

ILLINOIS TITLE I ASSOCIATION

Harvesting the Fruits of Literacy

President Simpson:
I can't wait to see you in Springfield at the ITA Strand on October 3, 2014!
Details are on pages 2-3.

ITA Email address:
 ita@illinoisreadingcouncil.org

For Important Dates To Remember

And Membership Information go to

<http://www.illinoisreadingcouncil.org>

Join or renew your IRC/ITA membership online!

ITA June members total 104

- New members 3
- Renewals 2

New ITA member total 109

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Harvesting the Fruits of Literacy

Dear ITA Members,

Welcome to the 2014-2015 school year. My name is Noma Simpson. We would like to harvest the fruits of literacy through a fresh crop of speakers at our IRC Conference Title I Strand. We are embarking on a new journey by having the IRC conference in the fall. With this new and exciting journey, we hope that our members take what they can from the conference and use the information to benefit their students.

As members, we often ask ourselves, "What are the advantages of being a member of ITA?" As a member, one can gain access to many other professionals that teach literacy, updated practices linked to Common Core, current regulations and policies associated with Title I reading in Illinois, and the opportunity to apply for a grant to promote literacy in the classroom.

We have an exciting line-up for our strand at the IRC conference on October 2-4, 2014. Please see the strand information in this newsletter.

We would like to thank our past board members, Ashley Glickman, Ashley Krippel and Marilyn Cordes for their commitment to our board. Joining us this year will be our past president Marilyn Cordes as membership, Nancy Paprocki as vice president, and Phyllis Carstensen as secretary. Thank you to these ladies for sharing their talents with us.

I would like to close with a quote by Mahatma Gandhi, which has been my inspiration as an educator: "You must be the change you wish to see in the world."

Noma Simpson
 President

[Online Housing](#)[Reservation System](#)

Check with the IRC Office or

on the website for availability.

[Online Registration](#)

There's still time to register!

[Conference Shirt](#)[IRC Shirt](#)

Check with the IRC Office or on the website for further information.

2014 IRC Conference



See You There!

Harvesting the Fruits of Literacy

**October 2-4, 2014
Springfield, Illinois**

Thousands of literacy advocates, educators, and researchers will gather from October 2-4, 2014 for the 47th Annual IRC Conference,

***Harvesting the Fruits of Literacy,** at the President Abraham Lincoln Hotel, Hilton Springfield Hotel, and Prairie Capital Convention Center in Springfield, Illinois.*

ITA Strand-October 3, 2014 Hilton Hotel Vista Rooms 1, 2, 3 & 4!

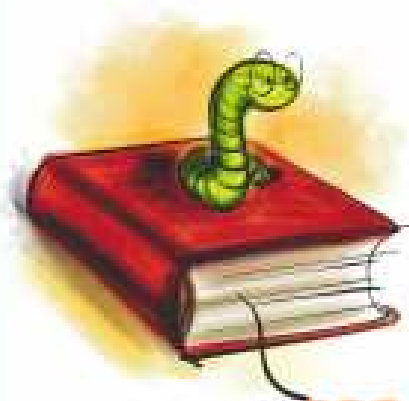
For more information, please call the IRC Office at 888-454-1341 or email irc@illinoisreadingcouncil.org!

Don't forget to follow the conference developments on the IRC Conference Ning at <http://illinoisreadingcouncil.ning.com>.

ITA Strand!

Friday, October 3, 2014

Time	I Hilton Hotel Vista Room1-2	II Hilton Hotel Vista Room 3	III Hilton Hotel Vista Room 4
8:00-9:00	Implementing Guided Reading A-Z and More! Marilyn Cordes	The Data Toolbox James O'Toole	Reading Strategies + Gestures = Success! Julie Steinke
9:15 – 10:15	Implementing Guided Reading A-Z and More! Marilyn Cordes	Using Technology to Create Global Citizens Sheila Ruh And Sherry Sejnost	A Common Core Partnership: The Social Studies C-3 Framework and the ELA State Standards Roberta Sejnost
10:30-11:30	Title I – Designing a Cohesive Program Nancy Paprocki ISBE	Integrating Technology and the Common Core Standards to Improve Literacy Sheila Ruh And Sherry Sejnost	A Common Core Innovation: Literature Circles = Inquiry Circles Roberta Sejnost
11:30-1:45	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
1:45-2:45	Harvest the Knowledge of Title I Teachers Roundtable Discussion Susanne Riddell and Ann Peters	The Data Toolbox (Reporting and Graphing) James O'Toole	Children's Literature & Resources to Meet Common Core Standards Dr. Roxanne Forgraves
3:00 – 4:00	<u>Illinois Title I Association Annual Meeting</u> Noma Simpson ITA Pres.		



