

## THE COLLINS WRITING PROGRAM

The *Collins Writing Program*<sup>SM</sup> was designed to simultaneously improve students' thinking and writing skills. The unique program develops thinking skills through Five Types of Writing<sup>SM</sup> assignments and can be easily used in any content area. *Collins Writing* is based on two essential principles: 1) thinking and writing skills develop with experience and practice, and 2) it is almost impossible to be both a creative thinker (generating new ideas) and a critical thinker (evaluating existing ideas) at the same time.

Our goal is to give teachers, schools, and districts a unified program that can be used in all classrooms and in all subject areas from grades K-12. To achieve this goal, the program provides techniques that require the student to be the intellectual worker in the room. The *Collins Writing Program* is a challenging program for students and an effective, easy-to-manage program for teachers.

## PROGRAM RATIONALE

Writing is the most difficult activity we ask students to do and the stakes for improving writing skills continue to escalate. State and national performance assessments increasingly require written responses from students that explain thinking processes — in all content areas. The *Collins Writing Program* will enable students to become comfortable thinking and writing, to develop the essential writing skills they need for future academic success, and to perform well on state and national assessments.

## COLLINS WRITING MODEL

The *Collins Writing Program* presents a model for writing-across-the-curriculum. At its very core is the belief that writing enhances the learning process of any subject at any level. To help teachers encourage students to think and write, we have developed a proprietary model for a writing-to-learn, writing-across-the-curriculum program that defines and utilizes Five Types of Writing assignments and the outcomes expected for each.

These Five Types of Writing provide the overall framework for the program. For each writing type the program establishes clear expectations and outcomes and provides extensive, practical strategies for students to employ.

## AUTHORSHIP

John Collins, Ed.D., founder of Collins Education Associates LLC (CEA), is an acknowledged expert in converting research on writing and thinking into practical and timesaving teaching techniques. John is the author of the highly successful *Collins Writing Program* which is the culmination of over twenty years of work with students, teachers and school districts. Dr. Collins' proven techniques have benefited more than two million students and have been singled out for recognition by the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE). Dr. Collins has taught from elementary through graduate school and is the author of numerous publications.