

## **Text Structure Newsletter** February 2025

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."

#### - Nelson Mandela

### The Joy of Reading: Writing

The Joy of Reading, continues to make waves. Written & designed by educators for educators using the evidence-based KAT Framework, The Joy of Reading will refresh your joy for teaching reading.

Ms. Pilar Sierra discussed how to leverage the main idea to anchor students' writing for extended constructed response writing. She also highlighted resources in The Joy of Reading that help teachers model the thinking and writing. Check out the video below:

#### **ECR & Valentine Jitters**

With resources for tier 1 instruction. small group, intervention, and more, The Joy of Reading has all you need

to successfully implement the KAT Framework and improve students' reading comprehension!

#### **KAT in Action**



This classroom used the graphic organizer to write their main ideas and add details for the summary. The teacher immediately modeled how to transfer this into student notebooks.

## **February First Thursday**

Our most recent First Thursday KAT Chat was February 6. We had some thought-provoking discussions!

Ms. Sierra showed how the main idea is leveraged in writing ECRs, shared writing resources from The Joy of Reading KAT textbook, and modeled "Valentine Jitters." Ms. Heather Henderson, Chief Academic Officer in one of our partner schools, shared how her team and teachers embraced KAT. We also shared a new KAT Calendar for February.

We encourage you to implement the KAT Framework with fidelity in your classrooms to deliver high-quality, evidence-based instruction to ALL of your students.

Check out some of our KAT Chat highlights on the right!

#### **Shoutouts & Celebrations**

Thank you to Ms. Heather Henderson, who's passion for reaching all students was evident in her presentation at First Thursday.

Ms. Henderson, we are excited to see just how far your students (and teachers) will go with the KAT Framework in place!

## **First Thursday** Resources

- February KAT Chat
- February Calendar
- First Thursday KAT **Chat Slides**
- KAT in Action—KAT & the Joy of Reading
- File Library Index

## CONTACT **INFORMATION**

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#### **Next FIRST THURSDAY:**

MAR 6, 2025

Mark your calendar—we'll see you there!

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### KAT Q&A

During our most recent First Thursday, we received some great questions. Here are our replies! (Click <u>HERE</u> for the video)

## How do I connect the KAT Framework to writing, especially with an extended constructed response (ECR)?

The task of writing an ECR first requires students to comprehend what they have read. If they have NOT comprehended, they will NOT be successful. The **main idea** of the text serves as an anchor for their responses. Actively **model** how students can **leverage** their main ideas to begin the writing task—the writing task might connect directly to the entire main idea, or it might need to be anchored in part of the ECR. Either way, without first comprehending the text, students are likely to get lost.

#### How do I incorporate my current curriculum with KAT?

The KAT Framework is just that—a framework for teaching comprehension effectively. It is not a curriculum, and therefore, can overlay any of your existing resources. By utilizing the main idea and text structure thinking with everything you do, students will learn to rely on this approach when they encounter texts as well. However, please ensure your resources do not contradict the KAT Framework. It confuses students to teach them to write a main idea based on the text structure approach and then to turn around and tell them to use another method.

## **ACE Literacy Project**

Our latest episode of the ACE Literacy Podcast, One Plastic Bag, was released on February 6. This true story tells of one woman's journey to combat pollution in her community.

To share the ACE flyers with your families, click on the links to below.

- English
- Spanish



Available on YouTube, iTunes, Spotify, or wherever you get your podcasts!

#### Other News from the Team

The Joy of Reading is available for purchase! Please scan the QR code to buy your own copy of this incredible resource on Amazon.



