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Developing Children's Critical Thinking through Picturebooks

## MARY ROCHE

## About me

My background in teaching and lecturing has led me to become an education consultant helping educational communities to enhance their practice. I became interested in Action Research for my MA, when I wanted to investigate my practice so as to help my students to <u>philosophise</u>. I then studied my practice to PhD level as I strove to create a <u>dialogical pedagogy</u>. This led me to write a <u>book</u>. I am passionately interested in creating democratic, dialogic classrooms where students are encouraged to think critically. My Critical Thinking and Book Talk approach (CT and BT) was adopted by the <u>NCCA Ireland</u>. Meanwhile, with my colleagues <u>Máirín, Caitriona and Bernie</u>, I co-authored 3 more books – on <u>Classroom Research</u> (2012); <u>Critical Reflection</u> (2016) and <u>Learning Communities</u> (2017). Oh – and I am a serious bookworm with a big love for picturebooks.

My colleagues and I have a website: <u>www.eari.ie</u>

We have also formed a network for education action researchers in Ireland: See http://www.eari.ie /neari-network-foreducational-actionresearch-in-ireland/

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