



TOUCHING BASE

APRIL 1, 2008

PUTTING PROVEN METHODS OF READING RESEARCH IN THE CLASSROOM
TO INCREASE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT ACROSS THE NATION

SPRING CONFERENCES

2008 Colorado Reading Summit

You are cordially invited to attend the Fourth Annual Colorado Reading Summit sponsored by the Colorado Department of Education.

This year, all educators are welcome to this full-day Reading Summit where sessions will highlight:

- Presentations by Colorado schools making gains and closing gaps in reading and writing;
- National research on early and adolescent reading and writing instruction; and
- Examples of effective Response to Intervention implementation.

Featured Guest Speakers include:

- Dr. Douglas Reeves, one of education's most respected experts in the field of assessments and standards, and founder of the Leadership and Learning Center;
- Dr. Guinevere Eden, international researcher and Director of the Center for the Study of Learning; and

- Gregory Moore, formerly of the Boston Globe, current editor of the Denver Post.

Please see the flyer at the end of this issue of Touching Base for additional information about the Reading Summit. Register today through the CDE website at http://www.cde.state.co.us/cde_readsum/index.htm.

Please register now to ensure the Early Registration rate of \$105 for the day. Feel free to pass this information along to all those interested including your local school board members, educators and parents.

Note: CRF funds may be used to attend the Reading Summit.

Spring CRF Conferences:

April 16: Denver
April 17: Colorado Springs
April 18: Colorado Springs

We are very pleased to announce that Jo Robinson will be the featured speaker for our opening session at each of the April conferences. Ms. Robinson will also provide an additional break-out session

targeted towards principals and administrators, both in the morning and afternoon.

The featured sessions include:

- Jo Robinson-Sustaining Growth;
- Linda Jenkins-Creating a District Wide System for Improvement;
- Neilia Solberg-Writing and Extended Response
- Sandy Kelly-Activities for Teaching Comprehension Skills Before, During, and After the Reading Process; and
- Lorena Hendricks-Strategies for Working with ELL Students

If you live in the Denver, or Colorado Springs area, please register to attend on either the April 16 or April 17 conference dates. The April 18 session is closed to new registrations.

We are looking forward to a great Spring CRF conference!

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- *Important Dates*
- *Professional Development opportunities for 2008*



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

IMPORTANT DATES 2



"THE TEACHER IF HE IS INDEED WISE DOES NOT BID YOU TO ENTER THE HOUSE OF WISDOM BUT LEADS YOU TO THE THRESHOLD OF YOUR OWN MIND."

~KAHLIL GILBRAN



IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2007-08

DIBELS

Spring Benchmark

April 7-18, 2008: DIBELS window

April 25: Data due

BEAR

April 28-May 9, 2008: BEAR window

May 16, 2008: BEAR Data due

2007-08 Online Course requirements

REMINDER: All of the online courses are due by May 31. Coaches, please check with your teachers to make sure that all courses are being completed on time and send us your updates if you have not already done so.

1st Year CRF Teacher Online Courses

Courses should be taken in the order listed.

The courses may be taken earlier, but not later.

K and 1st Grade:

Phonemic Awareness - Due October 19, 2007

Phonics - Due January 18, 2008

Assessment - Due March 21, 2008

Course of choice - Due May 31, 2008

2nd and 3rd Grade:

Phonics - Due October 19, 2007

Fluency- Due January 18, 2008

Assessment - Due March 21, 2008

Course of choice - Due May 31, 2008

All Reading First participants: The Reading Process Due May 31, 2008

Please note that some of the above due dates have passed.

Anita Archer is coming to Colorado!

Colorado Reading First is pleased to announce that Anita Archer is coming to Colorado for two days in October of 2008!

Ms. Archer will be leading in-depth discussions on Comprehension and Active Engagement.

The details surrounding her presentations, including locations will be part of the professional development activities planned for the 2008/2009 academic year.

Stay tuned for additional information in the coming weeks!

Rocky Mountain Summer Institute

Many of you have attended the Rocky Mountain Summer Institute over the last few summers. This summer the conference is scheduled for

Sunday, June 22 through Wednesday, June 25 at Keystone Resort and Conference Center, Keystone, Colorado.

The sessions look especially relevant to our Reading First schools, and we have worked with the conference sponsors to focus on early literacy and other topics of specific interest to many of you. We encourage you to use your Reading First funds to cover the cost of registration, lodging and travel.

This hands-on Summer Institute will show you how to:

- Survive and thrive as an administrator
- Increase reading and math fluency
- Implement academic intervention strategies
- Promote a positive school environment
- Use data as a force to guide student achievement

If you are interested in attending this conference, visit the Sopris West website at <http://bettereducator.com/event.aspx?EventID=173> for further details.



COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION
COLORADO READING FIRST

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WE ARE ON THE WEB!

[HTTP://WWW.CDE.STATE.CO.US/
CDECOMP/RF_HOME.HTM](http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdecomp/RF_HOME.HTM)

PUT **READING** FIRST!

MORE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The International Dyslexia Association - Rocky Mountain Branch presents the following brain research seminars:

My Unique Brain and Me - A Look Inside on Saturday, May 3rd, from 9:30-3:30 at the Lonetree Recreation Center, 10249 Ridgeway Cir, 80124.

Did you ever wonder how you learn things? Why is it easier to learn some things but not others? Come find out how your brain works and how you can improve your memory and learning skills in this fun-filled day for children and parents.

Learning and The Brain: From the Research Lab to the Classroom on Friday, May 2nd from 8:30 - 3:30 at Temple Sinai, 3509 S. Glencoe Street (West Door), Denver, CO 80237.

Teachers, psychologists, paraprofessionals, other educators, and interested parents will learn about new evidence regarding brain research, memory, and learning. If just learning about scientific research is not enough for you, stay tuned during the afternoon to learn how to put this information into practice. This seminar is presented by Dr. Jacquelyn Gamino, cognitive neuroscientist from The University of Texas Center for BrainHealth.

For registration fees and further information, please go to:
<http://www.dyslexia-rmbida.org/events.html>.

CRF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CALENDAR

April/early May 2008



MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	S/SU
	1	2 Data Webinar 10 a.m.	3	4	5/6
7 DIBELS win- dow opens	8	9	10	11	12/13
14	15	16 Spring CRF Conference: Denver	17 Spring CRF Conference: Colorado Springs	18 Spring CRF Conference: Colorado Springs	19/20
21	22	23	24	25 DIBELS data due	26/27
28 BEAR window opens	29	30	May 1	2	3/4

Holiday
Office
Closures



May 26, 2008
Memorial Day