2013-2014

ITA Grant

We Love Books!

By

Susan Tiburzi, 2013-2014 Grant Recipient

We've learned that access to books is key to gaining reading skill. Studies confirm that the number of books in the home directly correlates with reading achievement. In middle income neighborhoods, the ratio of books in the home is thirteen books per child. In low income neighborhoods, the ratio is one book for every three hundred children. Therefore, children growing up in households where books are plentiful get the "book benefit" that has been recognized throughout the world.

According to a three year research study conducted at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, "It may not be enough to simply give children access to libraries, but it was the access of books actually in the home that led to the most opportunities to read". We quickly recognized the need to put books into the hand of each student in our school and develop a support system for family literacy. We believe that books can be effective tools for encouraging parents to become active participants in their child's reading. With the help of a grant from the Illinois Title 1 Association, we were able to do just that. ITA provided us with the funds we needed to purchase a book for each child in our school. We were fortunate enough to purchase quality books for \$1 per book.

Our reading team incorporated the book give-away during our family literacy night entitled, "Spaghetti with Seuss". Our goal was to develop a sense of community and learning. Staff and community members served dinner, modeled reading strategies, played literacy/math games with families, sang songs, performed experiments, and supplied technology for a "Seuss Scavenger Hunt". The best part of the evening was handing out the free books! The children were so excited and the parents were grateful.

Thank you ITA for making a difference in the lives of our students!

The "Ben-Gil Reading Rocks" Team



ILLINOIS TITLE I ASSOCIATION

2014-2015 GRANT PROGRAM FOR ITA MEMBERS

ITA Board of Directors has approved a Grant Program which will award financial grants to members of ITA for innovative programs and projects. Priority in awarding grants will be given to persons who have not received grant monies from ITA during the previous year. However, persons who have received grant monies in the past may wish to submit new ideas they would like to pursue.

PURPOSE:

The ITA will award financial grants for the purpose of promoting literacy development in the school and community.

GUIDELINES:

Each grant applicant will:

1. Submit an application (*Requirements are listed on previous page*).
2. Agree to complete the program or project by June 30 of the fiscal year for which the award was granted.
3. Within thirty days of the conclusion of the program or project, submit a written evaluation report and include an itemized list of income and expenditures.
4. Present the results of your grant winning program during the 2014-2015 year in any of the following ways: (1) at any ITA conference or conference strand; (2) in an article in the IRC Communicator; or (3) in an article in the ITA newsletter.
5. Prior to reimbursement, presentations must be completed; submit all bills to the treasurer for reimbursement by June 30, 2015. **No Exceptions!**

APPLICATION PROCESS:

Individuals applying for grants should submit 5 copies of the application with all names and proper identification of the applicant(s) to the address on the reverse side by the deadline date. All identification information should appear on the cover sheet. Applications with school & individual names included in the body of the grant will be disqualified. Late applications will not be considered.

TIMELINE:

Applications must be postmarked no later than November 1, 2014 and bear the signature of a school administrator. Grant recipients will be notified by November 17, 2014.

BUDGET:

The maximum amount of each grant is \$500. Not all grants are funded for the entire amount requested by the applicant.

