

Structured Word Inquiry

Literacy instruction for all ages and abilities



Peter Bowers, PhD

Mar. 22 Classroom embedded workshop

Mar. 23 Full-day workshop

Palo Alto @ Athena Academy



What is Structured Word Inquiry (SWI)?

“Structured word inquiry” [Bowers and Kirby \(2010\)](#) is word-level literacy instruction that engages learners of all ages and abilities by *making sense* of our surprisingly logical spelling system through *scientific word investigation*.

See an interview with Dr. Bowers on SWI [HERE](#).

Learn how educators around the world use inquiry into English spelling as a means of enriching vocabulary, reading and spelling -- and to leverage learning in any subject area. Bowers brought SWI to the Bay Area and the world. He was a visiting scholar at the Nueva School (2015-2016). His research has been published in prestigious journals and his workshops are highly sought after around the world.

Workshop Information

- Fri. Mar. 22** Classroom-embedded workshop (\$200)
9:00 am - 3:00 pm (*limited enrollment*)
- Sat. Mar. 23** Full-day workshop (\$200)
9:30 am - 3:30 pm

Limited spots on Friday for the classroom-embedded sessions are reserved for those who *also* attend the Saturday workshop. Participants are free to attend Saturday without attending Friday.

Who is this workshop for?

This workshop is for teachers and tutors new to SWI and those who have attended workshops and worked with SWI for some time. The content addresses instruction of children of all ages and abilities.

Location: Athena Academy

- 525 San Antonio Avenue, Palo Alto, CA 94306 (See [MAP](#))
- Tel: (650) 543-4560

Information and registration:

Email Pete [<peterbowers1@mac.com>](mailto:peterbowers1@mac.com)

Explore www.wordworkskingston.com and the [WordWorks YouTube page](#) for more on SWI.

do	ing	do + ing → doing	go + ing → going
go	es	do + es → does	go + es → goes
	ne	do + ne → done	go + ne → gone

Teachers and students become “word scientists” who investigate families of related words and discover how the meaning structures of words (morphology), history (etymology) and pronunciation (phonology) work together.

Videos & resources of SWI across the grades:

See Pete and other teachers use the morphological matrix and word sums, grapheme-phoneme charts and etymological information to make sense of the spelling-meaning connections of related words at the WordWorks YouTube page [HERE](#).

SWI & Research

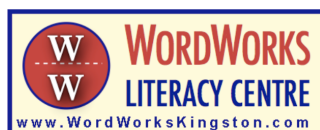
See [Bowers and Bowers \(2017\)](#) for an overview of the research evidence and theory for why SWI is particularly important for those who struggle with literacy. See more research and resources for SWI on this [About WordWorks](#) page and Jeff Bowers’ (Pete’s brother) blog [HERE](#).

re de	con	struct “ <i>build</i> ”	es or ing ion s	
in	de			
in ob			ure	s ed ing
			al	ly

con + struct + ion	→	construction
re + con + struct + ed	→	reconstructed
in + struct + or	→	instructor
struct + ure + al + ly	→	structurally



Above: An image from [THIS VIDEO](#) of a pre-school teacher building on Pete’s work to introduce the morphological family of <rain> to her class.



www.WordWorksKingston.com

