



**Young Reader's Day**  
**November 12, 2013**

According to the creators of *Young Readers Day*, the occasion is "... a special day to recognize the joys and benefits of reading." Schools around the country are encouraged to promote the importance of reading, which paves the way for a lifetime of knowledge, information, success and happiness. Access the links below to experience online read-alouds as we celebrate reading. Thanks to Mrs. Rosenthal for the links!

[Ebook-Read To Me](#)

[Storyline Online](#)

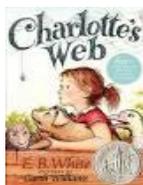


**Collaborative Comprehension**  
**Spot Light on Close Reading**

**College and Career Readiness Anchor Standards for Reading # 1: Read **closely** to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.**

Dr. Douglas Fisher defines **close reading** as a careful and purposeful **rereading** of a text where students focus on what the author has to say, what the author's purpose was, what the words mean, and what the structure of the text tells us. Close reading requires students to reread and search for answers to text dependent questions. These questions involve more than just recalling facts but rather require students to think about the author's purpose, the structure, and the flow of the text. Close reading compels students to actually think about and understand what they are reading. Access the link below for additional information from Dr. Fisher.

[Close Reading: Dr. Douglas Fisher](#)



**Word Work:**  
**Vocabulary & Close Reading**

**L3.4:** Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple meaning words and phrases based on grade 3 reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.

How many times have you read the children's classic, *Charlotte's Web*? With every reread of the story, the reader has the opportunity to discover new details and nuances that E. B. White included in the novel. Take a moment to watch this video clip, which demonstrates close reading focusing on the vocabulary found in Chapter 1 of *Charlotte's Web*. The video clip may provide new insights to share with your students of the author's use of vocabulary in the text!

[Close Reading: Vocabulary](#)



**Technology for Teachers**

**L3.1:** Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.

Conferencing with students during Writing Workshop will drive your grammar instruction based on individual needs. Consider viewing the Grammar Snap Videos found in Think Central to jump start your mini-lessons. The videos cover a variety of the CCSS including Complete Sentences, Adjectives, and Common and Proper Nouns.

[Think Central Grammar Snap Videos](#)

**The Writing Lab**



**Informative Writing**

**W3.2:** Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly

According to the pacing guide for third grade, Unit 2 (Nov.-Jan.) includes informative/explanatory writing and narrative writing. The new Units of Study that are grade specific now include "The Art of Informational Writing" for third grade.

Lucy Calkins recommends beginning this unit with a quick on-demand piece to assess your students. She suggests that you ask your students to think of a topic that they have studied and know a lot about. The teacher should then explain that tomorrow they will write about this topic. In the directions, Calkins recommends saying:

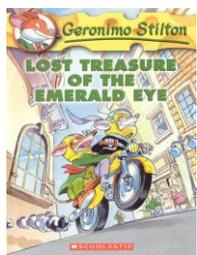
"In your writing, make sure you:

- Write an introduction
- Elaborate with a variety of information
- Organize your writing
- Use transition words
- Write a conclusion"

This assessment will provide excellent feedback regarding which lessons to focus on during your writing workshop sessions.

**Book Corner**

**Geronimo Stilton Books**



These inviting, colorful mysteries by Elisabetta Dami are a hit with third graders! If you are looking for some independent reading material that will become contagious with your students, try these books. A third grade teacher chose one for a read aloud, and now the students are **all** reading them. Thanks for sharing this tip!

[Geronimo Stilton Books](#)