00:49 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Learned how to hold a table conference w/ 4-5 kids at one time. Side benefit-- the kids talk to each other-- not just me.

donalynbooks at 00:49 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Have not implemented letters as responses from students, something to try next year

@mrami2 at 00:50 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

My students write responses to me on goodreads once every ten days.

donalynbooks at 00:50 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@donalynbooks Love the term "table conference"

franki at 00:50 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@donalynbooks: how do you group kids for table conferences?

StaceyCKerr at 00:50 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Using goodreads, did you create a group?

@readingthruthenight at 00:50 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

The contract is only for a project, not the whole class. I use booktalks, reviews, etc. to grade progress in general.

@yaloveblog at 00:50 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Letters were always great because I could "talk" with the students who were less vocal and really connected with each

Robin Simmons at 00:50 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@robin simmons, that will speed you up and you can still type personal comments too. Still only get one or two in per quarter, though.

ms\_norris at 00:51 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

I think both Atwell and Allen address the paper load also

Suzanne at 00:51 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@ms\_norris I might have them write

letters if they choose to abandon a book also. Lots of useful information to gain there as well.

CBethM at 00:51 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@donalyn can you talk about how that works in goodreads?

Robin Simmons at 00:51 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@CBethM I LOVE that, too. I worry I will drown in letters. Good reads messages could be great, though.

ms\_norris at 00:51 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

I also had students read the same book, then do a small project like a time capsule

Suzanne at 00:52 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

I find as sem progresses, stdnt letter rspns r longer, mine get shorter. They no longer need me to prompt as much :)

Teresa at 00:52 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Students are grouped already into writing response groups based on writing needs. Use the same groups.

donalynbooks at 00:52 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@franki I like the idea of table conference, too!

Denise DiGiovanni at 00:52 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

I need to look at Atwell again because I get a lot of kids not responding to the specific question for that letter I assign them.

ms\_norris at 00:52 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

I've had kids respond to book topics on my blog. They liked it b/c they could comment on each other's comments & have a "conversation"

@yaloveblog at 00:52 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

You can send a message to any "friend" through your goodreads inbox. Creates a chain of responses you can follow and archive.

donalynbooks at 00:52 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@ms\_norris GR messages would be pretty neat, but that might also get tiring. Might get backlog there, too. Even if they're short.

CBethM at 00:53 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Has anyone tried Shelfari? I have a colleague who had great success

Suzanne at 00:53 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

I have done group book talks, timed. Loved that, kids did, too.

ms\_norris at 00:53 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

I began using edmodo for the first time this year. Big success.

donalynbooks at 00:53 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Our elementary kids use Shelfari. Easy to use, groups possible, good for young kids, I think.

franki at 00:53 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@CBethM What about an abandoned books log with some space for reflection?

ms\_norris at 00:53 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@ms\_norris How/why did you time the booktalks?

@yaloveblog at 00:54 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

As far as managing it all, my advice is to do what you can maintain all year. If you don't think you can write letters all year, don't.

donalynbooks at 00:54 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@suzanne - Yes! My stu. use shelfari. GReads is blocked in our district. Great success so far. Kids love it

@cb6luvs2read at 00:54 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

For those using tech resources, what % of your kids have regular access to pc/net?

StaceyCKerr at 00:54 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@donalynbooks LOVE Edmodo! Just set up class links for rest of wk through our page!

Teresa at 00:54 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Focus more on conferring w/ students if you cannot manage response letters.

donalynbooks at 00:54 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@ms\_norris Abandoned book log w/reflection might be a nice compromise. I like that idea. :)

CBethM at 00:54 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Having a round-table discussion w/ a group of stds about their books works really well and very informal chat.

Glenda at 00:54 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@yaloveblog To keep things moving, Gave each 4 minutes on the whiteboard clock.

ms\_norris at 00:54 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@donalynbooks My freshmen and seniors love Edmodo! Hoping to do even more w/ it next yr.

thereadingzone at 00:55 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@StaceyCKerr Many of my kids don't have intrnt access at hm, i give class time for assgnmnts that need it

Teresa at 00:55 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Teachers also worry about conferring when they haven't read the book the child is reading. Advice?

Denise DiGiovanni at 00:55 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

edmodo fans might want to check out Schoology.com as well

@mrami2 at 00:55 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@Teresa: how many computers in your class?

