

Did You Know?

Office of Child Development & Early Learning (OCDEL)

The Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) is a unique office within the commonwealth as it is a dual deputation reporting to the Pennsylvania Departments of Education (PDE) and Human Services (DHS). OCDEL, through PDE, is offering an opportunity for school districts to engage in a continuous quality improvement process using certified observers / assessors and the CLASS assessment tool. The Classroom Assessment Scoring System® (CLASS®) is an observation instrument developed to assess classroom quality in Preschool through Third-Grade classrooms. <https://teachstone.com/class/>

To learn more and take advantage of this **free** opportunity, please contact Maryanne Olley at molley@pa.gov or Barry Wiestling at bwiestling@pa.gov.

National Academy of Education (NAEd)

This [report](#) synthesizes findings from scholarship conducted over the past decade as part of a large-scale federal investment by the U.S. Institute of Education Sciences (IES) to improve reading comprehension of U.S. students. To support this undertaking, IES launched the *Reading for Understanding Initiative*, which invested approximately \$120 million in grant funding to six research teams charged with focusing on improving reading comprehension for students in pre-K through grade 12. This initiative responded to concern that children's improvement in reading comprehension had leveled off over the previous few decades, coupled with the observation that research on reading comprehension had sufficiently matured to warrant a major investment in leveraging that research to improve student performance.



Digital Resources

RECOMMENDED DIGITAL RESOURCES FOR LITERACY INSTRUCTION

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● WeVideo: www.wevideo.com ● Screencastify: www.screencastify.com ● iMovie: www.apple.com/imovie/ ● Zoom: www.zoom.us ● Flipgrid: www.flipgrid.com ● YouTube Live: www.youtube.com 	Use these tools for communicating, recording, and creating engaging instructional literacy videos.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Canva: www.canva.com ● Pear Deck: www.peardeck.com ● Nearpod: www.nearpod.com 	Use these tools for designing and creating appealing announcements and digital materials for presentations and virtual instruction.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Kindle Cloud Reader ● Literacy Footprints Digital Reader: www.literacyfootprints.com ● Biblionasium: www.biblionasium.com 	Use these tools for engaging readers with digital read-alouds and independent reading opportunities.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Really Great Reading: www.reallygreatreading.com ● SIPPS: www.collaborativeclassroom.org/programs/sipps/ 	Use these tools for helping students develop automaticity as readers.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Literably: literably.com/ 	Use this tool for assessing readers and determining independent/instructional levels.

literacyworldwide.org

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SNOW

No breath of wind,
No gleam of sun –
Still the white snow
Whirls softly down
Twig and bough
And blade and thorn
All in an icy
Quiet, forlorn.
Whispering, rustling,
Through the air
On still and stone,
Roof, - everywhere,
It heaps its powdery
Crystal flakes,
Of every tree
A mountain makes;
'Til pale and faint
At shut of day
Stoops from the West
One win't'ry ray,
And, feathered in fire
Where ghosts the moon,
A robin shrills
His lonely tune.

Walter de la Mare

2022 Pennsylvania Teacher of the Year

Congratulations to **Elizabeth A. Raff** who was named the 2022 Pennsylvania Teacher of the Year. Selected from a field of applicants from across the commonwealth, Elizabeth is a sixth grade ELA & SS teacher at Pequea Elementary School in the Penn Manor School District.



[Click here](#) to nominate an outstanding teacher for this prestigious award!

Email questions to:
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