

AIM National Summer Institute West 2010 Program



Friday, August 13

11:00	Check in
12:00 to 1:00	Lunch
1:15 to 2:00	Plenary Session and Welcome: Wendy Maxwell
2:00 to 3:00	Keynote Session: Terry Small In this highly entertaining and interactive keynote address, brain-based expert Terry Small unravels some of the marvels of the ways we learn. With both facts and humour, Terry will show why "...you are a genius!"
3:15 to 4:25	Session A



***Note: Sessions are identified according to participants' level of experience with the AIM. "B" is for beginner participants with between 0 and 100 hours of program implementation. "E" is for experienced participants with over 100 hours of program implementation.**

A1 Introduction to AIM in Primary Classrooms – Part 1 Level: B*

(Edite Sammons)

Are you a Primary Core or Immersion teacher interested in using the AIM? If so, this double session is the workshop for you! Learn how to jump-start fluency development by integrating the gestures, drama, beginning literacy and music elements of the AIM program *Histoires en action ! pour les tout petits* into a Primary Core or Immersion curriculum. You will see footage of teachers working with their students and learn some easy tricks for establishing a French-only environment. Edite will share many strategies for integrating the AIM in all areas of the curriculum. *La poule Maboule* will be used as the sample unit. Edite will explain how to scaffold activities and use "pleasant repetition" – songs, plays, raps and chants.

This session is continued in B1.

A2 AIM at the Elementary Levels: Introductory Workshop – Part 1 Level: B*

(Shannon Bourbonnais)

Participants will become familiar with the main components of AIM and learn how to begin using the program in Elementary classrooms using *Histoires en action #1*. Topics covered in this session will include: the overall philosophy of AIM; how to begin the first day/week; using entry routines; how to establish the pas d'anglais rule; and learning gestures. This is a three-part workshop and is intended for the complete beginner or for those who have never attended an AIM training workshop.

This session is continued in B2.



Terry Small
Keynote speaker

A3 AIM for Older Students – Introduction to the AIM Grade: 6 and up Level: B

(Karen Oraas)

In this introductory session designed for teachers new to the AIM, Karen will show you what the AIM is and how it is different from traditional methods. Although many believe that the AIM is just for younger students, age-appropriate materials are now available and older students are also becoming fluent in the language. Karen will show you the basic components of a lesson, will help you figure out the many kits available and will give you the information you need to find out more once you are back in your school.

A4 Chill with Syl - Sharing Session for Experienced Teachers: How to be a Successful AIM Teacher! Level: E

(Sylvia Duckworth)

Do you have questions/concerns about AIM you would like to share with other teachers? Are there certain aspects of the program you "don't quite get" or that you are experiencing frustrations with or would like more practice with? Are you "plateauing" with AIM and wondering how to get your students to the next level and keep them challenged? Come with all of your questions, and AIM veteran Sylvia will try her best to answer them. If she can't, there will likely be someone in the audience who can! If there is time left at the end, Sylvia will take requests to view plays on DVD that you are curious to see.

4:30 – 5:30 Free Time

5:30 – 6:45 Dinner

6:30 – 7:30

A5 Panel Discussion #1: "Achieving Success with Jr. High Students" Level: B/E

(Panel leaders: Karen Oraas, Shannon Bourbonnais)

A6 Gesture Practice - first 50 hours of instruction Level: B

(Facilitator: Ellen Keiser)

8:00 Wine and Cheese



Saturday, August 14

7:00 – 7:30	Gesture Practice - first 100 hours of instruction (Ellen Keiser) Level: B
7:30 – 8:15	Breakfast
8:30 – 9:00	Presentation of new AIM e-training modules and plenary/announcements (Neil Hammond)
9:10 – 10:20	Session B

B1 Introduction to AIM in Primary Classrooms – Part II Level: B

(Edite Sammons)

This is a continuation of session A1. In this session, we will focus on writing activities and explore different strategies for developing writing skills in our youngest students. We will break out into small groups to practice gestures and to discuss important issues such as error fossilization and transitions. Participants will be introduced to other HEATP plays and kits.

B2 AIM at the Elementary Levels: Introductory Workshop - Part II Level: B

(Shannon Bourbonnais)

This workshop is a continuation of session A2. Participants will learn how to introduce the play using gestures, puppets and by watching it on DVD and acting it out. They will also be introduced to beginning language-manipulation activities, up to and including, asking questions with *est-ce que* (as well as Q-fronted question words) and getting full-sentence responses. Finally, Shannon will present the next steps for implementing the AIM in Elementary classes, by showing how to scaffold linguistic activities so that students can progress with both competence and confidence.

