

**Integrating Oral and Written Language with Art, Performance and Technology** is a celebration of oral and written language. Communication skills are integrated with art, performance and technology in a cooperative learning format. Students explore a natural site, working in teams to create, edit, perform and publish art and poetry. Students of various grade levels and abilities can participate. Taught by veteran classroom teachers, workshop participants experience all the elements of a *Voices from the Land* project.

Students use science concepts and skills to explore and discover a natural site. They use art concepts and skills to create "ecoart" from natural materials. They write poetry or prose about the art and their experience... giving the art, landscape and the authors a "voice". Students layout, design and publish a full-color book of their photographs and poetry. They use oral language and performance strategies to share their work, with options to share their work with schools in other states and provinces.



Moon  
Up in the sky  
White circle  
Broken like that  
- - - Pre-school children



We use the land  
For what we need  
But instead let's take  
A moment to see.  
Could we leave nature a gift?  
Even a simple leaf or stick?  
Then for just a time in space  
We could meet the land  
Face to face.

- - - Adam, 8th grade

**This workshop models how students can:**

- Generate writing and use communication skills across the curriculum ;
- Experience and create art as a shared activity in an outdoor environment;
- Communicate, collaborate and negotiate as a member of a team;
- Write to express thoughts, ideas and experiences... giving "voice" to creativity and cultural perspective;
- Understand the emotional impact of art and photos, and the interaction with language;
- Develop and use oral performance skills for sharing writing;
- Use computer and internet technology to document, revise, edit, layout, design and publish a book showcasing their work;
- Share their work with other people and students from other cultural perspectives;
- Draw inspiration for writing and art from the landscape that sustains us all.



**LIMITED WORKSHOP SPACE  
REGISTER EARLY!**

**WORKSHOP FEE:** **\$130**

**DATE:** March 22 and 23, 2010

**TIME:** 8:30 am to 3:00 pm each day

**LOCATION:** EIRC facility, 107 Gilbreth Parkway, Suite 200, Mullica Hill, NJ 08062. [Intersection Rte 322 and Rte 55]

PLEASE PRINT the requested information and return with check (made out to EIRC-Global connections) or purchase order to: Monarch Teacher Network-EIRC, 606 Delsea Drive, Sewell, New Jersey 08080 USA

Participant's Name: _____	Grade/Subject: _____	Phone: _____	School Name & Address: _____
Email address ( <u>MANDATORY</u> , confirm through email only) _____		Home Address: _____	

## What teachers are saying:

- “Uses poetry as a tool for exploration and discovery.”
- “An awesome project ... parents were amazed by their work.”
- “A wonderful learning experience.”
- “I left the workshop with a sense of peace and hope.”

## Connecting oral language to the land

This workshop is based on the ancient and intimate connection between language and landscape. For most of human existence, oral language was the way we survived.

*“No indigenous, oral language can be genuinely understood in separation from the earth that sustains it... Oral people will rightly say that each place has its own mind, its own personality, its own intelligence... that may speak through the persons that inhabit them... Language functions not simply to dialogue with other humans but also to converse with the land... Words do not speak about the world; rather they speak to the world ...”*

- David Abram

## About the workshop site

This workshop will be held at EIRC's new facility, located 30 minutes east of Philadelphia in Gloucester County, NJ. Workshop fee includes all materials. Workshop participants will be awarded 12 NJ Professional Development Credits by the Educational Information Resource Center (EIRC).



# EXPLORE LANGUAGE and LANDSCAPE, ART and CULTURE

## Voices... from the Land

March 22-23 , 2010

Voices art: stone circle

*Following the spiral in the land  
From the beginning to the end  
Square, round, skinny, fat  
Sharp, rough, smooth, bumpy  
Brown, blue, red, purple  
Earth tones in a spiral twist.*

... Abbey and Madison, 4th grade



Voices art: autumn leaves floating on water

For more information, contact:

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[www.MonarchTeacherNetwork.org](http://www.MonarchTeacherNetwork.org)



Monarch Teacher Network is a project of EIRC, a New Jersey public agency since 1968



Voices art: spiral of autumn leaves on moss