

Writing Workshop Foundations

With Amy Ludwig Van Derwater



In a writing workshop, students learn to appreciate both meaning and craft in writing and then learn to shape their own lives into stories, essays, poems, and articles. As teachers, we begin by creating an inspiring writing environment, helping students discover and strengthen their own voices through writing conferences and the study of well-written narrative, informational, and opinion texts.

This day will begin with a focus on the elements of writing workshop: procedures, mini lessons, conferring, and planning. We will examine student writing, video clips, and strong texts as we explore ways to manage many writers, teach from literature, establish structures, plan units, and create exciting opportunities for student publication.

This workshop will draw on many resources, from the Teachers College Units of Study to books by Ralph Fletcher, Georgia Heard, Stephanie Parsons, and Barry Lane, and teachers will leave with a bibliography of books and resources to further their learning. Please bring whatever resources you are using now, as we can use these to deepen our discussion and work together.

November 2, Grades K - 2

November 3, Grades 3 - 5

8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Register at: register.caboces.org



A former fifth grade teacher, Amy Ludwig VanDerwater is author of *FOREST HAS A SONG* (Clarion, 2013), *EVERY DAY BIRDS* (Scholastic, 2016), and the forthcoming *READ! READ! READ!* (Wordsong, 2017), *DREAMING OF YOU* (Boyd's Mills Press, 2018), and *WITH MY HANDS* (Clarion, 2018). She is also co-author of *POETRY: BIG THOUGHTS IN SMALL PACKAGES* (2012) and the forthcoming *POEMS ARE TEACHERS* (2017), both with Heinemann. Amy lives in Holland, NY, has taught writing to teachers and students for eighteen years, and blogs at The Poem Farm and Sharing Our Notebooks. Find her online at www.amyludwigvanderwater.com.