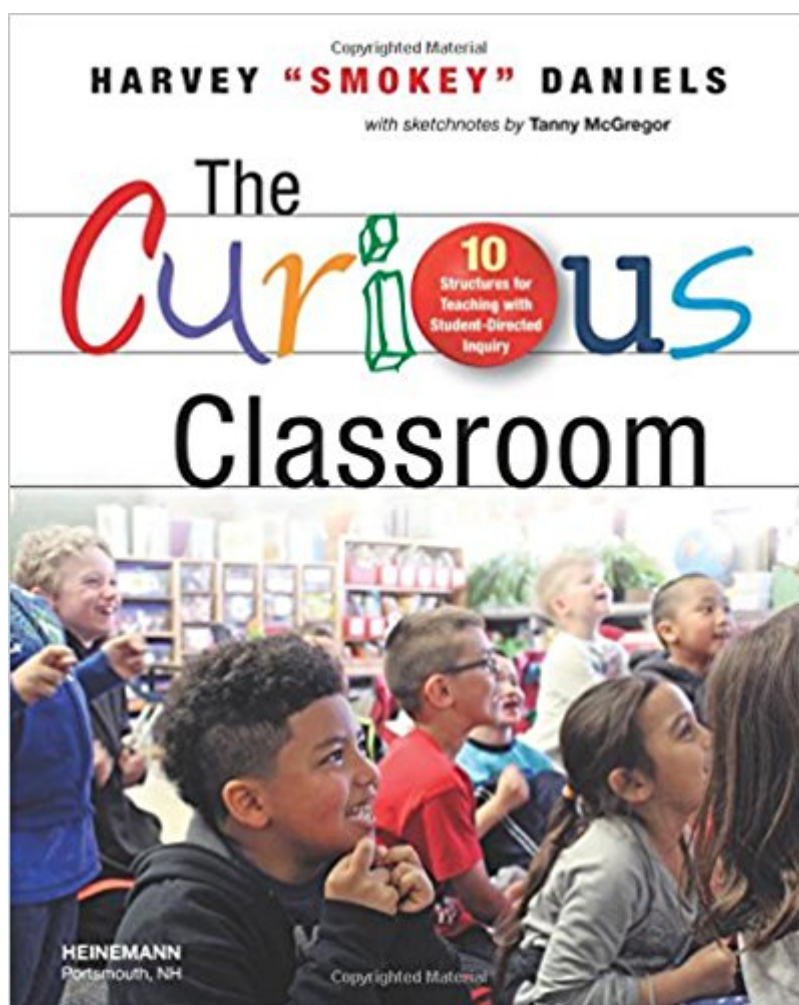


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# The Curious Classroom: 10 Structures For Teaching With Student-Directed Inquiry



## Synopsis

Curious about inquiry? Hundreds of thousands of elementary teachers are. Smokey Daniels travels the country supporting well planned and organized inquiry teaching, and he gets these two questions most often: Where do I find the time? What are some simple ways I can try with my kids?

The Curious Classroom answers these questions. It shares a ladder of 10 inquiry structures. Begin with briefly modeling your own curiosity or start on a higher rung as you gradually move toward units driven by kids' own questions. Ever wonder how to get students genuinely engaged in your curriculum? Or wish you could let them explore those amazing questions they brim with? If so, Smokey provides research-based suggestions that help cover the curriculum by connecting what kids wonder about to the wonders you have to teach them. He shares 10 structures, 34 inspiring models from teachers nationwide, full-color photographs and examples of students work, plus specific suggestions for assessment and grading. Just getting started with inquiry? Looking for your own next step in student-driven inquiry? Or do you just want new teaching ideas to try? Read The Curious Classroom. "By the end of this book," writes Smokey Daniels, "I hope you will say two things: I never knew my kids were capable of working at this level; and This is the most fun I have ever had in my teaching life." Be sure to check out our study guide, complete with infographics, Tanny McGregor's chapter-by-chapter sketchnotes, and space for you to interact with the book.

## Book Information

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Age Range: 5 - 11 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 6

## Customer Reviews

Harvey "Smokey" Daniels has been a city and suburban classroom teacher and a college professor, and now works as a national consultant and author on literacy education. In language arts, Smokey is known for his pioneering work on student book clubs, as recounted in *Literature Circles: Voice and Choice in Book Clubs and Reading Groups*, and *Minilessons for Literature Circles*. His latest bestselling books on content-area literacy are *The Curious Classroom*; *Comprehension & Collaboration*, Second Edition; *Upstanders*; *Subjects Matter*, Second Edition; the *Texts and Lessons* series; and *Content-Area Writing*. He is also coauthor of *Best Practice*, Fourth Edition, and *The Best Practice Video Companion* as well as editor of *Comprehension Going Forward*. Smokey works with elementary and secondary teachers throughout the United States, Canada, and Europe, offering demonstration lessons, workshops, and consulting, with a special focus on creating, sustaining, and renewing student-centered inquiries and discussions of all kinds. Smokey shows colleagues how to simultaneously build students' reading strategies, balance their reading diets, and strengthen the social skills they need to become genuine lifelong readers. Connect with Smokey @smokeylit.

READING *Comprehension Going Forward* *Mini-lessons for Literature Circles* *Subjects Matter*, Second Edition *Texts and Lessons for Content-Area Reading* *Texts and Lessons for Teaching Literature* *WRITING* *Community of Writers* *Content-Area Writing* *LITERACY* *The Curious Classroom* *Comprehension & Collaboration*, Second Edition *Inquiry Circles for Elementary Classrooms* *Inquiry Circles for Secondary Classrooms* *SCHOOL CULTURE* *Best Practice*, Fourth Edition *Best Practice Video Companion* *Rethinking High School* *Rethinking High School Video* *Upstanders*

Amazing Book.

This is a fantastic book! I would highly recommend to anyone trying to engage students in learning!

Amazing! A book that puts students at the center of their learning. Great practical ideas!

Harvey Daniels completely inspires me as a teacher

I bought this book when it was first out but didn't dive in until a few weeks ago. I have recently been wanting to build more inquiry, curiosity and wonder into my kindergarten classroom, but I felt overwhelmed by many of the ideas I have seen out there. This book was exactly what I was hoped it would be. The 10 structures are easy to visualize (thanks in part to lots of classroom examples)

and build in complexity and level of commitment. I feel ready to implement at least 5 of them in the fall and am sure I will build towards even more as the year progresses. Honestly, I can hardly wait.

Quite possibly the most practical book I have ever read on how to teach by taking the lead from a child's curiosity. Each page is loaded with practical suggestions, images, lists, and homespun advice from amazing classroom teachers. The 10 simple lessons can be spun into years of student driven curriculum. Throw away the script and take a few cues from Smokey. You just might start loving to teach again in the process.

I bought this book for each faculty member in our school and have recommended it to every educator I know. The format is very teacher-friendly, moving from simple strategies for incorporating inquiry into very busy schedules to more complex strategies. Best of all, Smokey Daniels teaches us that an inquiry-style classroom can help children develop empathy and cope with life's biggest challenges-death, illness, or frightening news.Kathy Bartelmay, Curriculum Director

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