

## **K – 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Professional Development Series—2015-16**

### **1. Oral Language at the Core, Part 1: Elements of Speaking and Listening**

Speaking and listening skills are the foundation of literacy. Learn about oral language development and its relationship to word recognition skills.

### **2. Phonemic Awareness: What It Is and How to Teach It**

Learn why phonemic awareness is a necessary prerequisite for learning to read. Understand the developmental sequence of phonological awareness, become comfortable producing the sounds of English, practice segmenting and blending words to five sounds. Learn how to engage children in key instructional strategies and activities that teach this critical skill to mastery.

### **3. Know the Code: Explicit, Systematic, Differentiated Phonics Instruction**

Gain a basic understanding of the history of English and learn about the research supporting phonics instruction. Become familiar with tools for teaching these foundational skills including words sorts, phoneme/grapheme mapping, syllable types, and the use of decodable text. Learn activities to engage students in word study for differentiated small group instruction.

### **4. Juicy Vocabulary: Making Words Stick**

Vocabulary encompasses several critical dimensions in the area of literacy including word relationships, multiple meaning words, and morphological elements. Learn about the essential components of robust vocabulary instruction and its relationship to reading comprehension. Find out how to select, extend, and maintain words in order to tackle the “30 million word gap.”

### **5. Syntax Instruction: Comprehension Begins with the Sentence**

Many children with comprehension problems don’t understand language at the sentence level. Learn how to improve students’ reading comprehension as well as their speaking and writing skills through a deeper understanding of syntax and grammar.

### **6. Oral Language at the Core, Part 2: Elements of Speaking and Listening**

This session will expand on Part 1 with a focus on the relationship between language comprehension and reading comprehension.

### **7. Understanding Narrative Text**

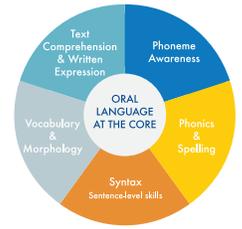
How do the elements of story structure relate to the Common Core State Standards? Learn about the relationship between macrostructure and microstructure, the two levels of narrative structure. Practice analyzing literature to identify key story grammar elements. Learn effective classroom instructional practices designed to promote comprehension of narratives.

### **8. Understanding Expository Text**

The Common Core State Standards emphasize the importance of expository/informational texts. Understand expository text structures and gain an awareness of the types of comprehension problems your students may be having related to text and sentence structure. Understand the literate language requirements of expository text and learn activities that will support students’ comprehension.

### **9. Writing is Not a Separate Subject: Explicit Writing Instruction and the Writing Process**

Learn how to integrate systematic and explicit writing instruction into your curriculum using your existing writing program. Understand the research on processing and writing, and find out how to recognize students’ developmental stages of writing and the strategies and interventions that support writing at the sentence and discourse levels. Examine the connection between students’ oral language skills and their written language. Identify and recognize the various skills that are necessary for proficient writing.



## 2<sup>nd</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Professional Development Series—2015-16

### 1. Oral Language at the Core, Part 1: Elements of Speaking and Listening

Speaking and listening skills are the foundation of literacy. Learn about oral language development and its relationship to word recognition skills.

### 2. Know the Code: Explicit, Systematic, Differentiated Phonics Instruction

Gain a basic understanding of the history and origins of English and learn about the research supporting phonics and phonemic awareness instruction. Become familiar with tools for phonemic awareness and phonics, including words sorts, phoneme/grapheme mapping, syllable types, and the purpose and power of decodable text. Learn songs, games, and activities to engage students in word study for differentiated small group instruction.

### 3. Marvelous Morphology: Advanced Vocabulary Instruction

Learn the rationale behind instruction in the study of Latin roots and Greek combining forms to build students' vocabulary and improve their spelling.

### 4. Juicy Vocabulary. Making Words Stick.

Learn about the essential components of robust vocabulary instruction and its relationship to overall reading comprehension. Find out how to select, extend, and maintain words in order to tackle the "30 million word gap."

### 5. Comprehension Begins with the Sentence: Scintillating Syntax Instruction

Many children with comprehension problems don't understand language at the sentence level. Learn how to improve students' reading comprehension as well as their speaking and writing skills.

### 6. Oral Language at the Core, Part 2: Elements of Speaking and Listening

This session will expand on Part 1 with a focus on the relationship between language comprehension and reading comprehension.

### 7. Understanding Narrative Text

How do the elements of story structure relate to the Common Core State Standards? Learn about the relationship between macrostructure and microstructure, the two levels of narrative structure. Practice analyzing literature to identify key story grammar elements. Learn effective classroom instructional practices designed to promote comprehension of narratives.

### 8. Understanding Expository Text

The Common Core State Standards emphasize the importance of expository/informational texts. Understand expository text structures and the importance of syntactic structures in text comprehension. Gain an awareness of the types of comprehension problems your students may be having related to text and sentence structure. Understand the literate language requirements of expository text. Learn methods and activities that will support students in their comprehension of expository text.

### 9. Writing is Not a Separate Subject: Explicit Writing Instruction and the Writing Process

Learn how to integrate systematic and explicit writing instruction into your curriculum using your existing writing program. Understand the research on processing and writing, and find out how to recognize students' developmental stages of writing and the strategies and interventions that support writing at the sentence and discourse levels. Examine the connection between students' oral language skills and their written language. Identify and recognize the various skills that are necessary for proficient writing.