



SHELL
EDUCATION

3rd Edition

CREATING STRATEGIC READERS

*Techniques for Supporting
Rigorous Literacy Instruction*



VALERIE ELLERY

Foreword by Lori Oczkus

Publishing Credits

Robin Erickson, *Production Director*; Lee Aucoin, *Creative Director*;
Timothy J. Bradley, *Illustration Manager*; Sara Johnson, M.S.Ed., *Editorial Director*;
Maribel Rendón, M.A.Ed., *Editor*; Sara Sciuto, *Assistant Editor*;
Grace Alba Le, *Designer*; Corinne Burton, M.A.Ed., *Publisher*

Image Credits

Cover illustration, Kristi Valiant; p. 4, 31, 105, 179, 225 Valerie Ellery

Standards

- © 2007 Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages, Inc. (TESOL)
- © 2007 Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System. World-Class Instructional Design and Assessment (WIDA). For more information on using the WIDA ELP Standards, please visit the WIDA website at www.wida.us.
- © Copyright 2010. National Governors Association Center for Best Practices and Council of Chief State School Officers. All rights reserved.

Shell Education

5301 Oceanus Drive
Huntington Beach, CA 92649-1030
<http://www.shelleducation.com>

ISBN 978-1-4258-1185-3

© 2014 Shell Educational Publishing, Inc.

The classroom teacher may reproduce copies of materials in this book for classroom use only. The reproduction of any part for an entire school or school system is strictly prohibited. No part of this publication may be transmitted, stored, or recorded in any form without written permission from the publisher.

CREATING STRATEGIC READERS

Table of Contents

Dedication and Acknowledgments	4
About the Author	5
Foreword	6
Introduction	7
Chapter 1: C-A-I: A Comprehensive Literacy Classroom	13
Chapter 2: Word Study: Phonological Awareness and Phonics	31
Chapter 3: Word Power: Vocabulary	105
Chapter 4: Finding the Flow: Fluency	179
Chapter 5: All Roads Lead to Meaning: Comprehension	225
Appendix A: References Cited	291
Appendix B: Contents of the Digital Resource CD	302

Dedication and Acknowledgments

Dedicated in loving memory to Velma, my grandma, who believed in me, and encouraged me to become a teacher. It was through her love for writing and inspiring words that the seed for writing was planted in my heart.



Velma, excited about receiving her copy of *Creating Strategic Readers*.

The legacy of love continues through my son, Nick, whose story has inspired thousands of educators globally to believe in their students.



Nick continues to leave a legacy of love and learning to his daughter, Evelyn.

There are always those special people in your life to whom you are forever grateful. I am so fortunate to have so many who believe in me and inspire me to be all that God has called me to be, and to live a life of integrity.

I am grateful for:

- my loving husband, Gregg, who is my true north and continues to be there through it all
- my children—Nick, Derek, Jacey, and Brooke—who are my priceless treasures
- my granddaughter, Evelyn Marie, who is one of the main reasons why I stay passionate about creating strategic readers. She will always be my “Princess Evie.”
- my mother, Laurie, who never stops believing in me, and my father, Roger, who always was there cheering me on and is now watching over me from heaven
- my sisters, Connie and Christy, who are also my friends, and are always there for me
- my dear friends, Lisa Hanna, Tammy Thompson, and Michele Howard, who continue to encourage me with their genuine hearts and true friendship
- my church family, Bayside Community, who never stops praying for me
- my colleagues and friends, Amy Gaston, Mary Garced, Sue Gore, Shannon McCoy, and Nancy Roever, who never cease to amaze me with their support and love for education, as well as bringing laughter through this process
- my Teacher Created Materials/Shell Education and International Reading Association team, Sara Johnson, Maribel Rendón, and Tori Bachman, who bring an expertise to their profession and have inspired me more than they will ever know

About the Author



Valerie Ellery has dedicated 25 years to the field of literacy in various roles as a National Board Certified Teacher, a curriculum specialist, a mentor, a reading coach, a national consultant, and an international author. After acquiring her master's in reading K-12 from the University of South Florida, she became a district curriculum specialist. This new role gave her the opportunity to model reading strategies, mentor teachers, and construct a road map for creating strategic readers. In 2005, her first book, *Creating Strategic Readers: Techniques for Developing Competency in Phonemic Awareness, Phonics, Fluency, Vocabulary, and Comprehension* was published by the International Reading Association (IRA). The book has been used internationally in universities as an undergraduate course text, helping to propel the reading process into the forefront of education. She also published a staff-development video series titled "Creating Strategic Readers: Teaching Techniques for the Primary and Intermediate Grades." In 2009, the second edition of *Creating Strategic Readers* was written and once again chosen as the IRA's Book Club Selection and soared as one of their best sellers.

Valerie's coauthored titles include *The Facilitator's Guide to What Research Has to Say About Reading Instruction*, 3rd edition (IRA 2009); *Sustaining Strategic Readers: Techniques for Supporting Content Literacy in Grades 6-12* (IRA 2010); and *Strategic Reading Resource* (Saint Mary's Press 2013). Additionally, she coauthored two secondary curriculums in the area of self-worth and human trafficking: *Bodies Are Not Commodities* (A21 2014) and *ShineHOPE* (Hillsong 2014), which will impact young adults in 37 nations.

