

## Books as Bookends

For an Outstanding Practice

## By Mark Kennedy

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# **Presenting BOOKS AS BOOKENDS** for the dedicated teacher's practice:

Lessons from the Hawk & Classroom Management: The Dance of the Dolphin

Know a newer teacher looking for answers in the areas of

- Why and how we learn differently,
- How to maintain classroom control and also
- Allow students to engage in inquiry and work with others?

Know a mid-career teacher looking to add to their success—to take it up a notch?

Know a veteran teacher looking to put the finishing touches on a distinguished career?

#### About the Books

Quite by accident, **the books' metaphors** originated **in sky and sea**, the two elements which make up the horizon. **Lessons from the Hawk Error! Hyperlink reference not valid.** grew out of my observations of a circling hawk, and **Classroom Management: The Dance of the Dolphin** www.great-ideas.org/dolphin.htm came from watching a documentary of a hopeful yet wary dolphin. Building on the analogy, we might note that even though sea and sky are two distinct bodies, they blur into one in the distance.

Yet if we continue the journey, the blur resolves into each observer's own unique perspective. Just so, the books share the theme that the nature and story of each child and adolescent is at once distinct from and yet connected—blurred into—all others. So then the individual's journey can eventually crystallize into **four possibilities for how each** one may be **uniquely gifted** and still called to contribute to the common good.

To find which of four distinct learning outlooks you might have, go to: <a href="www.great-ideas.org/DolphinMaterials.htm">www.great-ideas.org/DolphinMaterials.htm</a> and take the adult ['Teacher'] Learning Self-Observation Survey (kids can take the SSOS Self-Survey).

### **Behind the Books**

These two books along with dozens of articles are the result of nearly two decades experience in the field of education. **The works** attempt **both** to **summarize** what I've learned, **and** to **offer practical suggestions** for others, especially teachers, parents, and administrators. I'm particularly interested in the interplay of theory and practice, especially **as applicable for those** children and adolescents who are **in danger of dropping out** of traditional educational and societal settings.

Psychology Press/Holistic Education Press (2001/2004) **1-800-639-4122** For information: <a href="www.harmoniouswarrior.com">www.harmoniouswarrior.com</a>, <a href="www.great-ideas.org">amazon.com</a>, <a href="www.great-ideas.org">www.great-ideas.org</a>