



Believing In Horses

By: Valerie Ormond

∞ Author Visit ∞ Sample School Program

Fifth Grade Class –NCLB Elementary School, MD

Time allowed: 45-60 minutes

“BOOKS ALIVE! – with REED MOORE”

Special Guest: Local Author – Valerie Ormond
(Talk Show Format)

- Introduction, by “host” Reed Moore, of talk show format. Depending on the age group, an “Every Pupil Response” of “neighs” and “whinnies” will be introduced using the main topics of the visit; Beliefs, Horses, Maryland and Writing/Reading.
- Technology permitting, the Book Trailer will be presented followed by introducing the author.
- Ms. Ormond will briefly address the background relatable to the class. (Depending on group.)
- Brief Explanation of Believing in Horses story line.
- **Q & A** = Reed Moore will interview the author including questions from the audience.
NOTE: You can email questions brainstormed by the class prior to the visit, if you would like at EdUCator@believinginhorses.com.
- ***Straight From the Horse’s Mouth:*** Three Read-Alouds from the book include: Author and Host reading from the first two pages of the novel, two volunteers sharing from Chapter 6, (Access the “script” to pre-read by clicking the “Read-Alouds” link on the previous page.) and the literary technique of Voice/Tone will be demonstrated at the host’s request.
- Horse-related items will be passed around to provide students familiarization with them (grooming brushes, halter, bridle, etc.) while showing pictures/slides of the Book Chapter Pictures during...
- Closure: Students will write one sentence about something NEW they BELIEVE they learned today. (Click “Closure Tickets” on the previous page for a 4-per-page print-out of the “Ticket Out The Door” sample below.)

I Believe I learned today...

Believing In Horses

Believing In Horses

Pre-Reading Guided Activity

1. In your opinion, what are “beliefs?”

2. Do you believe in *anything*? (Circle) Yes No

3. List 5 of your “Beliefs:”

a) _____
c) _____
e) _____

b) _____
d) _____



READING ROUND-UP: Choose/Circle ONE “Belief” to share with your discussion group.

4. What do you think you already know about horses?

5. Try to list 5 breeds of horses:

a) _____
c) _____
e) _____

b) _____
d) _____

6. “Rate” your “Horse Sense:” LOW = 1 2 3 4 5 = HIGH



READING ROUND-UP: Choose/Circle a response from #'s 5 or 6 to share with your literary discussion group. Record at least one interesting fact you learned during the exchange of thoughts and ideas.

7. “Re-Rate” your “Horse Sense:” LOW = 1 2 3 4 5 = HIGH

8. What do you know about the geography of Maryland? (i.e.: location, place, human-environment interaction, movement, and region.)

9. Can you list 5 interesting *historical* facts about Maryland?

a) _____
c) _____
e) _____

b) _____
d) _____

10. “Rate” your “Knowledge of Maryland:” LOW = 1 2 3 4 5 = HIGH



READING ROUND-UP: Choose/Circle a response from #'s 10 or 11 to share with your literary discussion group. Record at least one interesting fact you learned during the exchange of thoughts and ideas.

11. Challenge: Sketch an outline map of Maryland. Add any pertinent details you feel are necessary.

12. “Re-Rate” your “Knowledge of Maryland:” LOW = 1 2 3 4 5 = HIGH

13. Write questions for the author. _____
