

# TRAINERS' PROFILE



## Dr Kathy Perez

Dr Kathy Perez, a Professor of Education at Saint Mary's College of California, has extensive teaching experience training a wide range of students and educators from preschool to graduate school. A dynamic presenter and "teacher cheerleader", she has the experience to guide both novice and experienced teachers. Dr Kathy is an acclaimed educational consultant, author and motivational speaker, specializing in instructional strategies and creative approaches to curriculum as well as organizational and professional development. She integrates state-of-the-art methods, research with passion and practical insights from her own classroom experiences.

Teachers from all levels and subject areas can testify to the effectiveness of Dr Kathy Perez's dynamic approach to teaching. Her innovative and interactive workshops are loaded with classroom-tested materials and activities that teachers can bring back and use immediately. Spend a lively and informative day with such an experienced and informed educator who knows firsthand the daily instructional challenges of classroom teachers, and be inspired by her infectious enthusiasm!

Dr Kathy Perez has worked extensively with teachers, administrators and parents throughout the United States, Canada, Europe, Caribbean, New Zealand, Singapore and Australia.

### Topics:

1. Lesson Mastery not Lesson Mystery
2. Teaching to Meet Diverse Needs: Dynamic Differentiated Instruction
3. Managing Learning Centers and the Flexible Grouping in the Primary Classroom
4. Write On! Proven Strategies for Teaching Writing
5. Assessment that makes a difference

## Lesson Mastery not Lesson Mystery

New brain-based discoveries reveal powerful mind-body "states" to optimize learning. This interactive workshop will help you see, hear and feel what brain-compatible learning is all about. Powerful teaching tools for activating and engaging students in rigorous learning experiences will be shared. Energize your classrooms with powerful, practical tips and tools to engage all learners! Combine these techniques to create a blast of positive energy, which propels learners quickly and easily toward achieving the desired instructional objectives. Examine effective techniques for vocabulary development, reading comprehension, and critical thinking skills and see them modeled. Instant ideas for your instructional tool kit! The presenter will model the strategies with active discussions to follow. Participants will receive handouts with practical suggestions.

### **Learning Outcomes:**

Participants will learn how to better understand brain-based teaching and implications for:

- Your students – how they learn & what you can do to increase their understanding & ability to use information
- Your teaching – how you structure your classroom and instructional activities
- Our educational system – especially in the areas of curriculum and assessment
- You personally – your own learning

### **Workshop Highlights:**

- Inspiring active learning
- Vocabulary Strategies – Making the Abstract Concrete
- Cognitive Organisers: Maps to Organise Thinking
- Brain Power

### **Target Audience:**

Classroom teachers of all levels, staff developers, teachers of leadership programs and institutes, and leaders of school systems

# SYNOPSIS

## Teaching to Meet Diverse Needs: Dynamic Differentiated Instruction

Teachers in mixed-ability classrooms face multiple challenges at every grade level. Success for all students depends on the integration of multiple intelligences, cooperative learning and authentic assessment. This interactive workshop provides guidance for teachers who are interested in creating learning environments that address the diversity in the classroom. Strategies shared will help teachers address a variety of learning styles. Learn multiple approaches to content, process and product and how to blend whole class, group and individual instruction.

### **Learning Outcomes:**

Participants will learn how to:

- Examine the impact of developing and implementing instructional plans that relate individual learning styles of students to their achievement level
- Explore the practical application of learning styles and multiple intelligences by developing activities and lessons
- Implement differentiated instruction and why it is appropriate for all learners
- Plan and manage differentiated classrooms
- Utilize a variety of teaching strategies that help ALL students succeed and create a classroom where ALL students learn

### **Workshop Highlights:**

- Dealing with academic diversity in the classroom
- Differentiated instruction
- Multiple intelligences
- Cooperative learning
- Effective classrooms
- Vocabulary building techniques
- Sharing resources – Give One, Get One

### **Target Audience:**

Classroom teachers of all levels, staff developers, teachers of leadership programs and institutes, and leaders of school systems

# Managing Learning Centers & Flexible Grouping in the Primary Classroom

## **Synopsis**

Learning centers provide active, engaging participation in a student-centered environment. The centers provide innovative and motivational opportunities for children to practice and extend their skills while facilitating independent learning. Students become responsible for their own learning as they make choices and interact with one another. Learning centers also provide time for teachers to observe and assess students authentically.

