

Day One

Keynote • 9:00 – 9:30 AM

“A Peek Inside the Mind of a Reader”

– Annemarie Johnson

So much of what happens inside the brain of a developing reader can feel invisible, uncertain, or even overwhelming. This keynote pulls back the curtain on the reading process, offering a refreshing and accessible look at what truly powers skilled reading. You'll leave this informative session with a deeper understanding of your readers and inspired to learn more!

“Was able to pick up many different tools that I have not been aware of, and was given great feedback on the many ways to use these tools.”

– Christopher Robbert, Extended Learning Teacher

MORNING SESSIONS • 9:40 AM – 12:10 PM

Choose **ONE** Full Morning Session OR **TWO** 70-Minute Sessions
One mid-morning break

Full Morning Session • 9:40 AM – 12:10 PM

A-1: Personalizing the Science of Reading with Phonological and Phonemic Awareness Assessments – Kristen Large

How can early assessment help you better understand your students' needs and guide more effective instruction? Explore practical diagnostic tools for phonological and phonemic awareness that make it easier to pinpoint where readers may be struggling. Leave with simple, ready-to-use strategies that help you address skill gaps and provide more targeted, personalized reading instruction that can be incorporated into any program.



“Very thorough, practical, and fun. I will be incorporating so much of this right away!”

– Molly Taylor, K-4 Teacher

First 70-Minute Morning Sessions
9:40 – 10:50 AM

Second 70-Minute Morning Sessions
11:00 AM – 12:10 PM

CHOOSE ONE: A-2 or A-3

A-2: Making Sense of the Science of Reading – Annemarie Johnson

Explore the Science of Reading research from a 10,000-foot view. You will learn both what Science of Reading IS, what it is NOT, and its implications for your overall literacy instruction. If you've been hearing about the Science of Reading but aren't quite clear about what it means for you or your school or classroom, this session is for you.

A-3: Using Routines to Bolster Cognitive Functioning in the Classroom – Heather Kenny

Students can vary widely in their ability to take in, make sense of, and respond to information. How can we, as educators, support students who have challenges in different areas of cognitive functioning? With high-powered routines! Join Heather to explore key cognitive functions, including working memory, attention and executive functioning, and processing speed. Discover effective routines to reinforce learning, reduce cognitive load, and free up students' cognitive resources for higher order thinking and problem solving.

CHOOSE ONE: A-4 or A-5

A-4: Phonological Awareness: The Foundation for All Readers – Annemarie Johnson

What exactly is phonological awareness, and why is it so important for all readers to master as a foundational skill? Learn which phonological awareness skills matter most and leave with a menu of engaging instructional methods and routines that can be woven into your school day, regardless of the reading program you use.

A-5: High-Impact Strategies to Teach High-Frequency Irregular Words – Heather Kenny

Thanks to reading science, we know that trying to memorize the order of letters is inefficient and unlikely to lead to automatic word recognition. Join Heather for this dynamic session to gain high-impact instructional strategies that encourage orthographic mapping by directing students' attention to the sound structure, spelling patterns, and even the meanings of high-frequency irregular words. Learn how students can improve fluency by leveraging phonemic awareness skills with phonics, semantic and syntactic knowledge to read and spell irregular words automatically!



Team Discount

ONE DAY
One Person: \$325

BOTH DAYS
One Person: \$595

Team of 3+: \$565 per person
when enrolled at the
same time

Lunch break • 12:10 – 1:10 PM

“Wonderful conference with eloquent speakers and tons of takeaways!”

ABOUT BER CONFERENCES

Outstanding Instructors

All programs are led by outstanding, top-rated BER national trainers.

Extensive Resource Handbook

You'll receive an extensive digital Resource Handbook full of practical strategies and resources.

Highly Interactive

You'll be able to ask questions, consult with the instructors, and share ideas with other participants.

Program Guarantee

As we have for 48 years, we guarantee the high quality of our programs. If you are not satisfied, we'll give you a 100% refund.



