



Session 1: Room A119

Topic: Author Workshop: Building Literacy Skills with Poetry and Books in Verse

Recorder: Leigh McCaffrey & Rhea Sinha

Recommended Reading:

- *Hip Hop Speaks to Children*, e.d. Nikki Giovanni
- *Poetry Friday Series* by Janet Wong & Sylvia Vardell
- *Joy Write* by Ralph Fletcher

Novels in Verse:

- Sharon Creech
- Kwame Alexander
- Margarita Engle
 - New national children's poet laureate
- Laura Shovan's *The Last Fifth Grade at Emerson Elementary*
- Children seek safety/a safe haven in poetry
 - Need a container in which to place their ideas/feelings
- Kids love music and don't necessarily recognize at first that it's a form of poetry
- Poetry as self-expression
 - Not just for the purpose of getting a grade
 - Not just so everyone has to write a specific type of work
 - Express their sensory desires and memories
 - The stories on our minds book
 - Izzy Kline Has Butterflies by Beth Ain
 - Butterfly moments
 - Whether they can only express themselves in English or in multiple languages
- Ruler Program?
 - From Yale
 - <http://ei.yale.edu/ruler/>
 - Mindfulness
- José Martí didn't separate his poetry from his work for independence
 - Bilingual poetry book
 - Integrate social studies into poetry

Laura Shovan's blog - <http://laurashovan.com/>

The Last Fifth Grade of Emerson Elementary

Levels of doing poetry with students

Level 1: React
Level 2: Reflect
Level3: Analyze