

Oklahoma Reading Association

Teachers as Readers

What are Teachers as Readers?

Teachers as Readers Book Groups consist of teachers who:

- ... meet on a regular basis to read and discuss the same literature.
- ... select at least four quality children's or adolescents' books and one professional book to read and discuss.

Why have Teachers as Readers book groups?

- ... To model good instruction practices and lifelong reading pleasure.
- ... To share ideas about teaching literature and explore own literacy.
- ... To learn from other professionals and gain experience and confidence with book discussions.
- ... To learn about current children, adolescent, young adult and/or professional literature.

How do you create Teachers as Readers book groups?

- ... Select a leader who will be responsible for submitting the grant and organizing the group.
- ... Invite 8 to 10 members as a group. Invite a school administrator, a parent, a community leader or a school board member to participate.

How do you facilitate Teachers as Readers book groups?

1. Select a Primary Group Facilitator to guide at least the first meeting.
 - ... Determine the meeting dates.
 - ... Establish a meeting place and time.
 - ... Select group leaders or discussion facilitators for the following meeting dates
 - ... Finalize the reading list.
2. Select a facilitator for each following book who will do the following:
 - ... Find a relaxed, comfortable place to meet.
 - ... Read and reread the book to be discussed. Make a mental note (post-its work well) of four to five open-ended questions and monitor the discussion
 - ... Ask a group member to prepare a brief summary of the book as a discussion starter.
 - ... Ask a group member to prepare information about the author of the book.
 - ... Allow a few minutes at the end to share classroom teaching strategies.
 - ... Include everyone in the discussion and listen. Welcome and encourage dissent and multiple interpretations.

Grant Information for Teachers as Readers

1. Complete all information in Section I. This is the basic grant information.
2. Complete all information in Section II. This section focuses on the group membership and activities for the year.
 - . . . Provide the dates and places for the meetings. You may invite a state ORA board member or other ORA or local reading council members to the meeting.
 - . . . Select the books with a focus on the quality of the content. The books should be professional book. Provide a rationale for each selection.
 - . . . List member names and obtain signatures for each member. Group participants need to be members of the local council.
 - . . . Tell how you are going to use the books after discussion time.
 - . . . Submit an evaluation of the group meetings with an attendance roster.
 - . . . Include a self-addressed, stamped envelope with your completed application.
3. Special consideration is given for the following:
 - . . . Accuracy and clarity of information.
 - . . . Complete titles, authors, and rational.
 - . . . Description of how the books will be used after the book talk.
4. The maximum grant amount is \$250.00. Grant winners will receive notification in December 2007 and will receive a check in the amount of \$250.00 from ORA.

Grant Applications must be received by **November 1.**

Copy of the book order must be submitted to the Teachers as Readers chairman by **February 1.**

Project evaluation will be due by **June 1st** to Teachers as Readers chairman.

Teachers as Readers Grant Application

Section I

Person Submitting Application:

Local Council Affiliate: _____
Local Council Membership: _____
School Name and Address: _____

Contact Information:

Mailing Address: _____
Home Phone: _____
School Phone: _____

Primary Group Facilitator:

Local Council Affiliate: _____
Local Council Membership: _____
School Name and Address: _____

Contact Information:

Mailing Address: _____
Home Phone: _____
School Phone: _____

Member Names with Signatures and Local Council Affiliation.

Name	Signature	Council Affiliation & Membership #
1.	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____
7.	_____	_____
8.	_____	_____
9.	_____	_____
10.	_____	_____

Teaches as Readers Grant Application

Section II

A. Meeting Dates/Locations (Include street addresses if other than school in Section I)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

B. Book Titles, Authors and Selection Rationales (Include 1 Professional Title)

1. _____
Rationale: _____

2. _____
Rationale: _____

3. _____
Rationale: _____

4. _____
Rationale: _____

C. How do you plan to use the books after your meetings?

D. I will be responsible for ordering the books indicated on this application and agree to send a copy of the book order to the committee chair by **February 1**. I also agree to submit a project evaluation by **June 1**.

Person Submitting Application

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Contact e-mail: _____