READ Act Literacy Updates Newsletter

Tools You Can Use

COLORADO
Department of Education

September 2023

Bookmark us!
http://www.cde.state.co.us/coloradoliteracy

The beginning of a new school year is filled with excitement…and a very busy schedule for teachers working hard to start the year off right! Having the right tools in place can make a world of difference in balancing the demanding work of planning for high-quality literacy instruction with the myriad of other responsibilities a teacher faces throughout each week.

In this edition of the READ Act Literacy Updates Newsletter, we highlight some excellent apps, tools, and resource banks that will help streamline planning, engage students in learning and fill your teaching toolbox. From handy tech tools to ready-made visual supports to detailed lesson plans, there is sure to be something for everyone to make planning for literacy instruction a little less daunting.

Not ready to dig in right now? Our newsletters are archived for easy access.
Click here (Better yet, bookmark it!) to access both current and past newsletters!

Tools At Your Fingertips

UFLI Digital Word Work Apps
University of Florida literacy Institute
The UFLI Digital Word Work Apps include a Virtual Blending Board, which provides teachers with a ready-to-use tool to enhance whole group, small group, or one-on-one instruction. The site also includes Virtual Word Work mats for beginners and intermediate phonics skill instruction. Each of these tools include instructional videos to explain how to use them effectively.

LEXIAnet WordSpring Word List Generator
Lexia
This useful tool provides educators with access to 650 word lists that include all major phonics concepts, Latin roots, Greek combining forms, prefixes, suffixes, and more! The lists are customizable and can be modified easily. No more searching for words to match a particular phonics pattern, spelling rule or root word! Try out this tool to simplify your planning with the touch of a button.

UFLI Virtual Teaching Resource Hub
University of Florida literacy Institute
This valuable bank of resources was designed to support teachers instructing students virtually, however, they are useful and timesaving for in person instruction, too! Take some time to peruse the instructional supports for a variety of literacy strategies, routines and activities that promote the

development of strong foundational skills.

Resources in a Snap

Classroom Strategy Library
Reading Rockets
This valuable collection of strategies is searchable by a variety of features including literacy focus, demographics, and group size. Each strategy includes instructions, video examples, templates, ways to differentiate instruction and more!

FreeReading Find Activities
Freereading.net
As its name suggests, this website offers a variety of free resources, activities, and teaching tools to support classroom instruction in all of the components of literacy, including writing! Activities can be easily searched by topic on the "Find Activities" page. A detailed intervention schedule on the "Teaching Tools" page provides 40 weeks of lesson plans for providing intervention to students who need support.

Trail to Summit Instructional Framework
Colorado Department of Education
Trail to Summit Reading is an instructional framework provided by the Colorado Department of Education to help readers who struggle with accurate and automatic word reading. Studies indicate when students fall behind in beginning reading, they rarely catch up on their own – but we change that by using a highly structured framework that focuses on critical word recognition skills. Trail to Summit can be used as a tutoring program or across Tier I, Tier II, and Tier III settings to complement existing programming or to bolster or enhance existing programming. Online training materials are now available to ensure success when implementing this free resource with struggling readers.

CDE Updates

Updated Online Training to Meet the READ Act Teacher Training Requirement
Building a Strong Foundation for Lifelong Literacy Success
- The updated training includes a K-12 lens and has a new title: Building a Strong Foundation for Lifelong Literacy Success
- All teachers who register for the CDE READ Act online training on August 1, 2023, or any time after this date, will automatically be enrolled in the new online training Building a Strong Foundation for Lifelong Literacy Success.
- All teachers who enrolled in the CDE READ Act online training before August 1, 2023, will still have access to the older version of the training Building a Strong Foundation: Developing Early Literacy Skills
- All K-12 teachers that have already completed one of the approved training options to meet the READ Act teacher training requirements, *will not need* to also complete the updated K-12 training Building a Strong Foundation for Lifelong Literacy Success.

READ Act Principal/Administrator Training Requirement
All K-3 principals and administrators must complete evidenced-based training designed for K-3 principals and administrators in the science of reading that addresses the content of the principal literacy standards

by August 1, 2024. The link above provides access to the training options available to complete this requirement.

For More Information

Do you have a colleague with whom you would like to share these resources? Feel free to forward the newsletter or encourage them sign up to [receive the newsletter here!](#)

If you have general questions or need assistance, find our contact information here: http://www.cde.state.co.us/coloradoliteracy/contactus
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