

## CONNECTING READING AND WRITING SOME CONCEPTS TO REMEMBER

### Understanding Theory

Writing development and instruction can be understood by considering the six language systems

Like comprehension instruction, effective deep structure writing instruction focuses on a few concepts of great import over a long period of time, in a variety of texts and contexts

Like word learning in reading, surface structure instruction in writing focuses for short periods of time on strategies children need in order to create meaning

## Understanding instruction

Instruction focuses on proficiency

What do great readers do?

What do great writers do?

Comprehension strategies are taught  
simultaneously in writing

Text in which children apply comprehension  
strategies is frequently  
authored by other children

Writing is one of four tools (writing, speaking, art  
and drama) children use to explore strategies,  
concepts and themes from their reading

Effective comprehension and composition instruction depend on frequent, purposeful oral language practice

### Understanding Management

*Crafting sessions* provide a new way to look at instruction

*Invitational groups* provide additional focus

*Composing* applies to reading and writing ~ the terminology helps teachers and children focus on what is essential

*Reflecting* gives children an opportunity to teach  
and learn from each other

Keene, 2001