

Preface

Ironically, a teacher's early years in the profession are marked, not by teaching, but by *learning*. Unraveling the complexities of the classroom can be a lengthy and sometimes confounding process.

In a Class of Your Own: Essential Strategies for the New K–6 Teacher responds to the need for a practical and upbeat guide for novice teachers. It is straightforward and encouraging in its approach. This book offers a tripod of support, humor, and wisdom that clarifies the process, addresses concerns, and offers strategies for dealing with common situations. It is written in the voice of a mentor who “neither lectures nor judges.”

This book also provides easy retrieval of information on a wide range of topics, such as strategies for planning effective lessons, communicating with parents, observing and being observed, and dealing with specific student behaviors. Advice from experienced teachers is supported by examples and anecdotes from the author's classroom. T.I.P.S, the author's acronym for Theory-Into-Practice Strategies, can be found in each of the nine chapters: Preparing, Anticipating, Organizing, Managing, Communicating, Instructing, Observing and Being Observed, Respecting, and Reflecting.

Building skills and enthusiasm are at the heart of *In a Class of Your Own: Essential Strategies for the New K–6 Teacher* and make this book a valuable instructional resource.