

A Master Class in Children's Literature: Trends and Issues in an Evolving Field

April Whatley Bedford, Lettie K. Albright

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This collection of essays shares the dedicated work of educators who believe wholeheartedly in the power of literacy to shape young lives. Since 1994, these educators have participated in the Master Class in Teaching Children's Literature sponsored by the Children's Literature Assembly during the Annual Convention of the National Council of Teachers of English.

Chronicling the highlights of these Master Classes, this collection is for teacher educators who are interested in children's literature, teachers and librarians in children's literature courses, and everyone else who has a passion for children's books. Each chapter focuses on a contemporary issue in children's literature, providing suggestions, strategies, and resources for implementation and instruction.

The first section, on laying the foundation of children's literature courses, includes chapters on how to structure such a course, hot topics in the field, and how to encourage a variety of responses to children's literature.

The next section encourages teachers to broaden their reading worlds in chapters that focus on particular types or aspects of books, including illustration and design, books about mathematics, gender diversity, and multicultural and international literature.

The final section addresses challenges and possibilities, such as the impact of new technologies, censorship, bestselling books, and keeping the love of literature alive in today's high-stakes testing environment.



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