The Writing Thief takes using mentor texts in new directions and with new purposes. It has wonderfully insightful passages about using reading to teach writing from well-known authors. It has over 90 books and everyday text citations and teaching ideas organized by mode (narrative, information, opinion/argument) and by the four key qualities of each trait (ideas, organization, voice, word choice, sentence fluency, conventions, and presentation). It has updated writing research and thought about the Common Core State Standards.
Source: culhamwriting.com

Tips:
Visit culhamwriting.com for an extensive list of literacy book recommendations from the author for grades K-2 and 3-5 as well as fantastic resources such as narrative guides, writer scoring guides, and a Writing Thief lesson plan.

Preview the book online through Stenhouse Publishers

Visit goodreads.com for a list of reviews and tips from other teachers who have utilized The Writing Thief in their classroom.

Review for The Writing Thief:
“Ruth’s beloved easy-going style and friendly tone make this a book you'll turn to again and again as you guide your students to reach their full potential as deep, thoughtful readers and great writers. There’s a writing thief in each of us when we learn how to read with a writer's eye!”
- Stenhouse Publishers

Source: literacyworldwide.org

About the author:
Ruth Culham, EdD, is the president of The Culham Writing Company and the former unit manager of the assessment program at Education Northwest in Portland, Oregon, USA. She was the English Teacher of the Year in Montana, the highlight of her 19-year teaching career. She holds specialty degrees in library science and elementary, middle, and secondary English education. Ruth creates and conducts teacher workshops to provide professional development at the local, district, and state levels. At state and national conferences, she’s a featured speaker on using the traits of writing, designing effective writing instruction, using reading to teach writing, and other related topics.
Source: The Writing Thief