Currently, Valerie is working internationally in Zimbabwe, Africa, and Honduras to empower and enrich educators to create literacy reform. She offers innovative, interactive, and motivating techniques with relevant and practical application. She is truly passionate about creating strategic readers and leaders. Valerie carries that same passion into her home in Bradenton, Florida. She is a devoted wife to Gregg, mother to four—Nick, Derek, Jacey, and Brooke—and grandmother to Evelyn Marie. She is also an international inspirational speaker and author. Through her book *Warrior Woman: Strategies to Awaken Your Purpose, Strength, and Confidence* (Deep River 2010), she has inspired thousands.

Foreword

Creating Strategic Readers fits into a rare category of resources that are so valuable to educators they warrant a third edition. Tens of thousands of teachers around the world rely on Valerie Ellery's research-based, accessible, best-selling book for powerful literacy ideas. Trends in education, much like fashion, come and go. Just like on the runway, in education some classics remain true and worthy of reinvention. Whether you are new to Valerie's work or a devoted fan already, you'll find that the third edition of her classic text is loaded with dozens of new, proven ideas and solutions for improving literacy in the classroom and across the school.

Fortunately, Valerie has updated her work just in time as educators face the challenges of implementing new standards in their classrooms. Veteran and new teachers alike will find that this edition equips educators with the foundations necessary for designing effective, rigorous instruction. After listening to her readers and relying on her work in classrooms, Valerie incorporated solutions for the most up-to-the-minute needs of today's classroom.

The goal of Valerie's work remains consistent and true: to promote strategic reading with the five components of a comprehensive literacy approach (phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension) in an authentic learning environment. Ellery shows us how to teach the whole child to prepare students to become truly college- and career-ready. The proven CAI model—curriculum, assessment, and instruction—permeates the book. By skillfully weaving curriculum, assessment, and instruction throughout the day, teachers meet the needs of students and advance their literacy learning.

What makes this resource really stand out are three essential foundations included in every technique: the gradual release model, critical thinking, and multiple intelligences. Every technique in the book includes a solid, research-based reason for teaching the strategies and skills involved. The techniques also include Ellery's famous "teacher talk" feature so you'll be ready with just the right language to promote critical thinking *every step of the way*.

Creating Strategic Readers includes exciting and varied hands-on ways to teach reading. Students will be moving, interacting, and engaging as they learn the essential strategies for literacy development. Every technique includes a mix of ways to teach the concepts so students are listening, speaking, reading, and writing with the teacher, each other, and independently and are also provided opportunities for purposeful use of technology.

Please join me in applauding Valerie Ellery for her new fabulous edition of the classic hit *Creating Strategic Readers*! The saying "the third time is a charm" certainly applies to this useful resource that belongs on the desk of any educator who desires to teach literacy with rigor in the age of standards.

—Lori Oczkus, M.A.
Literacy Consultant and Author

Introduction

Since the publication of the first edition of *Creating Strategic Readers* in 2005, and the second edition in 2009, I have had the opportunity to travel nationally and internationally to meet firsthand with teachers who have read and applied the strategies. *Creating Strategic Readers* has been overwhelmingly received by educators globally and has been making an impact on the next generation of readers. It is inspiring to know that teachers are using this resource to support their learners to think strategically.

Prior to the first edition of *Creating Strategic Readers*, research was proving—and is still proving—that teachers need to modify some of their traditional practices of teaching skills in isolation (Duffy and Roehler 1986; Loughran 2013; Pressley et al. 1992; Pressley et al. 1989). I wrote *Creating Strategic Readers* to support teachers who knew they wanted a comprehensive literacy approach and did not want to teach skills in isolation. These educators know that our goal is to teach reading as a strategic decision-making process that allows readers to use basic reading skills automatically and apply strategies independently to comprehend what they read.

At the birth of *Creating Strategic Readers*, reading initiatives were leaning towards explicit, direct instruction, and my trepidation was that reading would be viewed as very skill-driven without the emphasis being on why readers are doing what they are doing to read. During that time, federal mandates reflected on embedding the five reading components (phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension) in a segmented literacy block of instruction, as identified by the National Reading Panel (NRP) report (National Institute of Child Health and Human Development [NICHD] 2000). This fragmented framework caused a deep concern within the literacy world. It was my desire to equip educators with techniques that concentrate on effective instruction within these five components, promoting strategic reading in an authentic learning environment.

Looking Back to Go Forward: A Focus on the Whole Child

As we continue to strive to help create these strategic learners, it is imperative that we assess the multitude of theories and initiatives that educators have researched and applied over generations in the name, and sometimes *game*, of education. We continue to revisit what has worked and what has not within educational mandates, and bring forth a secure and steady system that will globally prepare learners for success. We need to consistently analyze the art and science of how to support, rather than suppress, critical and creative thinking.

You've Just Finished your Free Sample

Enjoyed the preview?

Buy: <http://www.ebooks2go.com>