

NetWORDing Early Literacy Conference

Saturday, October 26, 2024

North Trail High School, Calgary, Alberta

8:30–8:50	Registration and coffee
8:50–9:15	Land Acknowledgement and setting the context for NetWORDing
9:15–10:00	KEYNOTE: Lesly Wade-Woolley <i>Nine Myths and a Truth About Teaching Kids to Read</i>
10:00–10:15	Transition
10:15–11:15	Breakout session 1
11:15–12:15	Lunch (TC sharing): <i>Literacy Research in Action: Visual Storytelling About Tutoring</i> <i>Mount Royal University Teacher Candidates</i>
12:15–1:15	Breakout session 2
1:15–1:30	Transition
1:30–2:30	Breakout session 3

10:15 – 11:15

Concurrent Breakout Sessions #1

How to Design Your Literacy Block K-3 Kim Tackaberry	From Complete to Complex Thought: Supporting Sentence Structure for Elementary Students Dr. Miriam Ramzy & Michelle Bence	A Deep Dive into Vocabulary Instruction in the Classroom Dr. Lorraine Reggin	Phonics IS Fun! Bringing Structured Literacy to Life Within K to 3 Classrooms Jaydon Derdall & Nicole Belcher	Books to Build On: Indigenous Picture Books Anja Dressler Araujo Rachel Stubbs	Too Fun For Words – Develop and Evaluate Foundational Literacy Skills with Games Stacey Rayment	Beyond Books: Using Text Sets with the New Science Curriculum Kate Schutz & Sasha Gardiner-Hadford	Literacy Launchpad: Building Foundational Language and Literacy Skills Coralie D’Souza, Kaitlyn Park, Elizabeth Attisano
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12:15 – 1:15

Concurrent Breakout Sessions #2

Harnessing the Power of Read-Alouds: Laying a Critical Foundation for Comprehension Michelle Bence & Dr. Miriam Ramzy	A Deep Dive into Vocabulary Instruction in the Classroom Dr. Lorraine Reggin	Playful Pathways to Literacy: Routes and Routine to Developing and Deepening Knowledge Jennifer Matiece & Krista Jensen	Structured Literacy Stations within a Busy Literacy Classroom Eryn Coughlin & Allison Ryan	Beyond Books: Using Text Sets with the New Science Curriculum Kate Schutz, Sasha Gardiner-Hadford	How to plan responsive literacy instruction using assessment data Sara Peden	Books to Build On: Indigenous Picture Books Anja Dressler Araujo Rachel Stubbs	Literacy Launchpad: Building Foundational Language and Literacy Skills Coralie D’Souza, Kaitlyn Park, Elizabeth Attisano
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1:30 – 2:30

Concurrent Breakout Sessions #3

How to Design Your Literacy Block K-3 Kim Tackaberry	From Complete to Complex Thought: Supporting Sentence Structure for Elementary Students Dr. Miriam Ramzy	Harnessing the Power of Read-Alouds: Laying a Critical Foundation for Comprehension Michelle Bence	Phonics IS Fun! Bringing Structured Literacy to Life Within K to 3 Classrooms Jaydon Derdall & Nicole Belcher	Playful Pathways to Literacy: Routes and Routine to Developing and Deepening Knowledge Jennifer Matiece & Krista Jensen	Too Fun For Words – Develop and Evaluate Foundational Literacy Skills with Games Stacey Rayment	How to plan responsive literacy instruction using assessment data Sara Peden	Structured Literacy Stations within a Busy Literacy Classroom Eryn Coughlin & Allison Ryan
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KEYNOTE: Lesly Wade-Woolley

Associate Professor, Department of Educational Psychology University of Alberta

Nine Myths and a Truth About Teaching Kids to Read

The keynote presentation, "Nine Myths and a Truth About Teaching Kids to Read," confronts common misconceptions surrounding literacy instruction and emphasizes the evidence that challenges widely held but incorrect beliefs relating to readers and reading development. Each myth is debunked through the evidence, leading to the essential truth: reading success is built on structured, explicit teaching that aligns with how the brain processes written language.

Kate Schutz, *Service Design Lead, Calgary Public Library*

Sasha Gardiner-Hadford, *Assistant Principal, Alex Munro School (CBE)*

Beyond Books: Using Text Sets with the New Science Curriculum

Through text sets, discover ways to boost your students' background knowledge using various types of text, both physical and digital, from the Calgary Public Library. Using the new K-3 Science curriculum as an example, Sasha and Kate will support participants to integrate books, blogs, articles, animation, recipes, reports and more into teaching any subject.

Anja Dressler Araujo, *Project Manager, Books to Build On*

Rachel Stubbs, *Research Assistant - Books to Build On Werklund School of Education*

Books to Build On: Indigenous Picture Books

In this session, we will introduce our resource, 'Books to Build On: Indigenous Literatures for Learning,' an interactive web resource that is designed to assist educators with weaving Indigenous ways of knowing, being, and doing into their teaching and learning, starting with story. Responding to the Calls to Action from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada and to current Alberta provincial professional standards for education, this resource is intended to help teachers build foundational knowledge and competencies in Indigenous education.

Dr. Lorraine Reggin

*University of Calgary, Owerko Centre
Little Red Reading House*

A Deep Dive into Vocabulary Instruction in the Classroom

This session will be a deep dive into explicit vocabulary instruction, which is crucial for enhancing reading proficiency through targeted approaches. Throughout this 60-minute session, we will explore effective strategies backed by research and practical classroom applications. Participants will learn to select words for explicit teaching, employ techniques such as Frayer models, and integrate various discourse genres and figurative language to bolster reading comprehension across grade levels. Share your insights and experiences to empower every student in mastering new vocabulary.