StaceyCKerr at 00:55 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@donalynbooks What aspect of Edmodo do they like the best?

tkraz (Tom) at 00:56 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web



@Denise I try to read most everything that goes on my bkshlf. If not, have usually had enough kids read bk, I've heard abt it :)

Teresa at 00:56 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@Denise You can still confer about a book you haven't read. Ask them about it. Ask if they would recommend it to you. Take notes.

CBethM at 00:56 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@Denise I think kids and teachers enjoy a conference where the kid can lead the discussion and teach the teacher. You help analysis along...

ms\_norris at 00:56 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@Denise I have students share a short passage and talk from there. Why that passage? How does it connect to important ideas? etc.

Glenda at 00:56 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Next week is a joint #engsschat How English & SS Teachers can work together.

@cybraryman1 at 00:56 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Teachers are afraid they can't do workshop if they haven't read the books the students have.

Denise DiGiovanni at 00:56 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Many of my stu. don't have internet access @hm. But use classtime, com. lab,

some come in b4 school. I don't require it.

@cb6luvs2read at 00:56 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@StaceyCKerr We r lucky to be pilot 1:1 program this year:) I'm spoiled!

Teresa at 00:57 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@Glenda Great idea! I'll pass that along.

Denise DiGiovanni at 00:57 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Denise, there isn't a shortcut to reading lots of books. We know enough story grammar to wing it occasionally, but this can't be the norm.

donalynbooks at 00:57 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Oh Stacey - JEALOUS! lol

Suzanne at 00:57 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Oh Stacey - JEALOUS! lol

Suzanne at 00:57 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@Teresa: Lucky duck! :)

StaceyCKerr at 00:57 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@Teresa: Lucky duck! :)

StaceyCKerr at 00:57 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

I should probably be more tactful, but you cannot run a reading workshop if you don't read. Why would you want to?

donalynbooks at 00:58 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Goodreads helps me keep up with books. Keeping up with what others read (Donalyn, Paul, etc.) helps me know more books, etc.

franki at 00:58 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@Donalyn \*sigh\* I know. How do I get teachers to do that, though?

Denise DiGiovanni at 00:58 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@Donalyn \*sigh\* I know. How do I get teachers to do that, though?

Denise DiGiovanni at 00:58 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@StaceyCKerr I know. Has made a huge diff w/using tech in my rm. But I wld still find creative ways w/just a few cmptrs!

Teresa at 00:59 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@Denise, I read everything on my shelf (or at least 100 pgs if I couldn't get into it) & have a sep. shelf for books I want to read.

@yaloveblog at 00:59 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

be sure to tweet out your good reads pages after this so we can all connect there as well

@mrami2 at 00:59 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

after ind. reading during class, i've had students find someone else in class who they think might enjoy their book and then they talk for a

Robin Simmons at 00:59 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Kids won't be passionate about reading if their teachers aren't. You don't have to read every book, but you need to read a lot.

thereadingzone at 00:59 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@donalynbooks Why would anyone teach, especially English, if that person doesn't like to read? I like your tact.

Glenda at 00:59 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@Denise Could you run a teacher book club? Start reading together!

Teresa at 00:59 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@Denise Kids need to know you're a reader. Convos about books you haven't read can happen, but shouldn't be the norm.

CBethM at 00:59 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

We have two netbook carts with 48 computers for 103 kids.

donalynbooks at 00:59 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Okay, true or false. Not every teacher should attempt or will have success with reading workshop.

ms\_norris at 00:59 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@Denise I have my kids tell me their favorite parts, important things they learned, who would want to read it, etc if I haven't read it

@yaloveblog at 00:59 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@Denise But I'm not doing a workshop. That's for SSR stuff and convo in general.

@yaloveblog at 01:00 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Social reading is a huge part of my reading workshop <http://bit.ly/eV6E1z>

thereadingzone at 01:00 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@ms\_norris True.

Teresa at 01:00 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Fave quote, "You can't teach what you don't know, anymore than you can come back from where you ain't been." -Will Rogers

donalynbooks at 01:00 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@ms\_norris I can't imagine someone who doesn't stay current doing well w/reading workshop in my honest opinion.

@yaloveblog at 01:00 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Thank you to everyone for being flexible with #engchat tonight

@mrami2 at 01:01 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Thank you to everyone for being flexible with #engchat tonight

@mrami2 at 01:01 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Wow. So maybe I we shouldn't be shoving workshop down people's throats...?

