

Remembering Moments Shared With Marie Clay

Marie, the Writer

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Marie Clay has inspired me, and many of you to become writers; to view the world through a different lens; to think, to talk about our thinking, and to believe that we **can** do this. She has guided us to teach young children that writing begins with an idea that can be spoken, shared, and transformed into written language.

Through her writing, Dr. Clay continually reminds us that **reading** is not just about reading and **writing** is not just about writing. There is an ongoing relationship between acts of reading and acts of writing. Language is the common denominator.

Like Dr. Clay, we are passionate about our work with young readers and writers. That passion can release the emerging writer in each of us.

If you love to read, love to talk, love to share your ideas with others, then you can love to write as well. Few of us will ever be contenders on “Dancing with the Stars,” but we can be contenders in dancing with our pens and our keyboards.

We have been given a legacy of writing to be read again, to be talked about again, and to write about.

Thank you, Dr. Clay!

Remarks from the tribute to Marie Clay, June 4, 2007, at the 2007 Teacher Leader Institute & North American Leadership Academy in Vienna, Virginia