Question: What kinds of information will I find in the Guides to the TCRWP Classroom Libraries?

Lucy: It was really important for us to find a way to take all the thinking that we did in building the shelves, and find a way to give it over to you so that when you look at a collection of books, you’ll understand the principles that informed that shelf. So we wrote a guide for the K-2 libraries, a guide for 3-5 libraries, and a guide for the 6-8 libraries. Those guides try to pass on to you the thinking that guided the curation of these libraries. There’s a chapter in the guide on the research that you need to convince others to help support libraries. There are tons and tons of research on how putting books in kids’ hands totally changes kids and makes them into readers. So one chapter gives that information to you. And then there’s a chapter that just teaches you ways in which fabulous teachers organize their library, or handle the check-out, check-in system of their libraries. And another chapter details the logic behind the fantasy shelf, or the logic behind the historic fiction shelf, the high-interest non-fiction shelf, or the biography shelf. The guides try to pass on to you as much of our knowledge as possible. We also included in them some of the essentials of teaching reading, some ideas about book clubs and about read-aloud, things like that that can help you to take these books and then take your teaching and do something magical.

To learn more about the TCRWP Classroom Libraries, browse representative titles, and order shelves, visit calcinslibraries.com