



BREGI FAMILY SERIES

Presented by Everyone Reading Illinois, the Bregi Family Series is a series of FREE professional development opportunities for teachers.

Dr. David A. Kilpatrick

November 15, 2023

7:00–8:00pm CT

David A. Kilpatrick, PhD is a professor emeritus of psychology for the State University of New York at Cortland. He is a New York State certified school psychologist with 28 years experience in schools. He has been teaching courses in learning disabilities and educational psychology since 1994. David is a reading researcher and the author of two books on reading, *Essentials of Assessing, Preventing, and Overcoming Reading Difficulties*, and *Equipped for Reading Success*, and is a co-editor of a third, *Reading Development and Difficulties: Bridging the Gap Between Research and Practice*.

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Natalie Wexler

November 29, 2023

7:00–8:00pm CT

Comprehension and Writing: Where Do They Fit Into the Science of Reading?

Natalie Wexler is an education writer and the author of *The Knowledge Gap: The Hidden Cause of America's Broken Education System—And How to Fix It* (Avery 2019). She is also the co-author, with Judith C. Hochman, of *The Writing Revolution: A Guide to Advancing Thinking Through Writing in All Subjects and Grades* (Jossey-Bass, 2017), and a senior contributor to *Forbes.com*.

When the science of reading is discussed, often the focus is on problems with phonics instruction. Phonics is important, but science also tells us that approaches to comprehension and writing are important for children to be literate. Instead of test prep and drills and skills, like “finding the main idea”, schools can engage students by taking deep-dives into topics and by students writing about what they are learning, which builds the knowledge and analytical abilities that fuel comprehension. An increasing number of schools are doing just that with promising results.

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Dr. Elsa Cardenas Hagan

December 6, 2023

7:00–8:00pm CT

Structured Literacy for Multilingual Learners

Elsa Cárdenas-Hagan, Ph.D., is a bilingual speech-language pathologist and a certified academic language therapist. She holds a doctorate degree in Curriculum and Instruction. She is the President of Valley Speech Language and Learning Center in Brownsville, Texas, and is an Associate Research Professor for the Texas Institute for Measurement Evaluation and Statistics at the University of Houston. Elsa's research interests include the development of early reading assessments for Spanish-speaking students in addition to the development of reading interventions for bilingual students. She was the co-principal investigator of a longitudinal study funded by the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development and the Institute for Education Science, examining the oracy and literacy development in English and Spanish of Spanish-speaking children. Elsa currently serves as the Vice-Chairperson of the International Dyslexia Association, Chairperson of the National Joint Committee on Learning Disabilities, and was a past board member of the National Academic Language Therapy Association. She has authored curricular programs, book chapters, and journal articles related to oracy and literacy development for English language learners.

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Dr. Tim Odegard

Literacy Screening and MTSS

January 10, 2024

7:00–8:00pm CT

Tim Odegard is a professor of psychology and holds the Katherine Davis Murfree Chair of Excellence in Dyslexic Studies at Middle Tennessee State University, leading the efforts of the Tennessee Center for the Study and Treatment of Dyslexia including the research laboratory. As a developmental cognitive psychologist, his research focuses on memory and language. His reading research focuses on three areas: identification of children who struggle with reading, intervention for students who struggle to read, and teacher training.

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