About the Authors is about the littlest authors—those in kindergarten through second grade. Based on the ways in which young children learn, it shows teachers how to launch a writing workshop by inviting children to do what they do naturally—make stuff. So why not write books?

Katie Wood Ray has seen young authors do just that, and she wants your students to be able to do the same. She demonstrates what it takes to nourish writing right from the start, explaining step by step how to set up and maintain a primary writing workshop and detailing eleven units of study that cover idea generation, text structures, different genres, and illustrations. She also draws on the teaching of first-grade teacher Lisa Cleaveland, “listening in” to Lisa as she helps students learn from professional writers, work with intention, and think about their own process.

Chockfull of examples of little books by young children, About the Authors is proof positive that a primary writing workshop is a smart writing move.

2004 / 256pp / $27.00
978-0-325-00511-9 / 0-325-00511-7
Katie Wood Ray, former Associate Professor at Western Carolina University, is now a full-time writer and researcher of the teaching of writing. She works with teachers across the country to help them implement writing workshops in their classrooms, and is the author or coauthor of numerous resources on the teaching of writing, including the Heinemann titles Study Driven (2006), About the Authors (2004) and its DVD companion The Teaching Behind About the Authors (2005), and What You Know by Heart (2002). She is a Heinemann Professional Development provider.

Katie Wood Ray shows you that encouraging students to read closely can improve the effectiveness of your writing instruction. Detailing her own method for utilizing the popular mentor-texts approach, Ray helps you immerse children in a close study of published texts that supports their learning, leads them to a better understanding of the traits of good writing, and motivates them to become more accomplished writers.

Study Driven also gives you the ideas and resources for thirty units of study, ranging from genres to punctuation and appropriate across grade levels.
Thank you for sampling this resource.

For more information or to purchase, please visit Heinemann by clicking the link below:


Use of this material is solely for individual, noncommercial use and is for informational purposes only.