



Reviving the Essay:

Bringing Writing Back to Life for Students AND Teachers!

Presented By Stephen and Kayla Briseño

Trail of Breadcrumbs, LLC

Stephen and Kayla Briseño are Texas educators with over 15 years combined classroom experience. As Trail Guides, Stephen and Kayla love to share the writing strategies of teacher/author Gretchen Bernabei, what they've learned along the way, and how much fun teaching writing can actually be. Here's how they do it.

They teach teachers how to make writing fun again (with easy, accessible and low-prep lessons) by...

- Painlessly helping students to generate ideas for writing, take writing to new depths, and get quality writing in return
- Providing text structures for any genre of writing, extracting text structures from mentor texts, and getting students to create their own
- Seamlessly taking students through the writing process in meaningful ways by sneaking in things like revision, editing, and even grammar in simple small spurts that students *actually look forward* to doing
- Teaching students and teachers how to use technology to present, implement, and get students involved
- Developing connections with and for your students that builds a classroom community of writers
- Building a classroom of reflective, confident writers who are eager to share their writing and make it better
- Providing teachers with a wealth of strategies and resources to get started with TOMORROW

What do we offer? Below are our packages offered that are appropriate for elementary, middle, and high school teachers, ESL teachers, helping teachers, and administrators:

Getting started with the Kid-Friendly Writing Process using *Crunchtime* by Gretchen Bernabei

Ideal Grade Levels: Elementary, Middle, and High Highly Recommended for ESL Teachers

This session captures the cornerstone concepts from Trail of Breadcrumbs. With most students, the biggest challenge starts at the beginning—where to start and how to organize a written piece. During this training, teachers will gain strategies **beyond** the five-paragraph essay to address brainstorming, helping students find an idea worth writing about, organization, and taking it deeper regardless of genre.

- Quick Lists
- Kernel Structures
- Kernel Essays
- Flipbooks
- Truisms
- The 11-Minute Essay
- Extracting a text structure in written pieces

Revision for Narrative using *Crunchtime* by Gretchen Bernabei

Ideal Grade Levels: 3rd Grade & Up

Revision for Narrative builds off the starting concepts from “Getting Started....” Once a student puts their ideas on paper, they usually say, “I’m done—there’s nothing I can do to change it. It’s perfect.” These strategies will help students add personality and pop to their essay, or as Thomas Newkirk puts it, helping writers to get go along for the ride.

- Ba-Da-Bings
- Colorizing
- Exploding a moment
- Good leads
- Narrative Revision stations
- Mr. Potato head—sensory challenge

Revision for Expository using *The Story of My Thinking* by Gretchen Bernabei (useful for all content areas)

Ideal Grade Levels: 4th Grade & Up

Revision for Expository builds off the starting concepts from “Getting Started....” With Narrative Writing, students can find the concepts a little easier, but expository can be an entirely different beast. These strategies will help students to expand on ideas while not sounding formulaic.

- Expository Revision Stations
- Jerk Talk
- Pitchforks
- 3-in-1 Info Shots
- Cubing
- Strong Leads
- 11 minute essay

Grammar and Using Journals using *Grammar Keepers* by Gretchen Bernabei

Ideal Grade Levels: 3rd Grade & Up

Highly Recommended for ESL Teachers

This session addresses an area that can cause frustration for many English teachers—helping students care about grammar. It does not have to be a hair-pulling process. By using student writing as a launching point, students learn grammar concepts by practicing and proving daily without ever using a worksheet.

- Star Points
- The Sentence Wringer
- The Paragraph Overhaul
- AAWWUBBIS

Beyond Powerpoint: Using Technology to Enhance Engagement & Deepen Student Product (Half-Day only)

Ideal Grade Levels: 3rd Grade & Up

There are more technological tools available to educators than ever before, but how do you filter through to what works? This session covers real tools, strategies, and best practices for using technology to get students to create content for authentic audiences and have fun doing it. Stephen and Kayla rely heavily on technology—so you can rest assured that these ideas are teacher-tested, kid-approved!

- Backchannel Websites
- Using Edmodo/Schoology
- Integrating Apple TV Mirroring
- Creating Podcasts
- Using Evernote for Progress Tracking
- Useful Websites for Writing
- Leveraging Twitter
- Screencast-O-Matic for Simple Flipping
- Prezi Presentations

Coming Soon: Kernalizing Primary Source Documents (Half Day Only--Spring 2016)

Close reading and identifying text structures for students to use in their own writing in a way that is so simple and engaging, you won't believe it!

Follow-Up, Debriefing, & Other At-School Options

Teachers have taken the information they've learned and ran with it, but questions arise, our notes may not make sense anymore, and we get busy with the tasks that comes with starting a school year. If you enjoyed what you've seen, have us come and help your teachers throughout the year. Check below to see what we offer.

Want Stephen and Kayla to come to your school or district? Fill out this form and email back. We will contact you with availability and rates including books.

<i>Session (s) You want</i>	<i>Duration</i>
Getting Started with the Kid-Friendly Writing Process	<input type="checkbox"/> Half Day <input type="checkbox"/> Whole Day
Revision for Narrative	<input type="checkbox"/> Half Day <input type="checkbox"/> Whole Day
Revision for Expository	<input type="checkbox"/> Half Day <input type="checkbox"/> Whole Day
Grammar and Using Journals	<input type="checkbox"/> Half Day <input type="checkbox"/> Whole Day
Beyond Powerpoint	<input type="checkbox"/> Half Day Only
Kernalizing Primary Sources	<input type="checkbox"/> Half Day Only (Spring 2016)
Dates Wanted	_____
Interested in Support Implementation During the School Year for Teachers	Options <input type="checkbox"/> Follow Up Days <input type="checkbox"/> Model Teaching <input type="checkbox"/> Teacher Observations <input type="checkbox"/> Debriefing with Teachers <input type="checkbox"/> Student Work Analysis Times <input type="checkbox"/> 1-2 Visits per School Year <input type="checkbox"/> Quarterly Visits per School Year <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly Visits per School year

For Booking Inquiries, Please Contact:



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