Mary Swift began her journey with KU-CRL SIM in 1980 when she began implementing The Sentence Writing Strategy as a special education teacher in St. Louis County. After retiring from thirty-two years as an educator in all tiers, serving students with various disabilities at all grade levels, Mary has continued working as a Professional Developer in the St. Louis area. She was also a consultant on a team providing professional development, coaching, and literacy team development on both the North Carolina Content Literacy Continuum Project and the Montana Striving Readers Project.