



Testimonials for Diane Frankenstein 2017

"I am always excited to hear Diane Frankenstein speak. She is so knowledgeable and passionate about the power of reading aloud wonderful books with children. And equally important, she is able to walk parents through the "nuts and bolts" of scaffolding a rich conversation with children- not to be missed!"

Jeffrey Comer, Primary Teacher Librarian, Chinese International School.

From Kellett School (parents)

- "Eloquent Diane"
- "Perfect"
- "New subject, fascinating"
- "Learnt how to look and ask questions into the personal and off the plot"
- "I will ask my child about their souvenir (favourite take away from the book)"
- "Very interesting and practical"

From Teacher Workshop:

- Her workshop was practical and I can see how effective it would be in my classroom
- Diane has helped me understand how to make storytelling much more effective
- Conversational Reading is an "art" that can help children make connections in the books and reflect through reading
- Diane has shown me so many different ways to ask questions to probe children
- Diane has helped me think not just how to read with students better, but also how to promote reading with parents, volunteers and student helpers

From Parents about Book Camp:

- Diane has shown me how to get children interested to be more open and brain storm about important topics
- Diane clearly demonstrated how to ask good questions to your children, engage them in the right kinds of conversations and how to keep children curious
- **Thanks to Diane, I am much more focused the no. of conversations I am having with my daughter, rather than the number of book she reads.**
- Once you learn the skills to encourage conversational reading from Diane, you will have much richer conversations with your children.
- Her workshop is very practical, informative and inspiring.
- Who would know there is a whole technique to good questioning? Diane guides us to deep thinking built on conversational reading with sample questions, demonstrations and lots of practice.
- I loved how Diane starts by understanding what her audiences need by asking their expectations first. Practical tips, inspirational ideas and how to start a meaningful conversation using simple picture books.



- **As a busy parent, I'm so happy Diane showed me how to use my time more productively when reading with my kids. The workshop opened up my whole perspective on how to ask good questions.**

What are your key take-aways from her workshop?

- Don't point to words while reading, don't finish a book without a comment or a question.
- The conversation about the book is more important than just reading the books.
- Book recommendations and the importance of conversation
- Answers are not that important; the main point is what the children think. How to ask good questions during story time.
- Connection to books to make them alive and live in children's heart. Conversational reading and questions.
- The use of the book sharing as an example to show how the tricks can be done.
- The introduction of conversational reading. Examples and demonstration with the picture books.
- It's all about the story telling. On how to ask questions.
- The practical tips approaching each page with questions.
- Book selection very important, relate the message/conversation topic of the book.
- Engage and encourage the child to think further after reading. Ask important questions.
- Strategies, knowledge on how to read books to the kids.
- The suggested questions and questions related to different abstract ideas.

From Parents about Master Class:

- **Diane was friendly and honest – I felt like I was back at college as we had such a deep discussion on how we can best discuss values with children.**
- It was a great reminder not to stop reading to our kids: she gave some helpful ideas on how to choose and use books to spark conversations with our kids at the appropriate time.
- Diane taught us how to open children's mind to polarities of same coin and how to unite differences in the long run. I now know how to be better prepared for the 'right' kind of conversation on difficult topics, with my child.
- I loved how well organized the talk was and I felt very free to talk, ask questions and express myself
- **I really enjoyed the depth in which Diane talked about the books and was able to relate the books with different takeaway topics.**
- I appreciated that Diane has related different subject conversations to different stories and her ability to answer spontaneous questions.
- Diane showed me how to read picture books with imagination and how to develop critical thinking with kids
- It is the conversations which matter after reading. Use the books to share values with in a more precise way.
- Diane stated the importance of looking at pictures and asking questions before reading. I learnt how to prep for asking questions or doing the conversational reading. I learnt how to think and re-phrase questions so that children can understand the question and be able to continue the conversation.
- **Fabulous workshop on the art of conversational reading with great parenting tips**