

Nonprofit Staff & Volunteer Training

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As a vital part of children's ecosystem, it is critical that every nonprofit volunteer and staff member have the knowledge, skills and agency they need across language acquisition and the construction of a deep reading brain. All courses and resources on Cox Campus are completely free.

Working with Children in Grades K-3: Tutoring, Homework Help & Small Groups Training Plan

The training plan outlined below is ideal for nonprofit staff and volunteers who are working with children, ages 5-9 (and even older children to support skilled reading and writing). In an effort to provide meaningful training that is feasible for staff and volunteers to complete, our team of reading brain experts have selected three science-based courses, totaling 7 hours of training.

Early Literacy: Print Awareness, Phonological Awareness, and Alphabet Knowledge		2.5 Hours
<p>Course Description Developed with expert contributor, Dr. Deborah Glaser, Reading Teacher's Top Ten Tools. Through this course, learners understand how a child's spoken language, including phonological awareness, must be combined with alphabet knowledge and print awareness to build a solid foundation for learning to read. Teachers observe actual classroom instruction and practice some of the skills themselves along the way. In addition, each person taking the course gains access to instructional tools to help them teach these essential elements to the children in their classrooms.</p>	<p>By the End of This Course You'll Be Able To</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learners will understand the different print awareness skills and apply this knowledge to their teaching practices. Learners will understand the different phonological awareness skills and apply this knowledge to their teaching practices. Learners will understand the different alphabet knowledge skills and apply this knowledge to their teaching practices. Learners will be able to plan for teaching early literacy skills in their classrooms. 	<p>Why It Matters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We know from decades of research how students learn to read, how to assess to identify those at risk, and what and how to teach so that the majority of our students can be successful. The approaches used to teach children in many of our schools apply methods that do not teach our most vulnerable students the skills they need to be successful. This course will lead you into a world of knowledge and instructional practice that will make it possible for you to be the difference in your students' lives.

Systematic and Explicit Phonics Instruction		2 Hours
<p>Course Description Developed with expert contributor, Dr. Deborah Glaser, Reading Teacher's Top Ten Tools. In this course teachers build their knowledge of effective phonics instruction aligned with the science of reading. This course provides teachers practical tools and develop their commitment to act in their classrooms to ensure all students have the support they need to become proficient readers.</p>	<p>By the End of This Course You'll Be Able To</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learners will understand the characteristics of an effective systematic and explicit phonics program. Learners will gain a foundational understanding of English orthography. Learners will be able to name and explain the role of the instructional components of an effective phonics program. 	<p>Why It Matters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The most recent report from our National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP, 2019) showed that nationwide 66% of our 4th students scored below proficient in reading. The highest-performing state showed 55% below proficiency. We know from decades of research how students learn to read, how to assess to identify those at risk, and what and how to teach so that the majority of our students can be successful, and systematic and explicit phonics instruction is a critical part of building literacy.

Reading Fluency		2.5 Hours
<p>Course Description Developed with Expert Contributor, Dr. Laura Rhinehart of University California, Los Angeles. The purpose of this course is for teachers and leaders to build knowledge and capacity around reading fluency including assessment, instruction, and progress monitoring. The course further equips participants with the necessary strategy and skills to visualize what effective reading fluency instruction looks like and how to practically provide effective reading fluency instruction.</p>	<p>By the End of This Course You'll Be Able To</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Define fluency and distinguish between the three components of reading fluency. • Explain why reading fluency is important and conceptualize it within the process of reading. • Identify how various mechanics in the reading process contribute to fluent reading. • Address misconceptions around fluency assessment and will be equipped to assess reading fluency in their own settings. • Understand the types of activities involved for building fluency and be able to determine which activities meet the needs of learners in their classroom. 	<p>Why It Matters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The most recent report from our National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP, 2019) showed that nationwide 66% of our 4th students scored below proficient in reading. The highest performing state showed 55% below proficiency. We know from decades of research how students learn to read, how to assess to identify those at risk, and what and how to teach so that the majority of our students can be successful.

Additional Coursework for anyone supporting dual language learners

Supporting Dual Language Learners Right from the Start		4 Hours
<p><i>While this course was specifically created to support preschool and pre-k dual language learners, these ideas and practices can support multilingual K-3 learners.</i></p>		
<p>Course Description Hola! Bonjour! Nin hǎo! Anyoung! These are just a few ways some of your learners may say "hello." You can support their home language and create positive learning experiences that respond to their needs and prepares them for kindergarten – and beyond.</p>	<p>By the End of This Course You'll Be Able To</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe dual language development, the benefits of bilingualism, and the role of first language in DLL's development. • Identify and explain the six essential ecosystem elements that contribute to an ecosystem for dual language learners thrive. • Design culturally and linguistically responsive learning environments for dual language learners. • Learn and apply teaching practices that specifically support DLLs' development and build their foundation in language and literacy. 	<p>Why It Matters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a lack of fit between what science tells us about how DLLs learn and how we teach them in the classroom. • Young DLLs benefit greatly from a variety of supports and practices teachers can put in place to maximize their learning. • DLLs' first language is a valuable asset that plays an important role in their learning and must be woven into the classroom experience.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How do I submit my certificate of training to my organization?

1. Complete the recommended course/s on Cox Campus, including the end-of-course assessment.
2. Download the Nonprofit Staff & Volunteer Certificate of Training found here: <https://coxcampus.org/nonprofit/>
3. Using a PDF tool or by printing and writing, add the completed course names to the Certificate.
4. Download your Transcript from Cox Campus directly to support your Certificate.
 - a. Go to My Learning (top left on the main Navigation Bar) when you are logged into Cox Campus.
 - b. Select "Certificates" from the dropdown menu
 - c. Click "Download transcript"