Denise DiGiovanni at 01:01 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

The flip side is that I can't imagine someone doing reading workshop and not getting really excited about books!

StaceyCKerr at 01:01 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Wow. So maybe I we shouldn't be shoving workshop down people's throats...?

Denise DiGiovanni at 01:01 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Thank you to everyone for being flexible with #engchat tonight

@mrami2 at 01:01 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@ms\_norris TRUE. If you are not dedicated to the process, reading workshop will not work for your students and you.

donalynbooks at 01:01 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

where did the hour go?

@mrami2 at 01:01 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

By we, I mean our district..

Denise DiGiovanni at 01:01 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

donorschoose.org is a great place to get books for your class. i posted some projects and they got funded! townsend press donated money to e

Robin Simmons at 01:01 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Thanks for a great chat!

StaceyCKerr at 01:02 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@Denise I don't think you should force RW. It would be a wasted effort for students and teachers.

CBethM at 01:02 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@ms\_norris Not sure true or false, but I think every child deserves to be part of a reading workshop.

franki at 01:02 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

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This was awesome! Thanks everyone!

Denise DiGiovanni at 01:02 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Thanks guys, I really needed this this evening!

@readingthruthenight at 01:02 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Another great resource, Conferring by Patrick Allen. He is @coloreader on Twitter. Also, Assessment in the RW by Franki Sibberson

donalynbooks at 01:02 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

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Honestly, I've read 30+ books this school year, and have almost 1,000 books in my library. do a lot of conferences about books I've not read

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CBethM at 01:02 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@thereadingzone So true about kids not being passionate about reading when being taught by teachers who aren't.

@yaloveblog at 01:02 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

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franki at 01:02 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@ms\_norris Not sure true or false, but I think every child deserves to be part of a reading workshop.

franki at 01:02 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Along Robin's lines... we've gotten a lot of books with Title 1 funds.

StaceyCKerr at 01:02 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

My deepest thanks for Donalyn and Paul for hosting tonight

@mrami2 at 01:02 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Another great resource, Conferring by Patrick Allen. He is @coloreader on Twitter. Also, Assessment in the RW by

**Franki Sibberson**

donalynbooks at 01:02 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

**@donalynbooks @paulwhankins Thanks for hosting #engchat this evening. Looking forward to your book recs. Thanks tweeps.**

Glenda at 01:03 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

**Hope they'll consider coming back again on #engchat**

@mrami2 at 01:03 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

**Great talk tonight. Thanks!**

franki at 01:03 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

**I enjoyed the convo here, got lots of ideas and resources. thank you so much! do we know when the next one will take place?**

Robin Simmons at 01:03 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

**You can also look at the recently retired copies of books at public library. Often get extra copies of new titles & sell extras later.**

CBethM at 01:03 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

**Thanks for inviting me! I enjoyed it!**

donalynbooks at 01:03 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

**@Robin - #engchat happens every Monday at 7 PM EST**

@mrami2 at 01:03 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

**I have some resources on slideshare at [www.slideshare.net/donalynm](http://www.slideshare.net/donalynm)**

donalynbooks at 01:04 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Follow anyone on this list to see upcoming topics: @mrami2

@mrami2 at 01:04 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

wonderful! thank you!

Robin Simmons at 01:04 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

thanks! My first time was great!

Suzanne at 01:04 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

I have learned to read some of each author, genre, connect readers to each other, listen carefully to book talks.

ms\_norris at 01:04 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@Suzanne Glad you joined us tonight!!

Teresa at 01:04 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

@donalynbooks Always enlightening to read your thoughts & insight. Thank you!

@cb6luvs2read at 01:05 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

will this thread stay available for us to read later?

Robin Simmons at 01:05 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Thank you everyone for RT #engchat related tweets

@mrami2 at 01:05 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

#engchat archives live here:  
[engchat.pbworks.com](http://engchat.pbworks.com)

@mrami2 at 01:05 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

Robin, it usually is available for later.

Denise DiGiovanni at 01:05 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

might want to save that #engchat archive link

@mrami2 at 01:05 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

**We just click on transcript, right?**

Denise DiGiovanni at 01:06 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

**Next week is a combined #engchat  
#sschat under #engsschat**

@mrami2 at 01:06 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

**Thanks all. This was a great conversation.**

tkraz (Tom) at 01:06 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

**Thanks again everyone!**

@mrami2 at 01:06 AM, 08 Mar 2011 via web

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