

Nellie Edge Kindergarten Writing Curriculum: Our Vision and Challenge



Nellie Edge Resources and Professional Development Workshops are committed to helping ALL children achieve the rigor of State Literacy Standards through joyful pathways to learning. Our workshops, presented by outstanding teacher-researchers, are designed to integrate current research and state-of-the-art literacy practices that are meaning-centered and in harmony with how the young child's brain learns best.

Our action-research has proved that joyful writing-to-read strategies within a comprehensive literacy framework accelerate learning and produce unexpectedly high outcomes. **Our purpose is to share** "best practices" and to inspire reflection, collaboration, and intentional teaching. **When teachers truly understand** the writing process, how to build growth mindset, and the power of multisensory teaching, they can more easily and effectively create responsive environments that embrace students' diverse learning styles. They ask themselves: "How can I do a better job reaching every child?" and "How do I create a classroom community that recognizes the social nature of learning and the vital role of the educational arts?" **Rigorous standards are reached when children are deeply engaged** in authentic literacy experiences and challenged to become ambitious readers, writers, and thinkers. **Just as important,** kindergarten kindness, dancing and singing together—and play—are part of our classroom culture.

Bruno Bettleheim's research reminds us that how children perceive themselves in the act of learning to read generalizes to their whole self-concept. With this in mind, we are committed, through our professional development programs and literacy resources, to assist teachers in creating challenging and caring learning environments that provide ALL children with the foundational skills they need to build on success. **We believe learning to read and write must be a meaning-centered, engaging process.** Our expectation is that every child can and will develop high levels of literacy, an "I Can" attitude, and the satisfaction of belonging.

Our Online Seminars, workshops and resources support our commitment to excellence in literacy, the honoring of childhood, and our belief that educators can and must positively influence the lives of children and the future of our democratic society.

***Our vision is... creating schools worthy of our children:
Joyful and rigorous learning communities with strong family connections!***