APPROVAL:

The ITA Grant Committee shall make the final approval of the grants to be awarded. The Grant Committee consists of the ITA President, President-Elect, Vice President, and Treasurer.

revised 7/14

ILLINOIS TITLE I ASSOCIATION

2014-2015 GRANT APPLICATION FOR ITA MEMBERS COVER SHEET—FOR IDENTIFICATION

- I. **Statement of Purpose:** What is the objective of this project? Please list the Common Core Standards or Illinois Learning Standard this project will support.
- II. **Needs Statement:** How will this grant support your present program?
- III. **Description of Population to be served:** Describe the population who will benefit from this grant.
- IV. **Description of Program or Project:** List the procedures and timeline for your project.
- V. **Itemized budget:** Provide an itemized list of prospective suppliers and materials, with approximate costs.
- VI. **Plan for Evaluation:** Include the actual assessment you plan to use in your evaluation of the project.

Applicant Data:

Name _____

Position _____ email: _____

Program/Project Title _____

Date of Program/Project _____ Place _____

School Name _____ Work Phone _____

School Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

_____ Date _____

(Applicant's Signature)

_____ Date _____

(School Administrator's Signature)

Contact Person _____ Home Phone _____

Application must be postmarked on or before November 1, 2014.

Mail five (5) copies to:

Illinois Title I Association
% Melinda Grimm, Treasurer
813 North 9th 1/2 Street
Monmouth, IL 61462

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- All identification should appear on this cover sheet **ONLY** or grant will be disqualified.
- Applicants must maintain an ITA membership throughout the entire grant process.
- **FOR MORE INFORMATION:** gmgrimm@frontiernet.net

ITA Grant Rubric

Grant Approved
 Grant Not Approved

Grant #: _____ Amount Requested: \$ _____

Reminders: No identifying information within text of the grant proposal; no projects deemed to be part of a curriculum budget will be rated

	1	2	3	4
Criteria	Below Average	Average	Above Average	Outstanding
Needs	No financial, intellectual, or social need is established	Need for a literacy project is inferred	Some needs are described but not complete	Description of the project group strongly indicates the need for a literacy activity
Project Description	Project is incomplete with no timeline	Project & timeline are sketchy with insufficient detail	Project & timeline are realistic and attainable	Project & timeline are well thought out & implementation plans are detailed
Scope of Project	Involves a limited number of participants	Impact one classroom	Involves participants beyond one classroom	Involves the whole school and/or parents/community
Impact on Literacy	Little or no impact on improving literacy skills. Substandard literature or methods	Positive impact on improving Literacy skills. Adequate literature or methods	Strong impact on improving Literacy skills. Quality literature or methods	Impact promotes life-long learning. Uses quality literature and methods
Publicity	No announcements	Local announcements including reference to ITA support	2 announcements + will present at annual conference in March OR write for the ITA Newsletter	2 announcements + will present at annual conference in March AND write for the ITA Newsletter
Evaluation	No evidence of evaluation process described	Simplified evaluation process is described	Evaluation process well thought out and described	Unique evaluation process described including pre/post testing as applicable
Budget	Cost per participant is unreasonable	Cost is reasonable and budget is general	Cost is reasonable and budget is specific	Budget is detailed and demonstrates outstanding stewardship of funds

General Comments:

NCLB Title I Updates

by Nancy Paprocki

As we begin the new school year, it is most important to remember that first and foremost Title I is an instructional program designed to help our lowest achieving students. The Title I program was legislated in the elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) to ensure that all children have a fair, equal, and significant opportunity to obtain a high-quality education and reach, at a minimum, proficiency on challenging State academic achievement standards and assessments.

Due to the flexibility waiver that Illinois finally received from the US Department of Education, there have been many exciting changes to Title I requirements. Illinois' flexibility request was initially submitted on February 28, 2012 and resubmitted on January 31, 2014, and was granted on April 18, 2014. A lot of hard work by the Illinois State Board of Education went into making our waiver acceptable to the USDE. The main reason for not receiving the Federal Waiver was the state Board's unwillingness to change to data based teacher evaluations prior to our own scheduled implementation of PERA for the 2014-2015 school year. Illinois felt that our schedule of implementation was the right thing to do, in order to properly learn the new system and to implement it correctly, with fidelity. Those districts that rushed to change their teacher evaluation later struggled with implementation.

