

Amanda Knopp

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My name is Amanda Knopp. I was born and raised in Indiana. I attended Ball State University for my undergraduate. I received my Masters degree from Western Governors University in Instructional Technology and I am currently pursuing my Specialist Degree from the University of West Georgia. I moved to Newnan, Georgia in 2001 to begin teaching at an elementary school. Five years later, I moved on to middle school and have been there ever since!

I have a passion for reading and writing! After attending a writing conference with Penny Kittle I was hooked! I bought and read *180 Days: Two Teachers Quest to Engage and Empower Adolescents* and *Book Love*. This was the beginning of my journey to incorporate reading and writing daily, not only in my classroom, but in the English Language Arts classrooms throughout the building. As the ELA chairperson, I went to the principal and worked with her to incorporate 10 minutes of reading and writing daily in all of the ELA classrooms. My next goal was to build the classroom libraries in my school. Over the next few years, each year my principal has given each of the teachers in the ELA department money to buy books for their classroom libraries. I have grown my classroom library to over 750 books!!!

