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Reading Association of Ireland
Cumann Léitheoireachta na hÉireann

*(In association with St. Patrick's College, Dublin & Drumcondra
Education Centre)*



Spring Seminar 2011

Novels in the Classroom:
**Using literature circles to promote reading
engagement and critical thinking skills**

A presentation by Dr. Bernadette Dwyer and
Aoibheann Kelly,
Drumcondra Education Centre, Dublin

Wednesday, March 23rd 2011
7.30 p.m. – 9.00 p.m.

Abstract for Seminar Presentation

This practical seminar will examine how novels can be used effectively in the classroom to promote engagement with reading, and develop critical thinking skills. The Literature Circles roles of Questioner, Passage Picker, Connector and Artful Artist (adapted from Daniels, 2002) involve using comprehension strategies such as, making connections, asking questions, clarifying vocabulary, summarising, developing reading fluency and visualisation skills.

Presenters

Bernadette Dwyer is a lecturer in Literacy Studies in Education in St. Patrick's College, Dublin City University. She is a former classroom teacher with extensive experience at all levels of the primary school, including Learning Support. Bernadette has conducted research in the areas of reading comprehension, supporting challenged readers, literacy and disadvantage, developing an inquiry-based curriculum and digital literacies.

Aoibheann is a LS/RT teacher in St. Colmcille's S.N.S, Knocklyon. She has lectured over a number of years, on a part-time capacity, in St. Patrick's College, in the area of literacy studies. Aoibheann has particular interest in the areas of reading comprehension, co-operative teaching and teaching students with SEN.

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RAI Spring Seminar Booking Form

This seminar is being offered **free of charge to all**, but places are limited. Please book a place for me on the RAI Spring Seminar (Dublin), '***Novels in the Classroom: Using literature circles to promote reading engagement and critical thinking skills***' in **Drumcondra Education Support Centre** on **Wednesday March 23rd 2011** from **7.30-9.00**

I am currently a member of RAI: Yes No

Name: _____

School: _____ Roll No: _____

Contact Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Please return to: Hilary Walshe, Educational Research Centre, St. Patrick's College, Drumcondra, Dublin 9 or call 01-8065210 or email hilary.walshe@erc.ie to book a place.