



# COACHING

In-School Professional Development Literacy Coaching with Dr. Mary Howard



*Long-term change in classroom practice is always rooted in professional dialogue*

THE PRIMARY GOAL of any professional development is to promote permanent change in classroom practices. This can occur only when teachers are placed at the center of their own learning accompanied by ongoing classroom support and rich professional dialogue. Using a variety of powerful interactive support options, highly engaging instructional strategies are shared in meaningful contexts with a focus on *why* over *what*. Teachers are individually guided through a valuable framework of reflective teaching and responsible decision-making. Dr. Mary Howard expertly integrates the most current research with classroom practice in a respectful, collaborative environment to form a learning partnership.

*“Dr. Howard is a powerful resource for the entire staff at Lincoln Elementary School. I have seen teachers modify teaching strategies in reading instruction to cause a significant increase in student achievement for all students. Mary’s non-threatening approach to helping teachers and support staff has made a difference in their willingness to change how reading is taught.”*

Lincoln Elementary School • Lawton, OK • Robbie Gillis, Principal • 580 355-4799

For additional information or to contact Dr. Mary Howard, visit [www.drmaryhoward.com](http://www.drmaryhoward.com)

# What Educators Say about Mary's In-School Model



*Mary provides information that impacts student learning and brings excitement back into the teaching process.*  
(K. Everett, kindergarten)

*Dr Howard has helped me hone my teaching skills by empowering me with step-by-step, easy-to-implement information. Every time I talk to her, I grow closer to becoming a master teacher!*  
(L. Newell, grade 4)

*Mary's one-on-one guided reading support has given me confidence. I feel more enthusiastic and comfortable implementing small group instruction.*  
(T. Grandy, grade 3)

*As a veteran teacher of 26 years, I appreciate Dr. Howard's current ideas and positive support.*  
(B. Richardson, grade 2)

*I feel so much more comfortable with guided reading now because of Mary's supportive models and non-critical assistance.*  
(C. Poe, grade 4)

*Dr. Howard takes teachers through a valuable process of implementing guided reading. She works side-by-side with teachers in choosing materials, planning, shared teaching and evaluating the entire process. Very powerful!*  
(R. Weber, assistant principal)

*After analyzing 2003-2004 test scores, Lincoln Planning Team deemed it necessary to employ a reading consultant for the purpose of increasing long-term student achievement. Under the direction of Dr. Mary Howard, Lincoln has established a strong literacy foundation. She challenges us to continuously reflect upon, analyze and fine-tune our teaching to accommodate the widely diverse population at our school by:*

- providing instructional strategies to impact long-term student achievement
- focusing on professional responsibility over test benchmarks
- assisting teachers in organizing more functional classroom libraries
- offering guidance in creating a working schoolwide leveled library
- building on teachers' strengths with easy-to-implement strategies
- supplying immediate, constructive feedback for reading instruction
- offering instructional strategies to paraprofessionals and support staff
- creating ongoing monthly literacy newsletters and recommendations

(K. Erwin & V. Turner, Title I)

**DR. MARY HOWARD** is a nationally renowned expert, leader and change-agent in the field of literacy. A powerhouse consultant and dynamic speaker, Mary has diligently supported countless educators in creating an exemplary literacy program grounded in current research. She is described as a "teachers' teacher," gifted with a special insight to the realities of schools of today and a master at translating research into practice.

An educator for over three decades, Mary combines extensive classroom experiences as grade 1-6 special educator, grade K-12 reading tutor, reading specialist and Reading Recovery® teacher with an active role as consultant, author and nationwide lecturer. Her prime conviction is to help educators promote success and create lifelong learners.

Fast-paced and inspiring, Dr. Howard shares a treasure chest of highly engaging strategies that can be immediately implemented across the curriculum. Her no-nonsense approach gives teachers a deeper understanding of the learning process, enabling them to transform the teaching process into a powerful tool for maximizing the potential of *every* child.



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