B3 AIM for Older Students – Whole-Class Activities Level: B/E

(Karen Oraas)

In this continuation of session A3, Karen will introduce you to the first kit in the *Jeunesse en action* series *Salut mon ami*. She will focus on the whole-class activities portion of your lesson. At the end of this workshop, she will give you advice on what to do to prepare for the beginning of the year and will provide many concrete examples. Many of the topics discussed would be a good refresher for those teachers with some AIM experience.

B4 Songs on Powerpoint Level: E

(Sylvia Duckworth)

Sylvia Duckworth will demonstrate how to get the most out of teaching songs using PowerPoint presentations. Learn how to retain student attention, increase participation and improve reading and grammar skills.

10:20 – 10:40 Break

10:40 – 11:50 Session C

C1 Learning Songs and Dances Level: B/E

(Ellen Keiser)

Music, dance and song are wonderful motivators for students and a great context for teaching vocabulary, too. Ellen will teach you some of the dances from the *Histoires en action !* programs as well as some grammar and classroom raps. Ideas for simple choreography will also be provided to help you assist your students when they are asked to create their own dance moves. Take note of the dance steps in preparation for our AIM Variety Night!



C2 The First Lesson With AIM Level:B

(Karen Oraas)

The first few lessons in the *Histoires en action!* program are very important in setting up the routines, expectations and overall success of the AIM methodology in your FSL classroom. Karen will guide you through all of the essential elements of a typical AIM classroom.

11:50 to 12:30 Lunch

12:40 – 1:50 Session D

D1 AIM Assessment: How to Assess Without Formal Written Tests

Grade: All Level: B/E

(Karen Oraas)

When students spend their class time taking formal written tests, they aren't spending their time learning new material. Because of this, formal tests should be kept to a minimum in French classrooms where the teacher has a very limited number of hours with her students. In this session, Karen will show you how you can assess your students without the use of formal tests. She will share rubrics with you, discuss how she marks the cahiers/feuilles d'activités and will share with you the two goals she has with her students on the first day of class.

D2 Language Manipulation Activities for Primary/Elementary Level: B/E

(Shannon Bourbonnais)

Shannon will show the progress of the scaffolded written activities for the *Histoires en action!* and *Histoires en action! pour les tout petits* program. Participants will learn how to introduce these activities orally, kinesthetically and visually so that students can have great success when completing them with partners and on their own. Participants will learn many gestures in this hands-on session

D3 Panel Discussion - AIM: the Second Year and Beyond Level: E

(Sylvia Duckworth and Edite Sammons)

1:50 to 2:00 Break

2:00 to 3:10 Session E

E1 Gesture practice - Language Refinements Level: B/E

(Sylvia Duckworth)

Sylvia will model how to teach language refinements such as *les contraires*, *le negatif*, *le passé*, *les infinitifs* and *les verbes au pluriel* in ways that are motivating and engaging for students, and that help promote ongoing retention of these structures.

E2 AIM Assessment: Tests, Percentages and Report Cards

Grade: Grade 5 and up Level: B/E

(Karen Oraas)

This session is designed for those teachers required to provide letter grades and percentage marks on their report cards and are wondering how this works with the AIM. In this session, Karen will describe and give examples of the short tests and end-of-term tests she provides for her students. She will discuss ways of determining marks as well as writing report cards.



E3 Organizing a Café Théâtre Level B/E

(Wendy Maxwell)

Student success is something that is an important goal of the AIM program. Sharing student success with parents and other important individuals is also key to ongoing motivation. Because AIM contains numerous performance-oriented components, the café théâtre is an excellent way to ensure that your students experience this sharing of success. In this session, Wendy will explain the linguistic and motivational benefits of a *café théâtre*. She will take you through every aspect of the *café théâtre* presentation itself. You will view video footage that will provide concrete examples so that you will understand the process!

3:15 – 3:45

Session F

F1 Café Theatre Group Selections and Practice Level B/E

(Wendy Maxwell)

During this time, you will get into smaller groups (5-10) and select a song/dance or play of your choice to practice, make up a new dance, or just have fun singing songs. If you wish, your group may present your “rehearsed” play or song/dance (done à la karaoke) at the AIM Variety Night on Sunday Night. Some costumes and props will be provided, but if you have your own, bring them along. Also, if you have your own boom box, bring that with you.

3:45 – 4:00

Break

4:00 – 5:10

Session G

G1 Gesture practice - up to 150 hours of instruction Level B/E

(Ellen Keiser)

G2 The French-only Rule – How To Get To The Next Step

Grade: All Level B/E

(Karen Oraas)

For many teachers, the French-only rule is the most difficult and intimidating aspect of the AIM to implement in their classrooms. Many teachers feel a sense of failure if they are not successful with this rule. They understand the need to change, but don't know how to do it. In this workshop, Karen will help you to assess where you currently are, identify which step is next and then give you strategies to get there. Although initially developed for experienced teachers, beginners are welcome to attend.

