

## **EDUCATOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN PERSON AND VIRTUAL**

### **HONORING DIVERSITY IN THE CLASSROOM**

The history of the (lack of) diversity in children's literature in the United States, and ways to foster diverse reading and stock the classroom shelves in elementary grades. Includes a powerpoint presentation with current recommendations about books exploring cultural diversity, race, SEL, gender diversity, religion, ability, body shaming. Particularly useful for pre-service teachers at universities.

### **DISCOVERING OUR COMMON HUMANITY THROUGH WRITING**

As students prepare to write a story about a person they admire or had an impact on their lives, the class considers character traits they value and the fact that these traits extend to all humans regardless of where we come from, our skin color, our gender preference, our physical ability. Reading books with diverse protagonists, extends this exploration of traits.

### **THROWING AWAY THE LABELS AND CONCENTRATING ON STUDENTS' INDIVIDUAL HISTORIES**

When we use a label we tend to paint the individual only within the lines of that label. But labels are general to the point of being meaningless. Let's get to know, instead, that child's history, the whole scaffolding that he or she brings to the table to understand and better serve the individual.

### **USING SCIENCE BASED NONFICTION AS MENTOR TEXTS FOR STUDENT WRITING**

Using narrative nonfiction as mentor texts, Terry will discuss the use of description, timing, research, and storytelling. Students write their own stories from the point of view of a character in the mentor text.