# English Language Arts Innovations

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# State Testing

- Literacy Committee
- Professional Development
- Summer Literacy Program
- Writer's Workshop
- Reader's Workshop



# Literacy Committee

- Membership comprised of administrators and teachers at all levels
- Open forum to discuss effectiveness of curricular implementation
- Provides an opportunity to investigate new approaches and programs

# Professional Development

- Writer's Workshop
- Reader's Workshop
- Content Literacy
- Making Thinking Visible

# Summer Literacy Program

- Summer 2006 program offered to students in kindergarten through grade eight
- Three day staff development program with literacy expert provided to teachers involved
- Emphasis placed on project-based learning related to modern enjoyable literature



# Summer Literacy Program

**Enrollment by Grade Level**

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 27 | 23 | 21 | 12 | 4 | 10 | 7 | 1 |

**Enrollment by Building**

| Deasy | Gribbin | Connolly | Landing | Middle School |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 24 | 26 | 16 | 21 | 18 |

**Guided Reading Score Changes – Spring 2006 to Fall 2006**

| Improved | Declined | Remained the Same |
|---|---|---|
| 63% | 2% | 35% |

# Students Enjoy Reading in a Comfortable Setting



# Curricular Changes

- Student understanding as a through-line
- New vocabulary approach
- Greater emphasis on inferential thinking as opposed to reading comprehension
- Grammar and writing mechanics
- Project-based learning
- Non-fiction



# Students Enjoy Reading about Sharks



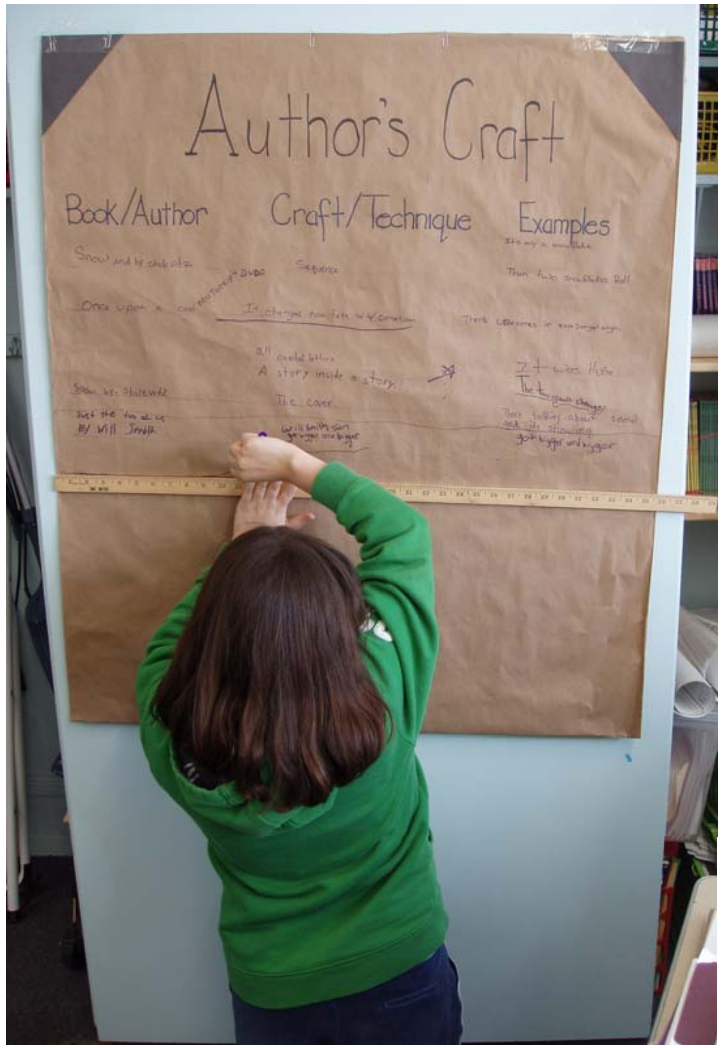
# A Student Makes a Project Presentation Using Technology



# Columbia Teachers College Writer's Workshop

- Emphasis on developmental process writing
- Teaches students to approach writing as both an author and as a reader
- Draws from students' real-life experiences

