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Ladybugs, Tornadoes, And Swirling Galaxies: English Language Learners Discover Their World Through Inquiry



Synopsis

Brad Buhrow and Anne Garcia are primary teachers in a diverse school in Boulder, Colorado. In *Ladybugs, Tornadoes and Swirling Galaxies*, you will see how they blend comprehension instruction and ELL best practices to explore inquiry as a literacy pathway for English language learners. As teachers and students engage in learning science and social studies content they also discover multiple ways to make meaning. The book is full of photographs of student artwork—including a color insert—that reveals the children's inquiry process, and demonstrates the important role of art as a sign system in ELL literacy and language acquisition. Brad and Anne provide explicit detail on the process they use as they move step-by-step with students from personal narrative through the independent inquiry process. They also discuss use of the Gradual Release Model, authentic assessment, and bilingual identities. Appendices in Spanish and English help to round out this informative and charming resource.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This year I am working with a very mixed group of students. I have 13 EAL students (various levels, from beginner to intermediate) and 8 native English speakers. I am teaching Kindergarten. I bought this book as felt as if I was struggling to cater for everyone in the classroom, especially my EAL learners. This book has really really helped me reboot and start again with a fresh mind full of ideas. As a busy teacher I didn't have the time to sit down in one sitting and read the book from start to finish, but one thing I did love was that with every page or two I had the chance to read, I also got

new strategies that I could implement into the classroom immediately. Highly recommend for any teachers with EAL students!

This book is great because it addresses collaboration between the classroom teacher and the library media specialist. As a high school library media specialist I feel that the inquiry-based learning that is described in this book should be used at all levels. It really shows the power of thinking, and it is impressive to see the confidence and the excitement of the students' learning and teaching. This book is a "must read" for all teachers, parents, politicians, and especially for anybody pursuing a career in education.

this book had lots of great ideas that were presented in an easy to understand manner. this is a good partner to the SIOP model book.

This is an incredible book to guide your own classroom in becoming a classroom of wonders, Where students acquire new vocabulary and push themselves as critical thinkers and inquirers. So many of these wonderful insights and methods can be applied to non-ESL classrooms as well. I am so energized and ready to take some of these methods into my own classroom.

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