Highlights of the changes to Title I due to the waiver include the following:

The terms status and AYP are eliminated from our academic vocabulary.

Supplemental Educational Services (SES) are no longer required by districts in status. This frees up Title I dollars to be put back in the classroom and in the schools.

School Choice is no longer required by districts. This will also free up dollars that were previously used to transport students from schools in "status" to schools that were making AYP, whether within a district or to a neighboring district.

A 10% district wide professional development set aside is no longer required for schools not making AYP, since AYP no longer exists. Title I targeted schools may still opt to use Title I dollars for professional development, but the professional development must be targeted to Title I teachers and paraprofessionals, or administrators in Title I buildings. Professional development can also be used by teachers that directly work with Title I students. Schools that run School-wide programs may use professional development dollars for all teachers, paraprofessionals and administrators in the school.

PARCC assessments replace ISAT and ACT as the required assessment. PARCC assessments are a two part testing series. A performance based assessment will be given around 75% through the school year with a four week window for testing. The End of year assessment will be given in April-May after 90% of the school year and will also have a 4 week window for testing. ACT testing is optional for districts, but all students must take it if the district opts to administer this assessment. This test will also be funded by the state at this time.

There will be a three tier labeling system for schools.

The lowest performing 5% of schools will be labeled priority schools and will receive extensive services provided by ISBE. Those districts with Priority schools are required to set aside dollars for services to these schools.

The next lowest performing 10% will be labeled focus schools and will receive a lower level of services from ISBE. Focus schools have not yet been identified. When selected, these schools will also have to amend their grants to include a set aside to fund these services.

All other schools will receive a basic level of foundational services from ISBE to help with increasing student performance. PD will be offered in 5 areas: continuous improvement planning, ELA and Math standards, Balanced Assessment and Teacher Evaluations. More information about foundational services can be found at www.illinoiscsi.org

More detailed information about the flexibility waiver can be found on the ISBE web page at: http://www.isbe.state.il.us/nclb_waivers/default.htm. Look specifically for the webinar and the waiver summary on the right column of the page.

DID YOU KNOW?

In 1822, the mechanical pencil was patented under the name "propelling pencil."

In 1935, the lunchbox was launched. It did not become popular until 1950 when it was released featuring Hopalong Cassidy, the popular TV and radio cowboy.

In 1903, the first crayons were released under the Crayola brand name. There were just 8 colors.

67% of kids like school.

The oldest public school in the US was founded in 1635, and 5 of the 56 signers of the Declaration of Independence graduated from this school. They were Benjamin Franklin, John Hancock, Robert Treat Paine, Samuel Adams and William Hopper. It is Boston's Latin School.

High school was not really a part of school until the 1930s. Before that most Americans only completed eight years of school. Why was that and what changed it? Well, during the Great Depression, there were many communities that had little work to offer. They figured that keeping teenagers in the classrooms would keep them out of the work force, thus reducing the competition for many adults who required higher pay than a teen would.

Illinois Reads Update

by Melinda Grimm

Have you discovered Illinois Reads yet? As a reading teacher, this program is a natural fit for our students and our classrooms. Illinois Reads, under the auspices of the Illinois Reading Council, is a yearly statewide project to promote reading for all Illinois citizens. Six books are selected for each age band every year. A variety of topics and themes are chosen for each age band. Illinois authors are highlighted with a mix of hardback and paperback covers. Several Spanish-language titles as well as Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM)-related books are also included. The Illinois Reading Council governs the program and Past President of the Illinois Reading Council, Tammy Potts, is the founder and creator of the program.

Illinois Reads encourages reading at home and in the classroom and also emphasizes summer reading as a way to not only bring the family closer together but also to combat "summer learning loss" in children. Illinois Reads is partnering with the Illinois State Library and its librarian, Jesse White, to partake in Family Literacy Nights celebrated in November. The 36 titles in the six separate age bands will be the featured books on Family Reading Night across the state.

