

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Ellen McPeck Glisan, PhD**, grew up on a dairy farm in northern Illinois. Problem solving on the farm was an ever-present need. Ellen learned early on how to find a way to “use what you have to get what you need.” When she began teaching in a small rural town near her hometown, Ellen was not bothered when money was not available to buy materials for her junior–senior high special education classroom. She was happy to have a classroom and proceeded to use her farm-learned problem-solving skills. Her students needed materials, and the obvious solution seemed to be to write them herself, so Ellen started writing. Before long, she had written enough materials to fill a catalog, so she started Peekan Publications, an educational publishing company. After 17 years in business, Ellen sold her company in 1997 and is now a freelance education writer. She specializes in products that have a direct tie to functioning as an adult in today’s world.