

CHALLENGING THE ABLE READER

In the Contemporary Children's Literature Classroom

This course is designed with the aims of developing the teaching of literature in Malaysian schools. It is specifically developed to benefit high-achievers in English within the National Curriculum Development Centre's *Contemporary Children's Literature (CCL) Programme* currently being implemented in primary schools.

The term 'able reader' is used to distinguish the learner who is capable of reading and understanding the prescribed literature text independently. The number of able readers varies from class to class. However, teachers should take specific steps in their planning and teaching to meet the needs of this group of learners.

During the course, teachers will have an opportunity to explore issues arising from their literature classroom as well as consider specific strategies for the literature classroom.

Teachers will also be exposed to a systematic approach for the implementation of a portfolio management system to introduce portfolios as a learning tool for able readers in their classroom. At the end of the course, teachers will formulate an action plan for implementing the teaching strategies acquired on the course in the literature classroom.

Objectives

At the end of this course, participants would have:

- Explored issues in handling high achievers
- Examined the Contemporary Children's Literature Programme
- Explored the use of portfolio as a learning tool for able readers
- Planned challenging activities for high achievers

Content

The content of the course will be as follows

- From the Classroom
- Exploring Literature
- Story Element
- Challenging Able Readers
- Building a Portfolio
- Materials Design
- Feedback Procedures
- Portfolio Management
- Back to the Classroom

Duration

3 days (18 contact hours)

Modes of Delivery

The course will be conducted through a series of interactive lectures, workshops, group discussions and presentations. Participants will be required to construct an action plan which will set the tone for their handling of the CCL component as well as a portfolio management system in their classroom.

Participants

This course is intended for primary school teachers of Year 4 - 6 classes with students who are able readers in the English language.