

COMMENTS FROM CLASSROOM TEACHERS

"This is probably the most interesting, educational, insightful, researched, helpful, meaningful information I've received since becoming a teacher." - **J. Stillman, Budlong Elementary, L.A. CA**

"This information is a very important basis of understanding for teachers and I am not sure how many of us know it. I learned more here than in all my college courses on language." - **B. Gallagher, Niagara Falls, NY**

"This was my first exposure to "The Children of the Code" Website and the work that you do. After listening to David Boulton, who explained and played several video interviews in his (National Circle of Learning Conference) keynote address, it was as if the pieces of the puzzle magically appeared and fit into place. Thirty minutes into the lecture, I was wishing my entire staff had been there to hear Mr. Boulton!. His presentation inspired a hunger in me to learn more about Mind-Shame and the Children of the Code Project. This project has the potential to revolutionize education in such a profound manner!" - **A. Hancock, Educator, Tahoka Elementary School, Tahoka ,TX**

"I was so fortunate to be in attendance for the presentation of "The Code and the Challenge of Learning to Read It" seminar at Columbus State University in Columbus, Georgia. As a 31-year veteran of the public school system of Georgia, a reading teacher, and now a reading coach, I was astounded by the information in the presentation." - **C. Taylor, Reading First Literacy Coach, Stewart County Elementary School, Lumpkin, GA**

"This is great! This is what I've been missing in my teaching Kindergarten, First and Second Grade. I'm appreciative that someone has finally realized the non-existence of reading prep classes for teachers." - **K. Anderson, Woodburn, OR**

"Thank you, from an elementary school reading teacher and librarian. Your project has manifested in the most timely manner necessary for the preservation of our nation. Well done! Keep me updated, so I may help spread the word." - **G. Dugdale, Pocatello, ID**

"The keynote speech (Opening the Florida Literacy Conference) and the concurrent session in the afternoon were very inspiring! After the afternoon session I did not even want to go to any other seminar since I was on such a "high" from your presentation of "Children of the Code". Thank you very much!" - **J. Ong, Hillsborough County School District, FL**

"I thought the speaker, David Boulton was very interesting and right on target. It certainly is not about a methodology or program or curriculum but rather a focus on the "first person" learning. I appreciated the tone and interest in helping the audience become more aware of why we need to be concerned about this national disability in reading." - **L. Anderson, Educator, Granville, OH**

"Thank you for two excellent sessions, the keynote address and our afternoon meeting at the SC Conference on June 29 2010. I found the information extremely interesting. I was especially interested in the connection you've made between frustration with reading difficulties, ensuing shame and avoidance mechanisms, and subsequent behavior problems that erupt from the school environment into the home and society. Now that I've listened to you I wonder how I've spent more than twenty years in the classroom and not clearly identified the process or the cause myself. So thank you for perceiving, articulating, and putting a human face on troubling observations all teachers have been party to. Because of your insights, I will focus more on reading difficulties and be on the lookout for indications of trouble. I teach ninth and twelfth graders, so I anticipate a high level of skill in deception and avoidance at this level, but I know some things now to look for and some ways to ease the emotional burden as well as help with the literacy skills." - **Diane Crenshaw, Dixie High School, Due West, S.C.**

"I thoroughly enjoyed the presentation and feel that I have gained some insight and a new perspective about reading and writing and the teaching of these two subject areas. I was impressed by the fact that Mr. Boulton was not looking for someone to blame." - **J. Bertz, Special Education Teacher, Lexington School District, Lexington , MO**

"Societal change is definitely needed--your message and work is of the utmost importance!!" - **K. Zimmerman, ESL Teacher, Racine, WI**

"The general message (Healthy Learning) being spread is something that everyone needs to hear and understand in order to maximize the learning and success of future generations. This is critical to the future of our society as a whole! I thoroughly enjoyed the presentation and cannot begin to put into words how powerful it was to examine the concept of reading with a whole new set of eyes. The one-day experience was remarkable and unforgettable!" - **J. Shirron, Teacher, LodiUSD, Lodi, CA**

"I was moved to tears as I sat reading and listening to interview after interview because I have so much respect for the effort my students put into reading and these interviews just magnified my admiration for their efforts. Your site will help teachers; but more importantly, it may help parents nurture their children's language development during critical and sensitive developmental periods and thus prevent future literacy struggles. Thank you for this wonderful landmark literacy information center and thank you to all the contributors. I already have learned so much today. I will continue to access this sight over and over again in hopes that I can make a difference in the academic lives of my students again and again." - **C. Schumacher, Teacher, Emerado School, Emerado, ND**

"Teaching remedial reading classes - your information has been invaluable - want more! My kids with ASD are struggling and very few people about to help. BBBriiliant! I will endeavour to get the word out about this project!" - **K. Buchanan, Teacher, MS**