The 2013 Book List was:

Birth to Four: 1 Zany Zoo by Lori Degman, Good Night, Good Night Construction Site by Sherri Duskey Rinker, Favorite Nursery Rhymes From Mother Goose by Scott Gustafson, Little Illinois by Esther Hershenhorn, My Friend Rabbit by Eric Rohmann, Bein' With You This Way by W. Nikola-Lisa (also La Alegria de Ser Tu y Yo by W. Nikola-Lisa).

Grades K-2: Bugs and Us by Patricia J. Murphy, Tooth Tales From Around the World by Marlene Targ Brill, Henry & the Buccaneer Bunnies by Carolyn Crimi, Chicks and Salsa by Aaron Reynolds, Another Brother by Matthew Cordell, The Ugly Duckling Dinosaur: A Prehistoric Tale by Cheryl Bar-doe.

Grades 3 – 5: Everything I Know About Pirates by Tom Lichtenheld, Abraham Lincoln: 16th President, 1861 ~ 1865 by Mike Venezia, Secrets of the Cicada Summer by Andrea Beaty, Lowji Discov-ers America by Candace Fleming, Shipwreck Search: Discovery of the H. L. Hunley by Sally M. Walker, Frindle by Andrew Clements.

Grades 6 – 8: The Danger Box by Blue Balliett, Children of the Fire by Harriette Gillem Robinet, The Smart Aleck's Guide to American History by Adam Selzer, Cold Fury by T. M. Goeglein, Rules of the Road by Joan Bauer, Dark Life by Kat Falls.

Grades 9 – 12: Of Beetles & Angels by Mawi Asgedom, The Fault in Our Stars by John Green, Per-fect Chemistry by Simone Elkeles, Is It Night or Day? by Fern Schumer Chapman, Into the Wild Nerd Yonder by Julie Halpern, Divergent by Veronica Roth.

Adult: The Hummingbird's Daughter by Luis Alberto Urrea, The Journal of Best Practices by David Finch, Gone Girl by Gillian Flynn, Something Borrowed by Emily Giffin, Playing With the Enemy by Gary W. Moore.

The 2014 Book List is:

Birth to Four: Cock-A-Doodle-Do, Creak, Pop-Pop, Moo by Jim Aylesworth, Cha-Cha Chimps by Julia Durango, Busy-Busy Little Chick by Janice N. Harrington, Paws, Claws, Hands, & Feet by Kimberly Hutmacher, Peep! by Kevin Luthardt, Truck Stuck by Sallie Wolf.

Grades K-2: Winnie Finn, Worm Farmer by Carol Brendler, Fairly Fairy Tales by Esme Raji Codell, In Artic Waters by Laura Crawford, Doctor Ted by Andrea Beaty, Cookies: Bite-Size Life Lessons by Amy Krouse Rosenthal, Multiply on the Fly by Suzanne Slade.

Grades 3 – 5: The Fast and the Furriest by Andy Behrens, Where Lincoln Walked by Raymond Bial, Rachel Carson and Her Book That Changed the World by Laurie Lawlor, Charlie Collier, Snoop for Hire: The Homemade Stuffing Caper by John V. Madormo, Darwin by Alice B. McGinty, Guyku: A Year of Haiku for Boys by Bob Raczka.

Grades 6 – 8: The Testing by Joelle Charbonneau, Volcano!: The Icelandic Eruption of 2010 and Other Hot, Smokey, Fierce, and Fiery Mountains by Judith Fradin and Dennis Fradin, The Bully Book by Eric Kahn Gale, The Fourth Stall by Chris Rylander, One Came Home by Amy Timberlake, The Running Dream by Wendelin Van Draanen.

Grades 9 – 12: Being Henry David by Cal Armistead, Chime by Franny Billingsley, Serendipity Market by Penny Blubaugh, Hollywood on Lake Michigan: 100+ Years of Chicago and the Movies by Michael Corcoran and Arnie Bernstein, Good Girls by Laura Ruby, Espressologist by Kristina Springer.

Adult: The Aviator's Wife by Melanie Benjamin, Salsas That Cook: Using Classic Salsas to Enliven Our Favorite Dishes by Rick Bayless, A Killing In the Hills by Julia Keller, The Supremes at Earl's All-You-Can-Eat by Edward Kelsey Moore, The Silence of Bonaventure Arrow by Rita Leganski, Hidden Order: A Thriller by Brad Thor.

