

#INSPIREDLIT

MAY 2020



Writing

The Literacy team at the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) has been working to provide high quality support and resources to educators during this time of distance learning. Upon reflection, we decided that we needed to enhance our writing support. In this month's newsletter, you will find resources specific to practicing writing. There are both elementary and secondary activities. The resources include writing prompts and activities that can accompany the reading of any text.

LITERACY UPDATES FROM IDOE

Updated Standards for ELA

The [updated ELA standards](#) are posted on Indiana Department of Education website. On May 15, all crosswalk documents that show the changes between the 2014 and 2020 standards will be posted. On this date, you will also see the [Literacy Framework](#) updated with the new standards as well.



Please use these resources to plan for the upcoming 2020-2021 school year!

IDEAS AND INSIGHT

Independent Writing Activities

These independent writing activities are intended to simulate a timed writing assessment a student may encounter on a standardized test. While we shouldn't often use unrelated



prompts in our day-to-day instruction, writing off of a prompt is an important skill that should be practiced occasionally.

Use the links below to find writing prompts to practice with your students.

[Elementary.](#)

[Secondary.](#)

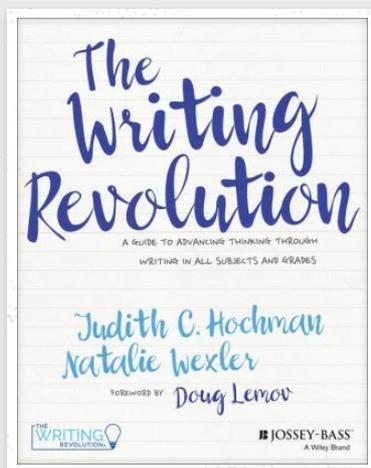
Writing Activities to Accompany Reading

The activities linked below are writing activities that are intended to accompany any novel or short story. You can use these activities to practice critical thinking skills with students and they will work with any text. Consider including them in your end-of-year practice or providing them for students to utilize with any summer reading they may do.



[Elementary.](#)

[Secondary.](#)



The Writing Revolution Modules

While the official book study for The Writing Revolution has come to a conclusion, we are still making the modules available for educators to watch and utilize for their own professional development. You can find the links for all four modules below!

[Module 1](#)

[Module 2](#)

[Module 3](#)

[Module 4](#)

The Writing Revolution is also offering weekly webinars that focus on the various writing strategies found within these modules. The webinars explain a different strategy every week and provide guidance for implementing it in your classroom! Follow @TheWritingRevolution on Twitter to register!



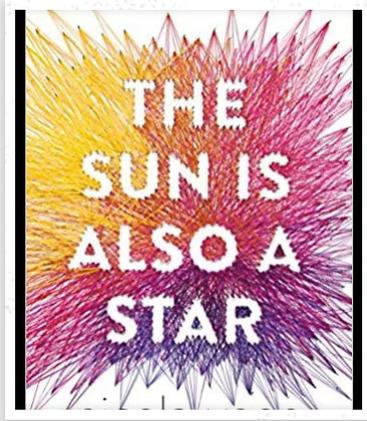
Literacy Framework

Does your school utilize a curriculum map, scope and sequence, or pacing guide? The [Literacy Framework](#) is a tool you can use to curriculum map and plan throughout the school year. Use the Literacy Framework to dive into each standard through "I can" statements, question stems, practical examples, and digital resources!

Have special requests for support? Feel free to reach out to us at any time. That's what we are here for!

BOOK SUGGESTIONS

As the school year is winding down, the literacy team wanted to provide a book suggestions that you can add to your summer reading list for students. Each book is one that we have seen engage students in both interest and intellect.

