

Local teachers have eye for creativity, literacy

By **PEGGY BLACKBURN**
Managing Editor

Teachers from 10 central Alabama school systems, along with educators from the Alabama Math, Science and Technology Institute at Auburn University attended a two-day workshop in Wetumpka this past week. The seminar -- "The Private Eye" -- drew positive reviews from the 32 participants.

The process, developed by Kerry Ruef, is designed to develop higher order thinking skills, creativity and literacy across subject areas. Ruef's

research while developing the program proved to her that thinking by analogy was one of the top critical skills all successful people possess -- from scientists to artists.

"It's a process that can apply not only to every subject in school, but to anything in life," said Debbie Pezzillo, program coordinator for the UAB School of Education's Alabama Hands-on Activity Science Program (ALAHASP).

Program co-directors Joan Dawson and Beverly Radford presented the seminar, which

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Wetumpka Middle School science teacher Sharon Turman examines a daisy with other seminar participants.

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