

## Introduction

The fifth annual Colorado Core Knowledge Summer Writing Institute was held at the Denver Public Library in Denver, Colorado, during the week of June 21-25, 2004. Sixty-three teachers participated, representing twenty-six schools from Denver and surrounding cities, as well as Brighton, Henderson, Colorado Springs, Windsor, Louisville, Pueblo, and Keenesburg. Forty-two units were written for Pre-Kindergarten through Eighth Grade, as well as for Art and Music. A great deal of talent and enthusiasm was gathered during this week and the units produced exemplify this!

The teachers spent the first day learning how to write a Core Knowledge unit and writing concept objectives for their unit. The second day was spent identifying resources and researching the content. We owe a great deal of thanks to Jefferson Academy, whose library and entire building was available for the participants to use. The next two days were devoted to developing daily lesson plans and assessments. On Friday the finishing touches were put on each unit to prepare them for publication.

This week would not have been possible if not for the help and expertise provided by the Core Knowledge consultants who devoted a week of their summer vacations to work with our teachers. Their knowledge and support helped guide the participants to developing strong units and their perseverance helped to make the final products possible by the end of the week.

Lisa Browning	Trailblazer Elementary	Highlands Ranch, CO
Wendy Hyndman	The Classical Academy	Colorado Springs, CO
Lisa Levesque	Lincoln Academy	Arvada, CO
Mike Munier	Jefferson Academy	Broomfield, CO
Jere Percy	Jefferson Academy	Broomfield, CO

We also wish to express our deep gratitude to Denise Mund, the Charter Schools unit, and the Colorado Department of Education for making this professional development opportunity possible for the teachers of Colorado. The units developed during this week will benefit countless teachers and students and have a positive impact on teaching and learning for years to come!

Holly Hensey  
National Core Knowledge Coordinator of Colorado