



Everyone Reading Illinois

SUCCESS FOR ALL WITH DYSLLEXIA

BREGI FAMILY SERIES

Presented by Everyone Reading Illinois, the Bregi Family Series is a series of FREE presentations for teachers and parents, with free professional development offered.

Joan Sedita

February 22, 2024

7:00-8:00pm CT

"The Writing Rope: A Framework for Evidence-Based Writing Instruction"

Joan Sedita is the founder of Keys to Literacy, a literacy professional development organization working throughout the United States. Joan has been in the literacy field for over 40 years as a teacher, administrator, and teacher trainer. She is the creator of The Writing Rope framework and has authored multiple literacy professional development programs, including The Key Comprehension Routine, The Key Vocabulary Routine, Keys to Beginning Reading, Keys to Content Writing, Keys to Early Writing, and Understanding Dyslexia. Beginning in 1975, Joan worked for 23 years at the Landmark School, a pioneer in the development of literacy intervention programs. Joan was one of the three lead trainers in MA for the Reading First Program and was a LETRS author and trainer. Joan received her M.Ed. in Reading from Harvard University and her B.A. from Boston College.

This presentation will include an overview of The Writing Rope model for writing instruction. Many do not recognize that effective writing instruction must address multiple components, represented as strands in a rope in The Writing Rope model. Joan will explain, with references to research findings, each of the five strands: 1) Critical Thinking (generating ideas and information; stages of the writing process); 2) Syntax (syntactic awareness; sentence elaboration; punctuation); 3) Text Structure (narrative, informational, opinion; paragraph structure; patterns of organization); 4) Writing Craft (awareness of task, audience, purpose; word choice; literary devices); and 5) Transcription (spelling; handwriting fluency).

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Dr. Loulia Kovelman and Rachel Eggleston

March 14, 2024

7:00-8:00pm CT

"What's in a Word: Bilingual & Brain Perspective on Morphological Awareness"

Bilingualism changes children's brains and literacy development. How does the reading brain develop, and how are bilingual learners similar to and different from monolingual learners? In this session, we will present research on how children of varied reading abilities and socio-linguistic backgrounds learn to read. In particular, we will address how morphological awareness supports single-word reading. The discussion will include literacy performance as well as brain imaging evidence. We will then offer suggestions for incorporating recent research findings into your classroom teaching practice.

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Emily Hanford

April 8, 2024

7:00-8:00pm CT

"Behind Sold a Story with Emily Hanford"

Emily Hanford is the host of the acclaimed podcast Sold a Story: How Teaching Kids to Read Went So Wrong, which was the second-most-shared show on Apple Podcasts in 2023 and one of Time Magazine's top three podcasts of the year. Highlighting how flawed reading programs have been used for decades by schools in the United States despite established research, *Sold a Story* has garnered some of the highest honors in journalism, including the Murrow, the IRE, two Scripps Howard awards, a Third Coast Impact award, and a Peabody nomination. Emily has covered education for American Public Media since 2008. She has won numerous awards for her work, including the EWA Public Service Award in 2019 for Hard Words and an award from the American Educational Research Association for Excellence in Reporting on education research. Emily has worked in public media for 30 years. She is a frequent speaker and moderator. Emily is the mother of two adult sons. She is based in the Washington, D.C. area and is a graduate of Amherst College.

In this presentation, Emily will go behind *Sold a Story*. Emily knew nothing about the "science of reading" six years ago. She was interviewing community college students who were telling her about their reading difficulties; they told her they had never been taught how to read. That started her on a journey to understand how children learn to read and what they need to be taught. Emily will tell the story of what she has learned, why it matters, and how teaching kids to read went so wrong. Emily will also discuss her ethical responsibility as an educational journalist.

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