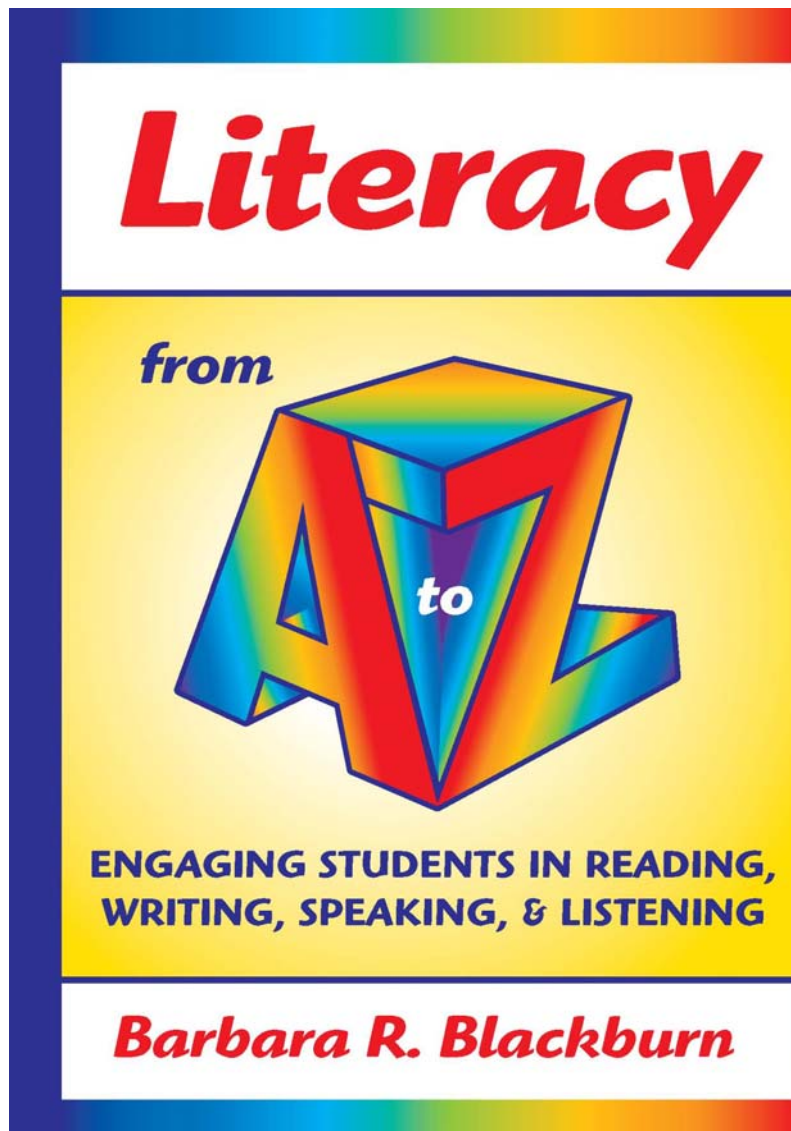


# **A Book Club Facilitator's Handbook For:**



General Activities for Teachers and Administrators  
Developed by Kendra Alston, Kennedy Middle School

# Pre-Reading Activities

Please allow teachers to choose one or more of the following activities to complete before reading the book.

## Challenge Bowl

This is a small group activity. Each person should use five small index cards and on each card write one of the biggest classroom or student challenges you are currently facing. Fold each card and place it in a bowl. Each group member then chooses a challenge from the bowl and reads it. As each person reads Literacy from A to Z, they will discover and record ways to overcome their chosen challenge. After reading the book in its entirety, everyone will share their index cards. As a result of this activity, teachers have a non-threatening way of expressing and addressing the challenges of teaching literacy to all students.

## The Top 10

List the top 10 words that are important to you in Literacy. List from 1-10 with 1 being the most important. Once finished, explain your answers.

## “T” Maps

On a piece of 11X 14 construction paper, draw a picture of a t-Shirt. In the center of the t-shirt write the word “literacy”. On the left sleeve of the shirt list synonyms for the term. On the right sleeve list antonyms. In the middle of the T-shirt, draw a symbol for the term literacy. At the bottom of the shirt, write a sentence using the term literacy. Once finished, cut out your t-shirts.

# During Reading Suggested Ideas

## Literacy Billboards

As you read, take what seems to be the most interesting idea or quote from the book and create an Ad or a billboard.

## Connecting with Quotes

Blackburn introduces each of her chapters with a quotation. In a reading journal or on regular notebook paper, draw a line down the middle of the paper. On one side write “Quotes” and on the other side write “Connections”. As you come to each quote, write it down under the quote side of your paper. Then, write how you connect with that quote under the connection column.

## Poetry Connection

Use the following terms to create an original poem or write a letter to a first year teacher using the following terms:

Read  
Write  
Activate  
Sequence  
Fluency  
Believe  
Vocabulary  
Variety  
Listening  
Speaking  
Discover  
Visual  
Diverse  
Encourage  
Promote

# After Reading Activities

## Author Interview

Write a list of interview questions or a letter in which you ask the author a series of questions about some of the ideas expressed in the book.

## Go back to the “T”

Revisit your “literacy” t-shirts. Are there words, phrases or pictures that you would like to add or delete? If so, make the changes and be prepared to explain why you made those changes.

## Executive Summary

Use a 3X5 index card to write a brief summary about this book. Have someone collect all of the index cards and create a Professional Reading Wall display with the title of this book and all of the summaries around it.

## Literacy Recipe

Use an index card to write down a recipe for a “good” literacy program.

These activities are designed for study groups/book clubs reading *Literacy from A to Z*. They are excerpted from the *Study Guide for Literacy from A to Z* (available from Eye on Education ([www.eyoneducation.com](http://www.eyoneducation.com))).