G3 Applied Grammar and Error Analysis in AIM Level: E

(Sylvia Duckworth)

In this workshop, Sylvia will show participants how to use the PDL to teach grammatical concepts from the outset of the AIM program; gender, plurality, verbal constructions and tenses. You will also explore how to refine and analyze grammar with your students in a positive manner leading to a deep understanding on the part of the student. We will learn a number of Wendy's grammar raps that help enhance this process. Rapping grammar....you have to see that in action!

5:10 – 5:30

Free time

5:30 – 6:30

DINNER

8:00

Julie Powers Concert

Julie will be singing an eclectic collection of original rock, funk, blues and folk songs for FSL students.

In this highly interactive show, Julie invites participation from her audience - you will sing along, play percussion instruments, and generally have a rip-roaring good time. Julie began as a singer/songwriter and performer of adult contemporary music, adding French education to her repertoire shortly after her debut as a French teacher. When she discovered the AIM she was even more inspired to implement songs in her instruction.



Sunday, August 15

7:00 – 7:30	Gesture practice up to 150 hours of instruction (Ellen Keiser) Level B/E
7:30 – 8:15	Breakfast
8:30 – 9:00	Plenary Session/announcements – Wendy Maxwell
9:10 – 10:20	Session H

H1 Teacher-led Self Expression Level B/E

(Edite Sammons)

One of the essential elements of a successful AIM classroom is spontaneous and sustained speech supported through Teacher-led Self Expression (TLSE). Learn how to implement this important strategy from the first day of an AIM program. See how TLSE supports authentic communication, error correction and creativity. This workshop is for teachers who are new to AIM.

H2 AIM and SMARTboard Level B/E

(Sylvia Duckworth)

Sylvia will walk you through the basics of using a SMART Board in the French classroom. She will demonstrate how to use the SMART Board with *Histoires en action !* cahier activities to model and practice interactively.

H3 Cultural Literacy and the AIM Level B/E

(Wendy Maxwell)

To meet the requirements of the new Ontario Ministry guidelines for core French, we are producing a series of Cultural Literacy Packs. These packs align directly with the Cultural Literacy outcomes of the guidelines, but are appropriate for use in any French program. They contain AIM techniques and strategies that continue to develop fluency among your students. In this session, Wendy will show you the contents of these packs and how to use them with your students.

10:20 – 10:35	Break
10:35 – 11:45	Session I

I 1 Story Retelling Level B/E

(Edite Sammons)

In this workshop we will look in detail at how to begin the story retelling and story extension activities. This workshop is suitable for teachers who are using *Histoires en action !* or who have never used these activities before. Focusing on one of the plays from a beginning level unit, we will work through the whole process together so that you can experience the activities from your student's point of view. Participants will also view a variety of different ways that stories can be presented, many using technology, to engage those students who find writing tasks very challenging.

11:45 – 12:45	Lunch
12:45 to 1:50	Session J



J1 AIM READERS: How to Use Them Level B/E

(Sylvia Duckworth)

Take some time to discover, in an interactive way, the richness of the new AIM readers from a cultural, character development and environmental point of view. Sylvia will provide advice with respect to which readers are suitable for your students.

J2 Panel Discussion - AIM and Differentiated Learning Level B/E

(Edite Sammons, Shannon Bourbonnais)

1:50 to 2:00 Break

2:00 to 3:10 Session K

K1 Panel Discussion – Classroom Organization - the French Only Rule, AIM Systems (les cartes/ les groupes/entry and leaving routines/folders and correcting students work) Level: B/E

(Edite Sammons, Ellen Keiser)

K2 AIM for Older Students – Partner/Group Time Grade: 6 and up Level B/E

(Karen Oraas)

In this continuation of sessions A3 and B3, Karen will introduce teachers to the variety of activities that students will do during partner/group time. At this level, this includes not only the language manipulation activities, but also many oral partner activities. As the French-only rule is an integral component of partner/group time, Karen will discuss some strategies teachers may use when implementing this rule.

3:10 – 3:40 Break

4:00 – 5:30 Session L

Excursion to Alice Lake

5:30 to 7:00 DINNER

8:00 Variety Night



Monday, August 16

7:00 – 8:30	Breakfast
8:30 – 9:00	Plenary/Announcements - Wendy Maxwell
9:30 – 10:30	Check out by 10:30 please
9:00 – 10:10	Session M

M1 Creative Improvisational Story telling Level B/E

(Wendy Maxwell)

The ability to develop creative thinking skills in tandem with the development of oral and written language skills is an important goal of the AIM program. In this session, Wendy will show you how to introduce the activity that is enjoyed by younger and older students alike, once they have developed critical fluency. You will view examples of students at different age levels, engaging in the activity on video and then have the opportunity to try this activity with a partner!