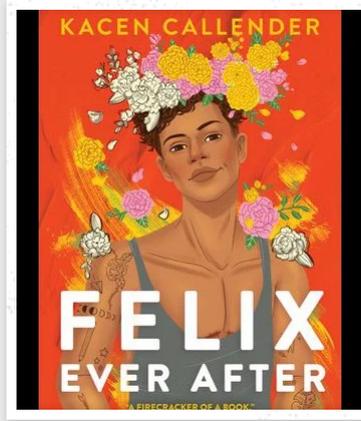


The Sun is Also a Star

By: Nicola Yoon

The Sun is Also a Star is a teenage coming of age novel with a twist. Two characters, both immigrants, meet under the wildest of circumstances and come to develop an interest in one another. Their connection is undeniable, but their relationship has a timer on it. One of the character's families is possibly going to be deported. While trying to balance the societal pressure that comes with being an immigrant, the two main characters teach the reader about compassion and overcoming differences.

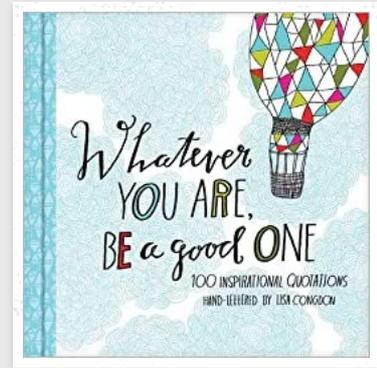
(This book was also made into a movie; which makes a great hook to get students to read it!)



Felix Ever After

By: Kacen Callender

Felix is a transgender boy who wants nothing more than to know what it feels like to fall in love. He is proud of who he is, but he begins to receive threatening communication from a person online. While Felix could choose to let this person keep him down, he chooses to fight back. Follow Felix's path to staying true to himself and demanding what he knows he deserves.



Whatever You Are, Be a Good One

By: Richard Carlson and Joseph Bailey

The title of this book is based off of the quotation by Abraham Lincoln. The book is filled with inspirational quotations that are illustrated to catch the reader's attention. Students can use each quotation as a writing prompt, a conversation starter or just an idea to think about as the plan to be the best that they can be.

EDUCATOR OPPORTUNITIES TO CHECK OUT!

July Automated Scoring Focus Groups

IDOE invites interested educators to register for one of three focus groups to engage in discussions about the potential use of automated scoring for Indiana's state assessments.

See this [flyer](#) that contains more information and meeting registration links. Contact the Office of Student Assessment (OSA) with any questions.

Check out this opportunity from IDOE Title Team

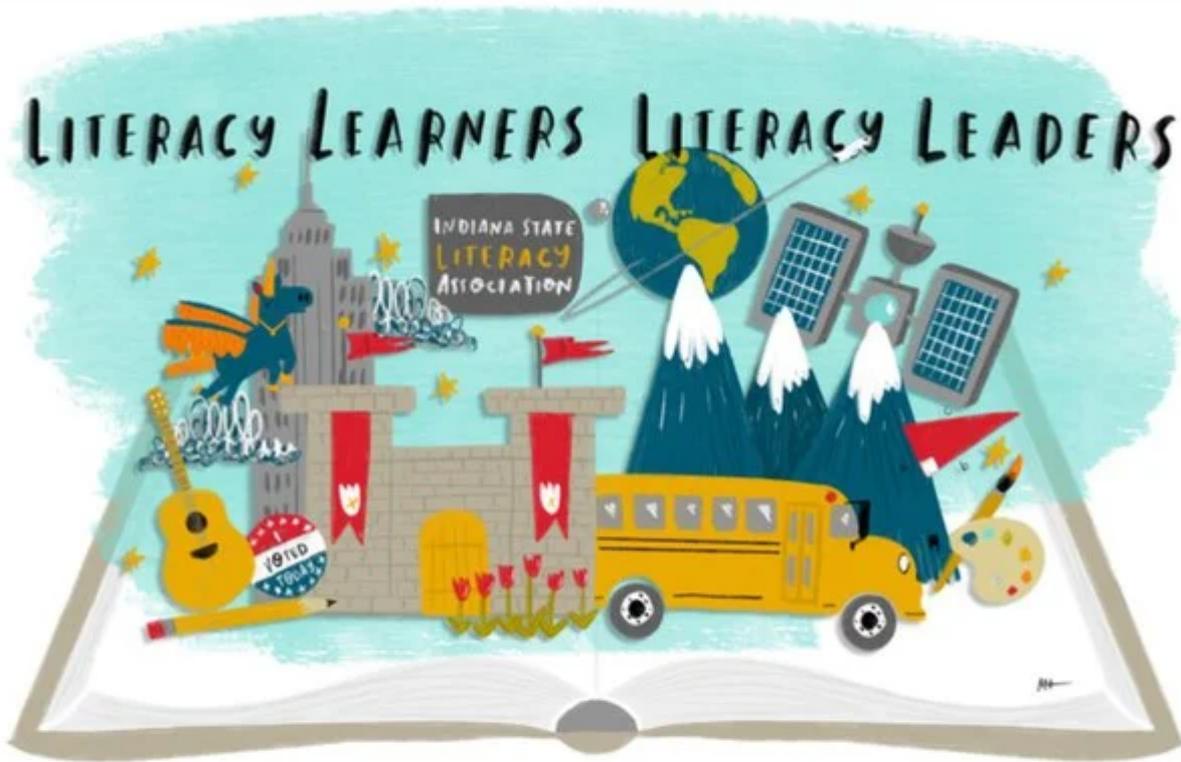
During the month of May, sign-up or renew your [Video On Demand](#) Subscription to receive 3-months of **FREE video content**. Explore the sessions from the 2020 National ESEA Conference, as well as sessions from the previous conference. Subscribers can earn [Continuing Education Units](#) (through the University of San Diego at an additional fee) by watching sessions and filling out the evaluations.

