



Grammar Curriculum Writer

Sue Ferrara

Sue Ferrara has over 28 years of experience in the field of education. Sue began her career as a nursery school teacher and began teaching full time as an English teacher for Plainview-Old Bethpage Schools (her current position) in 1990. At Plainview, Sue has taught high school English, middle school English (seventh and eighth grade), writing skills, and elementary reading skills. Additionally, Sue served as the Literacy Collaborative Coordinator for the middle school for 5 years during the district's implementation of that program. Sue also worked for 5 years as an Adjunct Assistant Professor of Literacy at Long Island University, C.W. Post. She taught at the graduate level, instructing students who were seeking to earn Master of Literacy or Master of Education degrees. This challenging and meaningful experience not only served to enrich her own classroom teaching but also increased her skills in presenting staff development workshops to teachers of all levels.

Working with colleagues, Sue has written numerous curriculum units for Plainview schools and is presently excited to be working on a vocabulary initiative that will create a scope and sequence for vocabulary instruction in seventh and eighth grade that follows the guidelines set forth by the Common Core. Additionally, Sue contributed to a Scholastic publication of a teacher's guide for *The Diary of Anne Frank* and served as a contributor and copy editor for the educational software company EduWare. One of her proudest achievements is winning the New York State Program of Excellence Award for an interdisciplinary curriculum she designed and implemented along with two other colleagues from her school.

Sue holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in English from Dowling College in Oakdale and a Master of Liberal Studies degree from S.U.N.Y at Stonybrook. She also completed the credits required for certification as a Reading Specialist at Dowling College. Sue received her certificate to be a Literacy Collaborative Coordinator from Lesley University in Boston. Sue has always loved reading and writing, from the time she was a little girl sitting in the back of the car on long car rides. This love of reading and writing inspired her to teach since if there is one thing she loves almost as much as reading and writing, it's talking about reading and writing. Her studies toward the reading specialist certification opened her eyes to the wonders of reading and writing workshops and spurred her desire to learn as much as she could to help students become better readers and writers. Upon attending her first Schoolwide seminar, she was convinced that the Writing Fundamentals units were an ideal way to help teachers effectively teach writing workshop, and when the company began writing middle school units, she was thrilled to be selected to create some of them. She knew then that this was a job she was going to love! And when she's not teaching or writing curricula, Sue loves to read, take long walks, listen to country music, and do word puzzles.

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