M2 Introducing 'Un frère pénible' Level: E

(Sylvia Duckworth)

Join Sylvia as she shows videoclips of the new HEA kit: "Un frère pénible". You will see the play in its entirety, and the music videos that go with it. Sylvia will also show you the Teacher's Guide and the Cahier activities and other components of the kit.

M3 Gesturing the Plays and Questions Level: B/E

(Ellen Keiser)

10:10 – 10:20	Break
10:20 – 11:30	Session N

N1 Creative Writing Activities – What is Achievable? Grade: K to 6 Level: B/E

(Karen Oraas)

When teachers think of creative writing in AIM, they generally only think of story retelling and extension. In this workshop, Karen will take a much broader look at creative writing and break it down into small steps from *easy* to *more challenging*. In this workshop, Karen will share oral and written texts from students in Kindergarten to Grade 6 and show you how to help your students learn to write narrative text. Although initially developed for experienced teachers, beginners are welcome to attend.

N2 Panel Discussion - Assessment in HEA Level B/E

(Shannon Bourbonnais, Edite Sammons)

11:30 to 12:00	Wrap-up: Au Revoir et à la prochaine!
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Presenter Biographies



Keynote Presenter

Terry Small (B.Ed., M.A.) is a master teacher and learning skills specialist. He has taught for 28 years at elementary school, high school and university levels. His knowledge, warmth, humour and dynamic presentation style have made him a much sought-after speaker at workshops and conferences. Terry has been on television, the radio and in the press. He recently appeared on BCTV, CKNW and Student Success. He has presented his ideas to over 95,000 people.

Terry believes, "Anyone can learn how to learn easier, better, faster, and that learning to learn is the most important skill a person can acquire." He guarantees better grades in less time, increased confidence and more fun in learning!



AIM Creator

Wendy Maxwell (M.A.) created the AIM, revolutionizing second language instruction both in Canada and internationally. She is the author of *Histoires en action !*, *Histoires en action ! pour les tout petits*, *Stories in Action!*, *Life in Action!* and *Jeunesse en action !* series for Junior High FSL students.

Wendy is the recipient of a 1999 Prime Minister's Award for Teaching Excellence and the 2004 H.H. Stern Award for Innovation in Second Languages. She has made many appearances on CBC, Radio-Canada, Citytv and CTV, and her program has been written up in *The National Post*, *The Ottawa Citizen*, *The Toronto Star* and various journals in foreign territories. Wendy has given keynote addresses in Paris, Tokyo and The Hague.



Shannon Bourbonnais (M.Ed) is a consultant for AIM , and is a French Language Consultant at York House School, where she teaches French using the AIM. She has experience teaching at the junior and senior levels, and recently completed a Masters of Education in Language and Literacy at the University of British Columbia. Shannon has presented workshops across Canada and in the United States.

Presenter Biographies



Sylvia Duckworth (B.Ed.) teaches Elementary Core French at Crescent School in Toronto, where she has had great success using the AIM approach in her classes. She has shown the effectiveness of the method to the many teachers who have come to her classroom. She has hosted numerous workshops in Canada and the United States for teachers who wish to learn how to implement this approach.



Ellen Keiser (B.HK., B.Ed.)

Ellen has been teaching French since 2001 and has taught across a broad spectrum ranging from Grades K – 8. She was first introduced to the AIM program in 2002 at Collingwood School in West Vancouver. In 2006, she was recruited to spend a year in Melbourne, Australia training French teachers to implement the AIM program effectively. Ellen has had many visitors from all over the globe come to watch her AIM classes in action and has presented workshops in Western Canada.



Karen Oraas (M.Ed.) began using the AIM in 2001 and has since used it with students in the public and private sectors from kindergarten to grade eight. Currently, Karen teaches core French in grades six to eight at St. Michaels University School in Victoria, BC. Most recently, Karen has collaborated with Wendy Maxwell in the writing of *Jeunesse en action!*, the new program for junior high students. She enjoys giving workshops to inspire teachers and to show them all that students are capable of achieving in a core French class.



Edite Sammons (B.Ed.) has taught core French since 1980 in both the public and independent school systems. In 1999, Edite was the first teacher to pilot the AIM in her grade one core French classes at Havergal College, Toronto and was subsequently awarded the Havergal Chair for Teaching Innovation in 2001. For several years now, Edite has been an AIM presenter, giving workshops across North America and Holland. Currently, Edite teaches French full time using the AIM at The Country Day School in King City, Ontario.