Share the Wealth

Learn from the comfort of your home or anywhere. On Demand videos provide an opportunity for inspiring and informative professional development. Download the [FREE On Demand Video Flyer](#) to share with your colleagues.

Indiana State Literacy Conference

Join the Indiana affiliate of the International Literacy Association for a great day of learning. Register [here](#).



The graphic features the text "LITERACY LEARNERS LITERACY LEADERS" in a bold, black, hand-drawn font at the top. Below this, a central illustration depicts an open book with a vibrant scene on its pages. The scene includes a yellow school bus, a guitar, a globe, a smartphone, a satellite dish, a mountain range, a city skyline, and a sign that reads "INDIANA STATE LITERACY ASSOCIATION". The background is a light blue wash with yellow stars. At the bottom, the text "INDIANA STATE LITERACY CONFERENCE 2020" is written in a bold, dark blue font, followed by "September 12, 2020 | Noblesville High School" and "Register at www.indianareads.org | #ISLA20 | @IndianaReads".

LITERACY LEARNERS LITERACY LEADERS

INDIANA STATE LITERACY CONFERENCE 2020
September 12, 2020 | Noblesville High School
Register at www.indianareads.org | #ISLA20 | @IndianaReads



Literacy and Tech: Thought of the Month!

Allsides

In the wake of the current pandemic it has become more evident than ever that we need a society of people who can decipher between news that is real and news that is fake. The website Allsides works to show students how news stories change dependent upon the perspective of the writer. Use this website with secondary students to help them learn how to identify honest, non-biased, news reporting.

Connect on Twitter!

It's been reported that over four million educators use Twitter for professional conversations. As educators, there is so much we can learn from each other. We invite you to connect with us and each other!

1. Tweet about all things LITERACY using #INspirEDlit
2. Follow the hashtag and connect with other coaches and educators
3. Follow @EducateIN for the latest updates from Indiana Department of Education
4. Follow your IDOE Literacy Team: @RoseTomishima, @KellyKWaller, & @JMRisch1



Literacy's Who To Follow:

Who: Teach Write

Handle: @TeachWriteEDU

What: Teachers who write make the best teachers of writers. Providing education, inspiration, and workshops.

**WANT TO JOIN OUR LITERACY COMMUNITY
OF PRACTICE? CLICK HERE.**

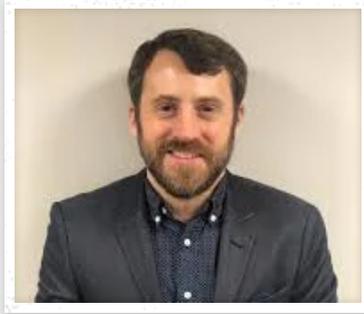


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