

Folger SHAKESPEARE LIBRARY

Education

Teaching Colleagues:

Welcome to the Folger Shakespeare Library! We are honored to work with you.

We know—have always known—that teachers are the most powerful people on earth because you do the most important work on the planet. So we work with teachers every way that we can . . . at the Folger Library in Washington, DC, on the road, and online. No one is more important to us than you.

We also know that Shakespeare is for all students and all teachers, and that, with the right tools, everyone can find their way into, around, and through the great words and big ideas in a Shakespeare play. For more than 30 years, we have worked with many thousands of teachers across the country, and by extension, with their students. That's how we know our approach to Shakespeare works with all kinds of kids at all kinds of ability levels. And many English teachers tell us that these techniques are really successful in teaching other kinds of literature as well.

Everything we do is based on the **Folger Approach**:

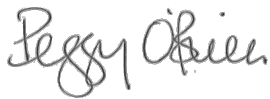
- We connect your students with Shakespeare's language head on, and that's the first step to owning the plays and everything in them.
- Together, we'll build on that foundation with elements of performance and scholarship, at a level and in a way that only the Folger can.
- Ultimately, *all* students end up reading closely, asking good questions, citing textual evidence, and benefiting from lasting relationships with words and ideas.

Overall, **it all starts with the language**. Your students' direct connection with his language is the key to unlocking the texts. So your students work—as a class, in groups, individually—speaking and moving in order to figure out words, lines, scenes, plays.

All of us at the Folger hope you have a wildly exhilarating Professional Learning Day, full of Shakespeare's language, useful classroom practice, warm collegiality . . . and inspiration.

"The readiness is all," Hamlet says. Go for it!

Your fan,



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