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# Teachers

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was built on the basic question, "What else does this remind me of?"

A series of exercises and activities were used to train attendees in a process of close observation, writing, drawing and research.

Items as simple as stems of daisies were used to illustrate the lessons, showing teachers how to relate everyday objects to a variety of subjects.

"It's been great," said Sharon Turman, a Wetumpka Middle School teacher. "I'm already thinking how to use what I've learned in science, but it can be incorporated into any subject.

"I was really interested in attending, because Wade Strickland (AMSTI) did a Private Eye session with my

class this past year," she said. "It captured my students' attention."

Eclectic Middle School teacher Lakeisha Ray agreed.

"I've really gotten a lot from it," she said. "The process fosters creative thinking, and it is made for every child.

"It is also a really good way to encourage interdisciplinary collaboration," Ray said. "You can see the world from a whole new perspective."

Teacher Ketra Duchesne of Phenix City was also enthusiastic.

"It taught me to look at things I see in more than one way -- not just the obvious ways," she said. "I also learned how to relate things I would not have thought of before -- you can apply it to science, English, math, literature and even art.

"This process let's you springboard into your own investigation," said Duchesne.

Dawson said research has shown it is easier to learn new information when it's linked to what people already know. The question, "What else does this remind me of?" allowed participants to explore how an organism might use those similarities to survive or how the answer could be used in problem-solving.

According to Radford, the program is the key to bridging gaps across the curriculum and levels of learners, while helping to hone critical thinking habits.

The workshop was sponsored by the East Alabama Regional Inservice Center of Auburn University for systems within its service area.