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"I am a 30-year teacher and I felt like for once what was being said to me made absolute sense." - **K. HusVall, Cheektawaga, NY**

"I was extremely impressed by Mr. Boulton's knowledge on the subject of literacy and the extensive research he had done. His analysis of factors contributing to the problem of illiteracy was highly interesting and in some cases new to me. It was a riveting session." - **L. Taylor, Broward County, FL**

"Excellent presentation! As I listened to your presentation, faces of students kept appearing in my head. It made me think about the students I see in school every day and what they are learning, not just in class, but wherever they happen to be. (the Downward Spiral of Shame) was the best part of the day. It truly made me think about what happens to children on a regular basis in school. The video clips were excellent and added to your presentation." - **P. Shields, Educator, Morton ISD, Morton, TX**

"I believe I learned a lot during David's presentation. It was highly informative, interactive and engaging. The material was presented in a logical manner that built the proper background to allow for a more in-depth understanding of the problem we face with children learning how to read. I believe it was the first presentation I've been to that did not focus on solutions to teaching how to read; rather, the presentation focused on causes, or the why, which is such a crucial element to understand before generating a "how" to fix it. [The shame] section hit on a concept that I knew, but did not know well enough to incorporate into my classroom. I know that I do not intentionally create situations to shame my students, but by ignorantly pushing antiquated pedagogy onto them, I was creating shameful situations. I found this section to generate the most amount of self-reflection, which is the key part for me to develop as an educator. Very, very well done." - **M. Gehman, Teacher, Kipnuk, AK**

"All in all, AMAZING STUFF. I told Mr. Boulton, if you did not come out here for anyone else, you came for me. I am still having to think through and process what I have learned. It is life changing!" - **G. Hyde, San Francisco, California**

The "Children of the Code" conference keynote and subsequent hour-long seminar were simply phenomenal and a direct answer to a VERY specific prayer I had proctored in regard to further understanding language and words. For years, and especially here recently, I had been hungry for and craving more information to further delineate the research and delve deeper into the science of language/ words and how the brain works. David Boulton, Children of the Code, and all the correlating sources, documentation, and videos are a TRUE and very specific answer to that prayer. I am still exploring the information and the website, and I am SO EXCITED to incorporate these findings and the research into how and what I teach the students. - **J. Wells, North Myrtle Beach High School, Little River, SC**

"It was the best lecture at the series in years. Certainly the most relevant to every teacher in schools today." - **L. Kilchenstein, Educator, Kermit ISD, Kermit, TX**

"The conference was an impressive introduction to your work. It really wetted my appetite to want to learn more, and it offered a lot of information for reflection. Those in education are becoming inoculated with hearing calls of "No Child Left Behind." But this message transcends that call. It takes a broader view of illiteracy than just what is happening in schools, instead looking at the problem from the viewpoint of society and individual implication. The information presented about the alphabetic code was fascinating. The examples given at the end of the presentation showing one letter of the alphabet -- and all of the various sounds that one letter can make are very powerful. I think every parent, every teacher, every school board member, every administrator needs to see just a few of those examples....to better understand the complexity of the problem." - **M. Adcock, Buhler USD, Hutchinson, KS**

"The visual displays, presenter, and videos held my attention throughout the presentation. The event was very informative and affirmed some previous beliefs about shame's effect on students. The event gave me a better understanding of what is involved in the process of reading. There is more to reading than just knowing phonics. The presentation opened my eyes to the fact that each child is wired to learn naturally. Reading and studying in an academic setting is just one part of the learning process. I never thought about unhealthy learning. The emphasis is so heavily placed on learning - period, that we fail to realize that there is a negative side to learning." - **I. Byrd, Educator, Greenville, SC**

"Extremely thought provoking! I really never thought about reading in the way I now am. Thank you!" - **G. Willis, Gerald Adams Elementary School, Key West, FL**

"An amazing resource! I believe in the work you are doing. I am a first grade teacher and am working on my reading certificate. I find your research and project so valuable. My goal is to become a reading coach and hopefully be able to share this research with my colleagues." - **K. Baumgarten, Stockton, California**

"Clear explanations that do not focus on the blame game but work toward solutions. This was a tremendous awakening! This much needed information must be spread to the masses!" - **B. Smyzer, Educator, GA**

"As a teacher in a psychiatric hospital for children and adolescents, I have found this information very helpful. As a former teacher in a psychiatric hospital for convicted men and women, it leads to the reasons for the dramatic increase in need for correctional facilities all over the country. Please include me in your mailing lists." - **L. Daniels, M.A., Mathematics Teacher, Special Education Department, Hawthorn Center, MI**