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Differentiating Reading: One Teacher's Journey Implementing Literature Circles

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Poster Presentation ES

**DIFFERENTIATING READING:
ONE TEACHER'S JOURNEY IMPLEMENTING LITERATURE CIRCLES**

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For this self-study, I developed and implemented a literature circle unit in a fourth grade classroom using Roald Dahl books at a variety of reading levels during the three weeks of my full time student teaching. The goal of this study was to use a literature circle format as a means to reach the needs of all students with varying degrees of reading abilities and styles of learning. I collected data in the form of student work, student journals, video taped conversations with students, and my own field notes. By considering the journey of three specific students, an advanced student, a student performing at grade level, and a low performing student, I found literature circles were especially useful for reaching the needs of all students. The results highlight the importance of using a differentiated reading program, with literature circles as one such format.