Dr. Miriam Ramzy & Michelle Bence

Layers of Literacy, Literacy Consultants

From Complete to Complex Thought: Supporting Sentence Structure for Elementary Students

Together, we will look at general writing development through the Layers of Writing graphic, aligned with the ELAL curriculum, and examine how we can support students with sentence structure. Using a simple analogy, we will explore how sentence structure develops from simple to complex and how this awareness can transfer into supporting young writers to better express their ideas. This session will embed interactive activities throughout to illustrate how you can immediately take these ideas and build them into your classroom.

Purpose: to help students recognize a sentence, understand what makes a complete sentence, and learn how to add more details and complexity to student writing.

Michelle Bence & Dr. Miriam Ramzy

Layers of Literacy, Literacy Consultants

Harnessing the Power of Read-Alouds: Laying a Critical Foundation for Comprehension

Young students often love being read to in class, and sharing picture books is a daily practice in the primary classroom. However, few teachers fully harness the power of the read-aloud to develop complex thinking skills. This session will examine critical read-aloud strategies that support young students' ability to infer, comprehension monitor, and think critically. Using hands-on activities, we

will work through questioning and discussion techniques that support students' complex thinking skills and enhance student engagement. Join Michelle for a fun-filled session where we will read and play with picture books.

Kim Tackaberry, *Designer of Professional Learning, APLC (Calgary office)
Alberta Professional Learning Consortia. Master of Education in Literacy*

How to Design Your Literacy Block K-3

Building a literacy block into your daily schedule can be a challenging task. There are various ways to structure your schedule, but it's the components such as targeted explicit phonics, phonemic awareness skills instruction, as well as morphology, reading comprehension, and writing that are worthy of attention and collaborative conversation. Carve out time to explore and 'play with' how to effectively capture your daily and weekly literacy instructional time with the ELAL curriculum at the core. Take away new ideas, strategies, and approaches to build a robust literacy schedule that works for you and your students' needs.

Sara Peden

*College of Alberta Psychologist
Ontario College of Teachers*

How to plan responsive literacy instruction using assessment data

How can you link assessment data to +literacy instruction to be sure it's responsive to student needs? Using a readily available, free assessment resource (DIBELS) as an *example* we will think about how to plan assessment and use results. Both 'benchmarking' and 'progress monitoring' will be considered. Teachers will have the opportunity to think about the tools they are currently using (and why) and how they may be able to take a 'next step' in continuous improvement of their practice.

Coralie D'Souza, Kaitlyn Park, Elizabeth Attisano*The Canadian Children's Literacy Foundation***Literacy Launchpad: Building Foundational Language and Literacy Skills**

Early literacy is the cornerstone of a child's educational journey. The Canadian Children's Literacy Foundation (CCLF) presents an interactive session tailored for early childhood and early years educators, focusing on the critical role of language and literacy development in young children. Participants will explore evidence-based practices, discover the "Why" and "How" of early literacy, and learn key strategies for cultivating a literacy-rich environment through play-based learning. This session is designed for educators looking to refine their approaches and leave with practical resources to foster a lifelong love for literacy in their classrooms.

Jaydon Derdall, *System Principal, Early Learning***Nicole Belcher**, *System Specialist -**Core Curriculum, Literacy**Calgary Board of Education***Phonics IS Fun! Bringing Structured Literacy to Life Within K to 3 Classrooms**

Join Jaydon and Nicole in this session as they explore the essential components of structured literacy for early learners in K to 3 classrooms. The session will look at the active ingredients of structured literacy, including phonemic awareness, sound/symbol instruction (Grapheme-Phoneme Correspondences), letter formation, decoding and encoding, fluency and the use of connected text. Learn how to incorporate spaced and interleaved practice to meaningfully embed phonics instruction throughout the school day. The session will touch on how assessment information can support teachers in understanding where students are at in their learning, and next steps for instruction.

Jennifer Matiece & Krista Jensen*System Specialists - Early Learning**Calgary Board of Education***Playful Pathways to Literacy: Routes and Routine to Developing and Deepening Knowledge**

Please join Jenn and Krista as they amplify ways to build knowledge and complex language through the joyful pathways of play in kindergarten through grade three classrooms. Participants will have the opportunity to learn the "Scaffolding Up/ Scaffolding Down" protocol (created

by Drs. Sonia Cabell & Tricia Zucker), using oral language and conversation to weave content knowledge and language into intentionally created provocations, centres and other play-based tasks.

Eryn Coughlin, *Teacher**Sounds Apart Literacy Education***Allison Ryan**, *Teacher, MEd Candidate UofA***Structured Literacy Stations within a Busy Literacy Classroom**

Hosted by two teachers with SL implementation experience, our hour together will begin with reviewing the foundational components of structured literacy and why they are each crucial to your literacy blocks. We will then explore a variety of hands-on tier 1 and 2 teaching approaches that facilitate personalization, engagement, and mastery. Using interactive 'stations', we will lead you through reading and spelling activities appropriate for whole class and small group instruction. To further support your learning, we will spend the last 10 minutes answering your questions about SL implementation.

Stacey Rayment*B. Ed., M.Ed., Professionally Certified Educational Therapist**Rayment Consulting, NILD Canada***Too Fun For Words - Develop and Evaluate Foundational Literacy Skills with Games**

Start WINNING at early literacy with 7 new games. Engage and empower students, regardless of their reading level, to process the sounds of language through play. Experiment with innovative games created to build and evaluate foundational literacy skills aligned with assessment tools such as AFRS, PASS, CTOPP and LAC. Each game targets and integrates: phonemic awareness, sound isolation, syllabication, sound substitution, rapid automatic naming, rhyming, vocabulary, sentence building and more. Participants will receive a deck of cards, game instructions, and access to demonstration videos.