



Changing How Instruction
for Learning is Delivered

News For and About CHILD® Educators™

Institute for School Innovation

THE LEADING EDGE

Consultant Training Grows to Second Session!!!

Project CHILD is taking off! Several new schools across the country are coming on board with CHILD. Our new schools include **Bowling Green** in western Kentucky, **Okaloosa County** in the panhandle of Florida, and **New Britain**, southwest of Hartford, **Connecticut**. Eight new full **Imagine Charter Schools** are also slated to open with CHILD for the 2008-09 school year. One is a long-awaited CHILD school in Tallahassee, just minutes from ISI's office, called **Imagine School of Evening Rose**.

To manage this growth, ISI is preparing for trainings in a big way. The Annual Consultant Training was held this year in Vero Beach. We appreciate **Citrus Elementary** for accommodating over 70 teachers on February 9-10. **A second consultant training is planned for May 16-17 in Okaloosa County**. Be sure to check the website for more details and registration information if you are interested! This training offers you an opportunity to grow professionally and share your successes with teachers across the country. If working with

*Thanks for continuing to share your wonderful ideas with the growing network of innovators on the leading edge of our profession. I hope you've enjoyed reading **The Leading Edge** this year. Stay tuned for more good ideas coming next year, and as always, keep checking the website to stay up to date with news and ideas on the cutting edge.*

Dr. Sally Butzin,
President and Executive Director, ISI

peers interests you, consider being part of the ISI Team!



Erin Miller, Primary Writing teacher, **Vero Beach Elementary, Indian River County, FL**, prepares materials at the Consultant Make and Take.

Dr. Butzin discusses the responsibilities and rewards of being a CHILD Consultant for the Institute for School Innovation.



Beth Barnard, Partin Settlement Elementary, Kissimmee, FL, receives the first **Consultant of the Year Award** along with a check for \$300 from **Winky Jenkins-Rice**.

Inside this issue:

Students Go to Iditarod in St. Cloud, FL	2
Great Ideas Worth Sharing	2
It's Your Turn...	3
Letter from the Editor	4
ISI Contact Information	4
CHILD Summer Institute	4

Save these dates:

- **CHILD Annual Conference**, West Palm Beach, FL May 2-3, 2008
- **CHILD Consultant Training II**, Niceville, FL, May 16-17, 2008
- **CHILD Summer Institute**, Kissimmee, FL, June 18-19, 2008



Volume 2, Issue 3

April 2008

Diana Paulson, Editor



Canoe Creek CHILD Students Go to the Iditarod

The intermediate CHILD students at **Canoe Creek Charter School, St. Cloud, Florida**, led by teachers, **Jean Anastasia, Lydia Rodriguez, and Darlyn Macky** recently followed the progress of the Iditarod race taking place in Alaska. Each student chose a musher and followed his or her progress along the 1,049 mile trail from Anchorage to Nome each day through Internet news reports. Students first became interested in the race after reading about it in their reading class with Ms. Mackey. As it so happens, Ms. Anastasia, their writing teacher, has a cousin who lives in Alaska and trains mushers and their dogs for this race. With his help, she was able to share first hand information about the race. Thus their study began.

Each teacher set up learning stations for the students to visit daily. In reading they not only read about the race, but about Alaska as well. During writing class, students made Musher Trading Cards (like baseball cards) and made books to describe and illustrate the supplies a musher would need along the journey. In math, Ms. Rodriguez had the students calculating the number of calories the dogs took in and expended during the race. Then they researched their musher, and made glyphs to illustrate their musher's unique characteristics. They also used map skills to design their own Iditarod games.

Students commented on how dangerous this race is. "There is no other race like it," explained one student. "It is not for fun. It is treacherous."



Great Ideas Worth Sharing....

Hopscotch Reading is in **Rachel Keene's** Kdg room at **Highlands Elementary, Kissimmee, FL**. Kids sound out words as they hop on the letters.

Idea



Essential Component #6: Station activities are clearly defined, aligned with standards, appropriate to students' abilities and needs, and provide feedback..

Amy Demmy, a primary writing teacher at **Citrus Elementary, FL**, uses a real mailbox for answer keys. The students enjoy getting the "mail" to check their work!



Idea

Students in this cluster have an opportunity to take learning to a deeper level through reflective writing. "Read Our Reflections," the bulletin board beckons!



Idea

It's Your Turn....

