



**Premier's Awards for Teaching Excellence**  
**Deborah Koehn**  
**Biography**

Deborah Koehn teaches grades 2 and 3 at Glenview Elementary in Prince George. She is currently completing her Master's Degree at the University of Victoria and completed the CSML program last year. She credits much of her own learning about learning to her two mentors, Dr. Linda Kaser and Dr. Judy Halbert of the Network of Performance Based Schools and Associate Professors with the University of Victoria.

Deborah has taken innovative approaches to literacy. For example, she developed an after-school literacy club that connects reading and writing to hands-on activities like magic tricks and science experiments. As well, she developed an evening program that has made the school library accessible to the community.

She is also committed to sharing her knowledge and expertise with others. Deborah developed a cross-grade coaching program that has been well-received province wide. A video demonstrating Deborah's cross grade coaching program is available through the Network of Performance Based Schools, along with lesson plans to enable teachers to integrate the program into their classrooms. It was shown to hundreds of participants at the International Congress of School Improvement and Effectiveness in New Zealand. Deborah has worked this year to bring strong literacy practises and formative assessment strategies into classrooms in BC and the Northwest Territories.

Through her dedication, Deborah has contributed significantly to student success at her school, leading a school wide improvement in all areas of the FSA's. For her contributions, Deborah, along with the teaching staff at Glenview has received recognition from the International Reading Association for her exemplary approach to literacy improvement.