# A student records her thoughts on an author's craftsmanship



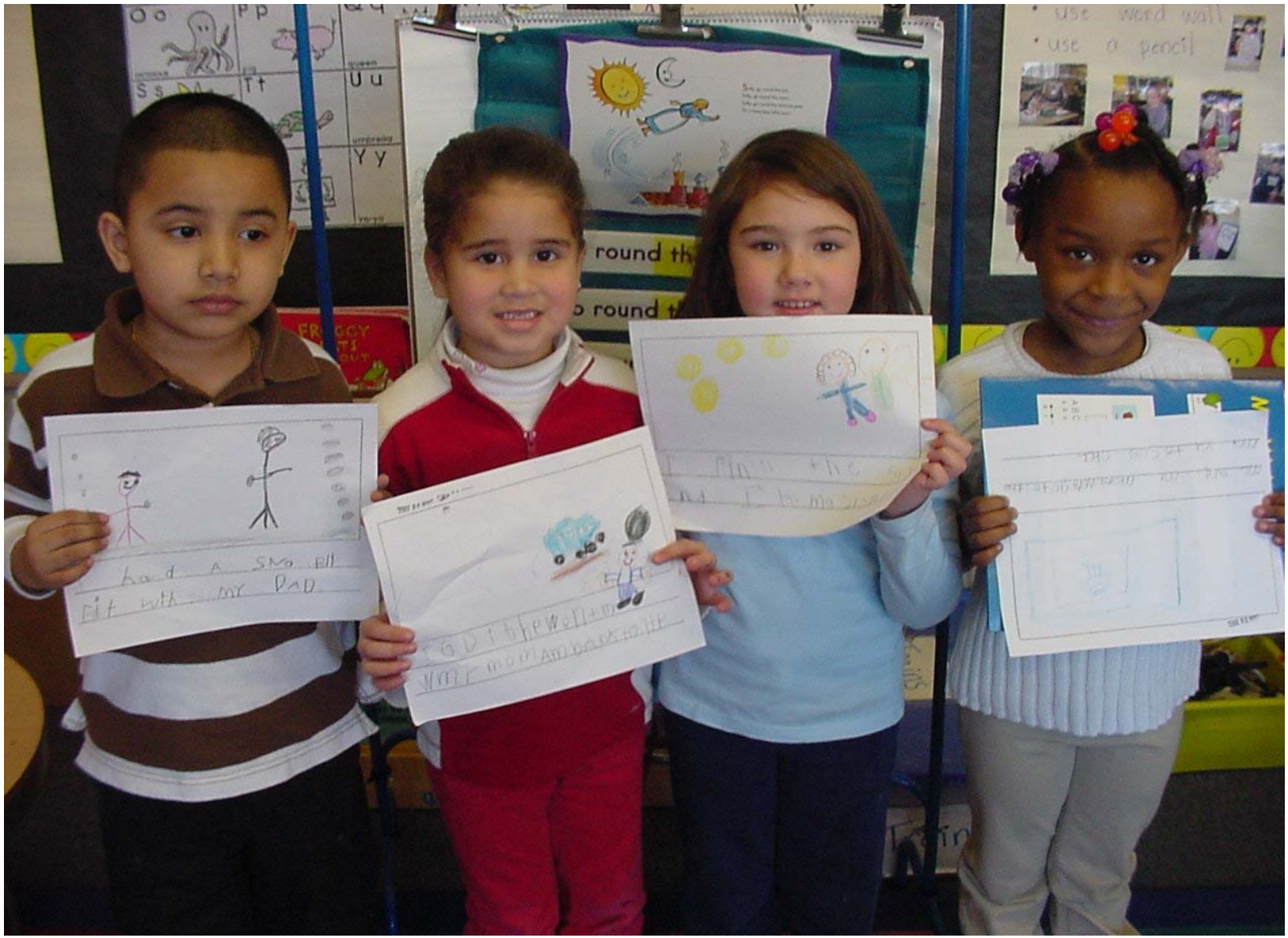
# An Author Reads to our Students



# From Process…



# To Product!



# Columbia Teachers College Reader's Workshop

- Connects to Writer's Workshop and focuses on developing varied reading strategies

# Curriculum Writing

- Advanced Placement
- Grades Six Through Nine
- Summer 2007 Projects
  - Kindergarten through Grade Five Writer's Workshop
  - Grades Six through Nine Multidisciplinary Units

# Staffing

- Working closely with teachers to assist in their professional development
- Observation cycle promotes identifying teaching strengths and weaknesses

# Structure

- Teaming
- Special Education
- English as a Second Language



# Team Teaching Approach



# Fiscal Responsibility

- Resources
  - Book Orders
  - Class Supplies

# Resources

- Winter 2006 / 2007 creation of K-6 classroom leveled libraries
  - Texts ranging in ability level from kindergarten through ninth grade
- Middle School and High School ESL leveled library currently being created

# Ten Year Text and Curricular Review

- Developed in the Spring of 2006
- Long-range vision and planning toward necessary changes

# Expectations for the Future

- Higher Standardized Test Scores
- Improved Writers and Readers
- Greater Collegiality
- Aligned Courses
- Additional Course Offerings
- Development of a Greater Appreciation of Learning
- Easier Transitions
  - Grade to Grade
  - School to School
- Parent-Home Partnerships

# Gribbin School Loves Reading!



# Students Reading for Enjoyment



# Middle School Students Work Cooperatively on a Project



# Good things are already happening! Deasy PARP Pajama Night…

- 18 teachers came to the read and help supervise….
- 173 Parents attended and were in the APR room to hear Jane….
- 196 Students attended and were scattered throughout the various reading groups…




# In Glen Cove!

# Good Things Are Happening

