



Literacy Lab: Connecting reading,
writing and technology

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School Facts

- Suburban elementary school
- 500 pupils grades K-5, 4 bilingual Hispanic classes
- Midway between Philadelphia and Baltimore
- 33 award-winning teachers and 13 support staff
- Delaware State Testing Program (DSTP),
Measures of Academic Progress (MAP), DIBELS,
ACCESS, District Common Assessments
- Large After-School Program

Goal #1 for Literacy Lab

Meet educational needs of all learners

Equal access to technology

After School program

Scholastic Reading Inventory/ Reading Counts

Rosetta Stone

Goal #2 for Literacy Lab

Improve Student Writing

Higher scores on the DSTP

Higher academic achievement

Improved communication skills



Making the Connection

- Teacher uses literature to model the focus writing skill or genre.
- Students “quick write” to practice the modeled skill.
- Teacher may assign a genre, but students always have personal choice of topic.
- Students share their writing with others.

The Technology Component

- Word Processing
- Effective Feedback (Embedded Commentary)
- Visual Rhetoric
- Multimedia
- Software
- Internet
- Blogs
- Wikis

Word Processing

- Type To Learn
- Kidspiration
- Microsoft Office Word
- Individual Folders
- Spell Check
- Dictionary, Thesaurus

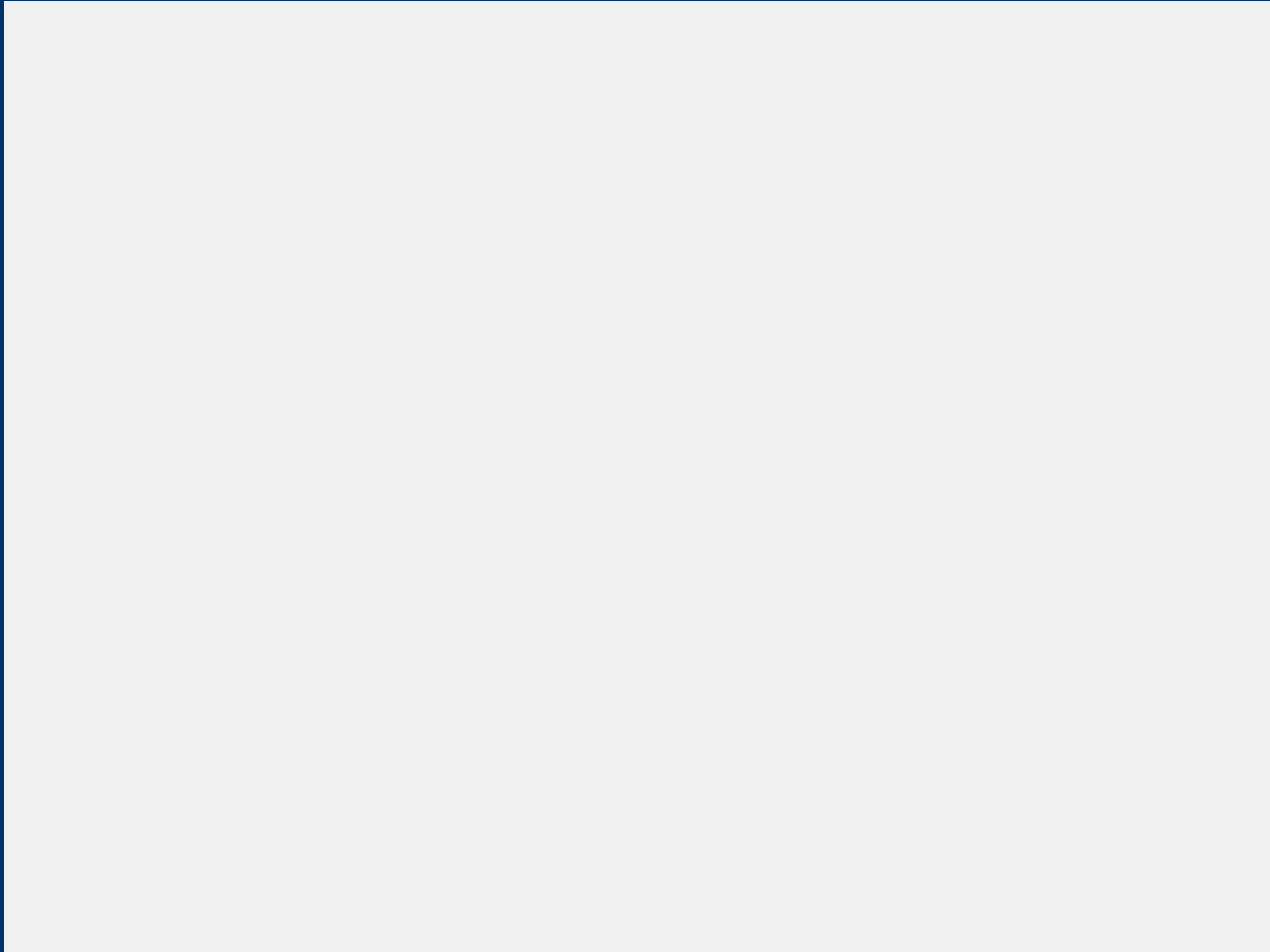
Effective Feedback

- Reviewing Toolbar
- Insert Comments
- Track Changes
- Accepting or rejecting Changes
- Using Macros to customize comments
- Assessment Rubrics
- Versions

Visual Rhetoric

- Choice of Font
- Choice of font size
- Choice of Color
- Choice of Effects
- Art
- Sounds

Multimedia



Multimedia



Summary Points

Key Learning:

Literacy Lab contributes to student achievement.

Use of technology motivates students to write.

Parent awareness and permissions contribute to student safety.

Challenges:

Crashes, glitches, viruses, outdated hardware

First to go in budget crunch