Educational Games Encourage Cooperative Learning

The **NH Jones Elementary** primary cluster in **Marion County, FL**, work as a real team! They collaborate and cooperate to bring exciting learning experiences and opportunities to their students. The cluster has devised an incentive for students called "Skip A Station" Coupons. Their students earn a coupon to reinforce positive behaviors and academic progress. Students love deciding when they want to cash in their valuable coupons.

Skip A Station

This coupon entitles you to skip ONE station during Unit 5. This offer not valid without a coupon.

Week _____ Station _____

Name _____

1000-100



(L-R: **Courtney Lewis** (Reading), **Susan Townsend** (Writing), **Christina Etts** (Math))

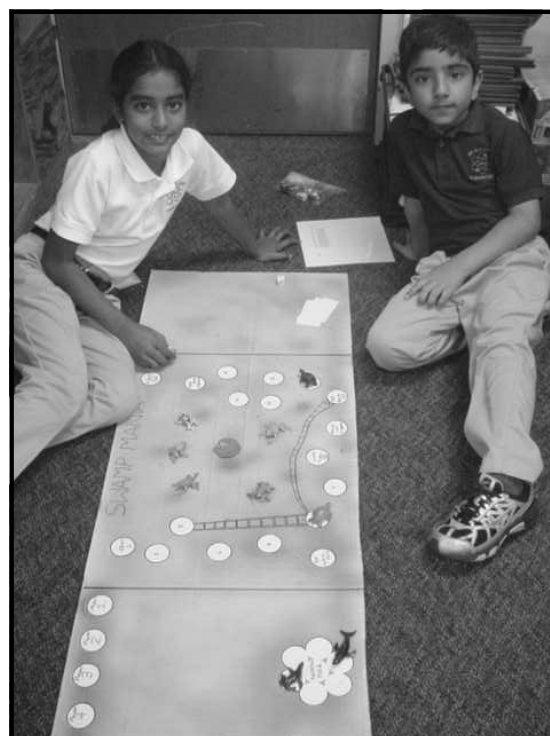


Second graders are creating electronic jeopardy games to practice Social Studies skills.



Students are working on board games they created.....including the gameboard, directions, game pieces, and answer keys. Teachers thus created a fun way to practice skills while remembering that more learning takes place at the bottom of the learning pyramid when children are teaching skills to others.

Essential Component # 18: There is adequate time for collaborative planning.



**INSTITUTE FOR SCHOOL
INNOVATION**

1339 Mahan Drive
Tallahassee, Florida 32308
1-800-940-6985 www.ifs.org

Dr. Sarah (Sally) M. Butzin
Executive Director
sbutzin@ifs.org

Winky Jenkins-Rice
Director of Educational Programs
wrice@ifs.org

Diana Paulson, NBCT
Senior Program Specialist
diana.paulson@gmail.com

Dear CHILD® Educators,

It's unbelievable that we are just a couple of months from the end of the 2007-08 school year. What an exciting year for Project CHILD! Be sure to frequently visit the www.ifs.org website to stay abreast of new opportunities and resources. Check out the comprehensive MAT21 Professional Development program that encourages all teachers to be part of the CHILD network of innovative educators across our nation! Mark your calendars now for upcoming events, such as the Annual CHILD Conference, Consultant Training Session II and Summer Institute. Be a part of the ISI Team that is making a difference for children.

Diana Paulson, The Leading Edge Editor



Redefining
Classroom
Instruction
Through
Technology
and Active
Learning



Florida CHILD District Contacts

Paula Cannon, Marion County Coordinator, Paula.Cannon@marion.k12.fl.us

Jan Gabhart, NBCT, Osceola County Coordinator, gabhartj@osceola.k12.fl.us

Barbara Hett, Indian River County Coordinator, Barbara.Hett@indianriverschools.org

CHILD Summer Institute Coming in June

June 18-19, 2008
9:00-3:30

Partin Settlement Elementary
Kissimmee, Florida

Brochure and registration online.



Professional Development Points.

Leadership Track included.

\$40 per day or \$70 both days. Free to Osceola County teachers.

Guaranteed to walk away with at least \$50 worth of classroom activities and priceless ideas!

Two days of
fun-filled
station-
building
sessions!



Check out the LeapFrog® Task Cards available online at www.ifs.org for many LeapFrog products including:

Interactive Decodable Series
LeapDesk
Leapster
Transitional Readers
Leveled Reading Series
Phonemic Awareness Series
Read-It-All Series

Activities are designed for use in the Word Study and Reading/Listening Stations of CHILD Reading Classrooms.