



Texas Literacy Initiative Newsletter

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TEXAS STATE LITERACY PLAN

TLI grantees work to accomplish the five grant goals through the implementation of the TSLP and the development of a comprehensive literacy plan known as the "Data-Informed Plan" (DIP).

There are three online tools that work together to support the implementation of the TSLP:

- The [Implementation Inventory](#) serves as a starting point for sites and schools to take stock of current practices and identify their strengths and challenges. The Implementation Inventory is completed by the Leadership Team at each site/campus. It provides implementation levels for each *Action Step*, along with *Examples of Evidence and Resources*.
- The Leadership Team at each site or campus completes the Inventory for each component and receives real time results in the form of a customized [Implementation Map](#).
- Representatives from each site or campus who are members of the CBLT participate in the [TSLP Online Course](#). The course is designed to help each campus and each Literacy Line understand, use and progress through *Action Steps* which will result in the development of an aligned, customized, comprehensive literacy program for each site/campus and for the entire Literacy Line.

For more information about the TSLP, download the booklet at: <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/literacy/tli>

TLI Highlights



★★★ Explor / Wildlife Expert Visits BIRD ★★★★★

Dr. Mireya Mayor, a renowned Anthropologist and Primatologist, visited Breeden and Sharp Elementary Schools as well as Vela Middle School on Tuesday, October 30. Dr. Mayor, often referred to as the female Indiana Jones, has worked as a wildlife correspondent for the last ten years on television shows including National Geographic's television series "Ultimate Explorer." Mayor is a former NFL cheerleader for the Miami Dolphins and a Fulbright scholar with a doctorate in anthropology. Her visit to Brownsville was sponsored by National Geographic and Cengage Learning, BIRD's state adopted provider of ESL instructional materials. Mayor also spoke at a luncheon held at ITECC that was attended by district administrators, and TLI Specialists..

Pictured Right: Mayor speaks with students at Sharp Elementary.
Pictured Below: Mayor is pictured with TLI Teacher Specialists.



Calendar of Upcoming Events

- Dec. 17 – ELA C-SCOPE for Middle School
- Dec. 21 – End of 3rd Six Weeks
- Dec. 24 – Jan. 4, 2013 – Christmas Break
- Jan. 7, – Teacher Preparation Day
- Jan. 12 & 19 – New Teacher Inservice Days

TPRI Newsletter Tidbit

Did you know there are four types of TPRI comprehension questions that help teachers understand student needs and plan instruction? The question types use a modified version of the QAR question taxonomy: Right There, Think and Search, Author and Me, and On My Own. The four TPRI comprehension question types — Recalling Details, Linking Details, Inferring Meaning and Inferring Word Meaning — each provide different information about student comprehension.

The question types and what they tell you are described in the Intervention Activities Guide (pages 141-142). Visit www.tpri.org for more information.

LASERS ON LITERACY

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A Focus on Comprehension: Laying the Foundation

On Thursday, November 29, 2012, all TLI Teacher Specialists and a representative from each campus participated in two training modules which focus on comprehension. The modules, "Reading with Purpose" and "Think, Turn, Talk", were presented by Darcy Dycha, Twyla Vogler, and Holly Ramos, State Literacy Liaisons for the Texas Literacy Initiative from the University of Texas Health Science Center in Houston.

These two modules are the first of several that will address instructional routines which include basic scaffolds for all students in the district. So what are the benefits of implementing these routines and strategies in these modules across all age/grade levels and content areas?

- Improves the reading achievement of all students
- Provides teachers with a framework foundation for instruction to meet the ELAR TEKS & SLAR TEKS
- Impacts the quality of instruction while focusing on comprehension
- Provides consistent routines in which scaffolded opportunities are embedded to meet the needs of all learner
- Influences student achievement in all subject areas

Below is list of all the modules in this series of upcoming trainings to be presented across BISD campuses:

A Focus on Comprehension

Instructional Routines	Cognitive Strategies
Reading With Purpose	Making Connections
Think-Turn-Talk	Creating Mental Images
Cognitive Strategy Routine	Making Inferences & Predictions
	Asking & Answering Questions
Listening Comprehension	Determining Importance & Summarizing

Twyla Vogler & Darcy Dycha, TLI State Literacy Liaisons



Darcy Dycha, TLI State Literacy Liaison

