

What are Teachers as Readers and how do you facilitate the group?

## **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.