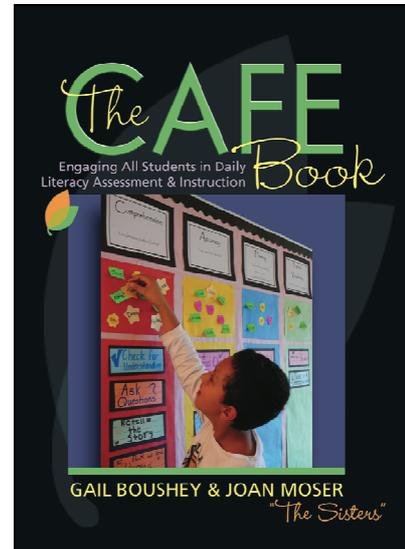


The CAFE Book: Engaging All Students in Daily Literacy Assessment & Instruction

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Date Available: 22 September 2015
ISBN: 978 1 76001 368 4
Code/SKU: SHP3684
RRP: \$39.95
Format/Page No.: B5, 200 pages
Year Level: F-5, Teachers and Administrators
Focus Area: Assessment, Classroom Practice and Direct Instruction, Professional Development
Key Learning Area: EAL/D, English



Summary

This book grows out of the liberating writings of people like Frank Smith in the 1970's and Donald Graves a decade later, together with the researchers and practitioners of the 21st century. Together they have all understood the importance of putting the child, rather than the teacher, at the centre of literacy instruction.

The focus throughout is the teaching of strategies that grow out of formative assessment, and that firmly place the emphasis on reading as a meaning making activity. Each strategy works towards helping children become independent, fluent, lifelong readers.

CAFE is an acronym for Comprehension, Accuracy, Fluency and Expand vocabulary – the goals of every reading lesson.

Reading *The CAFE Book* is a little like eaves dropping on their conversations as Gail Boushey and Joan Moser search to find ways to help children evolve as increasingly independent readers. We follow along the twists and bye ways as they struggle, polish and adapt their techniques until they make them work. Then we have the privilege of standing invisibly in their classrooms as they work with real kids, just like our kids. This is authentic 'chalkface' writing.

Using only the materials to hand in any classroom – books (lots of these), paper, pencils, and sticky notes – Boushey and Moser show us how to:

- Organise assessment so that it informs instruction
- Track each child's progress and find time to conference with each child
- Focus on specific reading strategies as they are needed
- Build independence and self-sufficiency in reading

Sitting comfortably within the literacy goals of the Australian Curriculum, *The CAFE Book* presents practical, simple ways to develop a reading program that assesses as it teaches. It is inherently flexible and allows you to tailor it to fit your style of teaching and your children and their needs.

Supporting Resources

- *The Daily 5: Fostering Literacy Independence in the Primary Years, Second Edition* (SHP3721)
- *More Than 100 Brain-Friendly Tools and Strategies for Literacy Instruction* (CO6309)

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