



## Notice & Note: Strategies for Close Reading

By Kylene Beers, Robert E Probst

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Also available: *Notice & Note/Reading Nonfiction Signpost Student Bookmarks*

Watch Kylene and Bob's webinar on *Notice & Note* (approx. 30 minutes)

*"Just as rigor does not reside in the barbell but in the act of lifting it, rigor in reading is not an attribute of a text but rather of a reader's behavior-engaged, observant, responsive, questioning, analytical. The close reading strategies in Notice and Note will help you cultivate those critical reading habits that will make your students more attentive, thoughtful, independent readers."*

**-Kylene Beers and Robert E. Probst**

In *Notice and Note* **Kylene Beers** and **Bob Probst** introduce 6 "signposts" that alert readers to significant moments in a work of literature and encourage students to read closely. Learning first to spot these signposts and then to question them, enables readers to explore the text, any text, finding evidence to support their interpretations. In short, these close reading strategies will help your students to notice and note.

In this timely and practical guide Kylene and Bob:

- examine the new emphasis on text-dependent questions, rigor, text complexity, and what it means to be literate in the 21st century
- identify 6 signposts that help readers understand and respond to character development, conflict, point of view, and theme
- provide 6 text-dependent anchor questions that help readers take note and read more closely
- offer 6 *Notice and Note* model lessons, including text selections and teaching tools, that help you introduce each signpost to your students.

*Notice and Note* will help create attentive readers who look closely at a text, interpret it responsibly, and reflect on what it means in their lives. It should help them become the responsive, rigorous, independent readers we not only want

students to be but know our democracy demands.

A new *Notice and Note Literature Log* offers students practice finding the signposts-with over-the-shoulder coaching from Kylene and Bob. **Save with 5-packs.**

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## **Editorial Review**

### **Review**

This is the missing link. While the Common Core State Standards require students to read complex texts, read closely, and answer text-dependent questions, nothing shows us how to help students do all that during independent reading nothing until Notice and Note came along. Kylene and Bob show us how we can attend to the demands of the CCSS and support engaged, attentive, independent readers.

**---Darl Kiernan, PhD., literacy trainer, Northwest Regional Professional Development, NV**

Notice and Note will help you foster rigorous reading and high-level thinking while honoring your students need to interact with what they read. Kylene and Bob forge connections between new academic standards and decades of reading research through commonsense strategies that encourage collaboration and engaged reading. This book is well worth noticing and noting.

**---Donalyn Miller, author of The Book Whisperer and a grade 4 teacher, Ft. Worth, TX**

Bob and Kylene shared these lessons in my class of eighth graders. When my students began to notice the signposts and ask the accompanying anchor questions, navigating a text became possible even for my struggling readers, and the text became something they not only deeply understood but also enjoyed.

**---Jennifer Ochoa, middle school teacher, MS 324, New York City, NY**

As Kylene and Bob taught their Notice and Note lessons at Chicago Shakespeare, I watched a room of teachers get curious, slightly anxious, and then completely enthusiastic about these new avenues for approaching literacy in their urban classrooms. Kylene and Bob understand research and real classrooms, which is why their work continues to be essential.

**---Marilyn Halperin, Director of Education, Chicago Shakespeare Theater, IL**

As Bob and Kylene taught their Notice and Note lessons I watched our students become engaged and excited about reading. Students scoured the text to find support for their thinking, and struggling readers succeeded with texts that would have otherwise been discarded as too hard. Don t buy just one of these books buy one for every teacher in your building!

**-- Margaret Ruppert, literacy specialist, Akron Public Schools, Akron, OH**

**Teaching students to respond to complex texts is a critical aspect of implementing the Common Core State Standards. When I use Notice and Note lessons in my professional development sessions, teachers invariably go deeper into long familiar texts. These strategies awaken our critical eye and direct us to explore text elements that we might otherwise ignore. Notice and Note strategies will improve how your students analyze and respond to any text.**

**-- Patsy Dunton, ELA Specialist, Maine DOE**

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#### About the Author

Kylene Beers, Ed.D., is a former middle school teacher who has turned her commitment to adolescent literacy and struggling readers into the major focus of her research, writing, speaking, and teaching. She is author of the best-selling When Kids Can't Read/What Teachers Can Do, co-editor (with Bob Probst and Linda Rief) of Adolescent Literacy: Turning Promise into Practice, and co-author (with Bob Probst) of Notice and Note: Strategies for Close Reading and Reading Nonfiction, Notice & Note Stances, Signposts, and Strategies all published by Heinemann. She taught in the College of Education at the University of Houston, served as Senior Reading Researcher at the Comer School Development Program at Yale University, and most recently acted as the Senior Reading Advisor to Secondary Schools for the Reading and Writing Project at Teachers College. Kylene has published numerous articles in state and national journals, served as editor of the national literacy journal, Voices from the Middle, and was the 2008-2009 President of the National Council of Teachers of English. She is an invited speaker at state, national, and international conferences and works with teachers in elementary, middle, and high schools across the US. Kylene has served as a consultant to the National Governor's Association and was the 2011 recipient of the Conference on English Leadership outstanding leader award. Kylene is now a consultant to schools, nationally and internationally, focusing on literacy improvement with her colleague and co-author, Bob Probst.

Robert (Bob) Probst is the author of Response and Analysis, he is coeditor (with Kylene Beers and Linda Rief) of Adolescent Literacy: Turning Promise into Practice, and coauthor (with Kylene Beers) of Notice and Note: Strategies for Close Reading, and Reading Nonfiction, Notice & Note Stances, Signposts, and Strategies all published by Heinemann. Bob has also published over one hundred articles, chapters, and monographs in national and international publications. Bob began his teaching career as high school English teacher and then became a supervisor of English for a large district in Maryland. He spent most of his academic career at Georgia State University where he is now Professor Emeritus of English Education. After retiring from Georgia State University, he served as a research fellow for Florida International University. Bob is now a consultant to schools, nationally and internationally, focusing on literacy improvement. He works in schools with his colleague and co-author, Kylene Beers. Bob has served as a member on the Conference on English Board of Directors, an NCTE journal columnist, a member of the national advisory board to American Reading Company, and a member of the NCTE Commission on Reading. In 2004 he was awarded the NCTE's Exemplary Leadership Award, presented by the Conference on English Leadership.

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##### Sheila Kilburn:

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**Josefina Smith:**

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**Keith Mayo:**

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