

Everything *English Language Arts*

MDE English Newsletter

September 2022

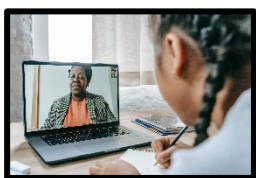
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Recommended MDE Resources

English Language Arts

- [Instructional Planning Guides](#)
- [Standards Short Sheet](#)
- [Vocabulary Instruction and Assessment Guidance](#)
- [Writing Guidance and Resources](#)
- [Writing Rubric](#)



Share with Families

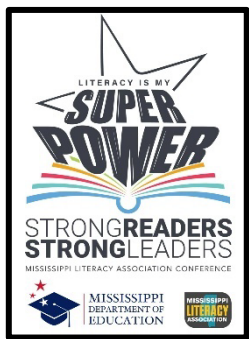
Students in the Magnolia State now have unlimited access to academic support in math and English language arts. Paper partners with the Mississippi Department of Education and your school district to provide free, unlimited access to trained tutors so every student in grades 3-12 can ask questions, work through problems, and grow their confidence.

Learn more [here](#).



NWP Writing Project sites in Mississippi

- [Live Oak Writing Project](#)
- [Mississippi Valley State University Writing Project](#)
- [MSU Writing/Thinking Project](#)
- [South Mississippi Writing Project](#)
- [University of Mississippi Writing Project](#)



Learning Opportunity

The Mississippi Literacy Association, in conjunction with the Mississippi Department of Education, will host the MLA Conference December 7-9, 2022.

Participant Registration

<https://www.msresaservices.com/MSWLC2022>

Call for Proposals (Submit by September 23, 2022)

<https://www.northmsec.com/wlc/present/>



The Mississippi College Countdown Newsletter

Join the [ACT](#) state organization for Mississippi, click [here](#). Sign up to receive the ACT monthly newsletter for K-12 professionals, click [here](#). Learn more about ACT WorkKeys, click [here](#). See the ACT Test Prep YouTube Playlist, click [here](#).

Teaching Tip for September: The What? Why? and How? of Collaborative Annotation

What? Collaborative Annotation is a strategy that encourages students to read and write in small groups. This strategy can be implemented using traditional supplies as well as digitally.

Why? Collaborative Annotation invites students to engage in thoughtful reading and make notes as they study a text. It is a form of written conversation that encourages all students to participate. One benefit of providing time for students to write their observations of a topic or text is the increased confidence they have to share their thoughts aloud with the class. Students will also become better at cooperating with one another which impacts their social and emotional learning.

How? There are many variations of collaborative annotation; however, taking some key steps will set students up for success.

- **Consider and Prepare the Text**
 - Keep the selection short and make sure it addresses the desired content knowledge.
 - Make the text readable by using large font so that multiple students will be able to view the text at once.
 - Post the article or excerpt on a large piece of paper so that it creates a sizable margin or border for students to write on.
- **Create the Space and Provide Materials**
 - Your seating should allow students to work in small groups and gather around the text. Alternatively, you may choose to post the text on the wall.
 - Make sure each student has a different color, so it is easier to identify which student wrote each annotation.
- **Model**
 - Show students an example of a completed task.
 - Demonstrate the types of annotations you expect students to use.
- **Read the Text Aloud**
 - Reading the text aloud allows students to practice their listening skills and begin to conceptualize the key ideas. This is the point in the lesson when you are increasing student interest through your voice, pacing, and volume.
- **Provide Clear Instructions**
 - Keep instructions concise and easy to follow. You may choose to post the task broken down by steps for students to reference as they are working.
- **Observe and Provide Feedback**
 - Practice group work routinely so students can become stronger collaborators. As you move around the room, provide short reminders or ask questions that help students provide more meaningful annotations.
- **Plan for Sharing**
 - Ask each group to share their annotations or points that came up during discussion. You may wish to conduct a gallery walk at this time where students rotate around the room and view each groups annotations.

For more tips see the following resources: [7 Strategies for Teaching Students How to Annotate - Waterford.org](#) and [How to annotate text while reading - YouTube](#).