## **Learning Outcomes:**

Participants will learn how to:

- Assess students while they work in the centers.
- Design their own learning centers.
- Develop a management plan for using the centers effectively.
- Establish an interesting, balanced and motivational program where students experience success.
- Implement many small group instruction ideas in the classroom.
- Develop specific strategies for individualized instruction.
- Use learning centers to teach to the multiple learning styles in the classroom.
- Design lessons to help manage guided reading groups.
- Implement a developmentally appropriate, multi-task learning environment.
- Organize and manage the time, space and materials needed for effective centers.
- Use flexible grouping to improve instruction.
- Create make-it and take-it centers.
- Manage a smooth running classroom.
- Engage all learners in purposeful activities while working with a small group.
- Schedule various learning activities in an integrated program.
- Differentiate instruction through the use of centers.

## **Target Audience:**

Classroom teachers of all levels, staff developers, teachers of leadership programs and institutes, and leaders of school systems

# SYNOPSIS

## Write On! Proven Strategies for Teaching Writing

### **Synopsis**

This interactive session will provide participants with practical “writing to learn” techniques to use in the classroom. Creative approaches to the writing process will be explored. How to establish a writer's workshop will be provided. Editing without agony! Graphic organisers to extend and enrich the writing process.

Voluminous vocabulary boosters! How to use student portfolios and journals. How to use diagnostic information to inform instruction. Strategies to “supercharge” your writing instruction! Handouts of practical ideas will be provided.

### **Learning Outcomes:**

Participants will learn how to:

- Experience the best NEW practices for “Six Traits” Instruction!
- Develop comprehension skills and lesson mastery.
- Implement and manage interactive, collaborative and independent writing tasks.
- Maximize your writing instruction across the content areas and writing genres.
- Develop specific assessments and rubrics to keep instruction and learning on track.
- Identify and teach the most essential skills that boost writing performance: ideas, organization, voice, word choice, sentence fluency and conventions.
- Develop classroom structures, traditions and projects that develop lifelong literacy.
- Differentiate curriculum to increase student achievement.
- Prepare students to organize critical information: outlining, summarizing, concept mapping.
- Utilize brain-compatible techniques that build student growth and achievement.
- Learn how to integrate multiple intelligences into your writing instruction.
- Develop specific instruction for spelling, vocabulary development, and word-attack skills.

### **Target Audience:**

Classroom teachers of all levels, staff developers, teachers of leadership programs and institutes, and leaders of school systems

# Assessment that Makes A Difference: Improving Teaching and Learning

## **Synopsis**

Constantly assessing your pupils' proficiencies can be a daunting task! Join Dr. Kathy Perez to learn how to make assessment fun and much more meaningful for you and your students. In this interactive workshop, participants will learn how to make informed instructional decisions based upon the strengths and needs of each student and how to quickly and accurately assess their progress. Strategies for using alternative and authentic assessment information to build a successful program will be shared. A practical "tool kit" of techniques will be provided including: rubrics, surveys, performance assessments, observation checklists, interviews, etc. This exciting, interactive, hands-on workshop is dedicated to get you beyond the high-stakes, standardized; high-pressure testing that dominates our schools today. Handouts of instant and informal techniques will be provided!

## **Learning Outcomes:**

Participants will learn how to:

- Implement alternative, authentic, classroom-based assessment procedures.
- Examine why fair and accurate assessments are necessary to help students meet standards.
- Use a variety of alternative assessment methods.
- Understand the meaning of performance assessments and authentic evaluation of student learning.
- Use diagnostic information to inform instruction.
- Value the importance of using multiple measures to assess student performance.
- Develop meaningful criteria to evaluate student performance.
- Learn how to create realistic scoring guides and rubrics, which describe the levels of performance of a specific task.
- Review the impact of performance assessments.
- Increase teaching effectiveness using flexible grouping to improve instruction.
- Engage in observation techniques for assessing and evaluating student performance.
- Make instructional decisions based upon the strengths of each student.

## **Target Audience:**

Classroom teachers of all levels, staff developers, teachers of leadership programs and institutes, and leaders of school systems