Questions? Contact the Illinois Reading Council by email at info@illinoisreads.org. If you need ideas for new books to share with your students at school or send home for them to enjoy with their family, this list should provide a starting point.

Happy Reading!!

Nonfiction: Now What?

By: Phyllis Carstensen

What do we want our middle school students to do with all of this nonfiction they are reading and how do we help them do it? As a professor of mine once said, "If you want important answers, ask important questions."

As teachers, we could all use some help learning how to ask questions that will facilitate student learning. This year I am using DOK or *depth of knowledge* levels and question stems. The levels are similar to Bloom's Taxonomy and the question stems guide students to process information at a higher level. DOK aids teachers in scaffolding student thinking and understanding from level one; the recall stage, through levels two; the skill/concept phase, level three; strategic thinking and level four; extended thinking. The levels and questions are provided, which allows you to start using them immediately in your classroom.

The depth of knowledge levels and question stems can be found at these sites:

http://static.pdesas.org/content/documents/M1-Slide_19_DOK_Wheel_Slide.pdf

DOK: Question stems

http://svesd.net/files/DOK_Question_Stems.pdf

From Depth of Knowledge-Descriptors, Examples and Question Stems for Increasing Knowledge in the Classroom developed by Dr. Norman Webb

Examples of the question stems

Level 2 DOK What could you do to organize _____?

What do you notice about _____?

Level 3 DOK How would you test _____?

Can you formulate a theory for _____?

Small Group Instruction

Daily Five Second Edition Book

The Two Sisters and more resources

<http://stenhouse.com>

At the IRA Conference in New Orleans, the Two Sisters presented and shared their revised program. They have incorporated more transitions in their practices. The focus of their new book is fostering Reading Independence in the elementary grades. If you do not know their core beliefs, then this is the book for you. The seven core beliefs that are discussed in this book are: trust and respect for teachers and students, community, choices, accountability, brain research, transitions as brain and body breaks, and the 10 steps to independence.

Set your students up for independence and success in life using this newly revised best practice of reading instruction that fits with the Common Core Standards and instruction!

Did You Know?

It will cost the state \$9.00 less per student if a school gives the online PARCC exam than the paper and pencil version.

Illinois no longer has a contract to administer exams with ISAT or ACT.

There is an Assessment Bill (34-12) waiting to be signed by Governor Quinn to strip the legislation of old references to ISAT and ACT, and insert the new PARCC assessment into state legislation.

There are online PD opportunities on the PARCC website that will help teachers learn the online platform in order to help students perform better. There are also student practice examples to help students become familiar with the format. Go to <http://parcconline.org/> to access this amazing opportunity to better prepare yourself for PARCC testing so that you can prepare your students!



Board Meeting Highlights

- There is still time to register for the 2014 IRC Conference including the ITA strand.
- The annual meeting will be held October 3, 2014 at the IRC Conference in Springfield.
- The audit of the books was completed and found to be in good order.
- The ITA board is seeking new members to chair or co-chair committees. Consider joining the ITA Board.



Officers
President Noma Simpson nsimpson@lexington.k12.il.us
President Elect Tammy O'Toole tbot2le@hotmail.com
Vice President Tammy O'Toole tbot2le@hotmail.com
Secretary Phyllis Carstensen
Treasurer Melinda Grimm gmgrimm@frontiernet.net

Committee Chairs	
Illinois Reads Susanne Riddell billriddell@hotmail.com	Newsletter-Editor Ann Peters anpeters@dupage88.net
International Project Noma Simpson nsimpson@lexington.k12.il.us	Newsletter-Layout Diane M Rezek Fator fatro2@aol.com
Membership Ashley Glickman ashleyglickman@gmail.com	Publicity Tammy O'Toole tbot2le@hotmail.com
Parents and Reading Karen Tronquist ktronquist@norwood63.org	Past President Marilyn Cordes mcordes@manteno5.org