**Can't Attend?
Online Professional
Development Options:**



Related Online Courses

Two related On Demand Video-Based Online Learning courses, *Helping Your Struggling Readers Become More Successful Readers: Targeted Interventions That Work!*, for Grades K-5, and *DYSLEXIA: Help Children Who Struggle to Successfully Read, Write and Spell*, for Grades K-6, are available for immediate registration. To enroll, visit www.ber.org/online

Day One

AFTERNOON SESSIONS • 1:10 – 3:40 PM

Choose **ONE** Full Afternoon Session OR **TWO** 70-Minute Sessions
One mid-afternoon break

Full Afternoon Session • 1:10 – 3:40 PM

B-1: Using Decodable Texts to Strengthen Your Science of Reading Instruction

– *Annemarie Johnson*

Discover the role that decodable texts play in the young reader's literacy journey. Learn how a simple, rinse-and-repeat small-group routine can give every student targeted practice in text aligned with their phonics instruction, allowing you to differentiate for all learners. Walk away with practical routines that strengthen your Science of Reading instruction and help striving readers grow into more capable, confident readers.

First 70-Minute Afternoon Sessions 1:10 – 2:20 PM

CHOOSE ONE: B-2 or B-3

B-2: Proven Science of Reading Strategies for Strengthening Vocabulary Knowledge Using Fiction and Nonfiction Texts

– *Heather Kenny*

Robust vocabulary knowledge and well-developed comprehension skills are not only essential for success in all academic areas, but they also support word recognition. Learn an easy-to-use lesson planning framework to expand your students' vocabulary knowledge and boost their comprehension skills. Discover research-based and highly interactive strategies that will enhance reading experiences and motivate your students.

B-3: Mastering Prosody for Better Reading Fluency – *Kristen Large*

Reading fluency is more than speed— it's the blend of accuracy, expression, and smooth, effortless decoding that opens the door to true comprehension. Discover practical ways to build your students' fluency and help them approach texts with greater confidence and engagement. You'll also learn how to create simple, free audiobooks that showcase your students' prosody and give them a meaningful way to celebrate and share their growth as readers.

Second 70-Minute Afternoon Sessions 2:30 – 3:40 PM

CHOOSE ONE: B-4 or B-5

B-4: Comprehension Processing Strategies and Skills – *Heather Kenny*

Many struggling readers are so hyper-focused on word identification that they have difficulty understanding what they read. Discover proven comprehension strategies to activate the cognitive processes that help students to make sense of what they are reading. This curated selection of strategies will contribute to your students' improved understanding and increased enjoyment of reading.

B-5: Best Science of Reading Practices for More Effective Spelling Instruction

– *Kristen Large*

Spelling instruction plays a powerful role in students' literacy development, helping them connect sounds to spelling patterns that strengthen both reading and writing. Phonics and morphology are key ingredients that make spelling predictable and purposeful. A solid spelling foundation not only makes decoding easier— it also boosts writing fluency and confidence. Explore practical, Science of Reading-aligned strategies that help students understand how words work and set them up for greater success!

Day Two

MORNING SESSIONS • 9:00 – 11:40 AM

Choose **ONE** Full Morning Session OR **TWO** 75-Minute Sessions
One mid-morning break

Full Morning Session • 9:00 – 11:40 AM

C-1: The Science Behind Reading Fluency – Heather Kenny

Join Heather for a deeper dive into the science behind reading fluency and what it means for our instruction. Learn quick and easy assessment procedures that will help you recognize your students' reading gaps and accelerate their development of reading fluency. Through evidence-based strategies, you'll learn how to lay a stronger foundation for building more fluent readers. Don't miss this opportunity to make a real difference in your students' reading success!

First 75-Minute Morning Sessions 9:00 – 10:15 AM

CHOOSE ONE: C-2 or C-3

C-2: Leveraging the Dynamic Relationship Between Reading and Writing

– Annemarie Johnson

Explore the dynamic relationship between reading and writing in this engaging session! Discover practical strategies that build comprehension through writing and help students develop a stronger sense of sentence structure and syntax. See how this work not only improves their writing but also prepares them to read more complex texts. Leave with actionable, use-tomorrow routines to build stronger readers and writers.

C-3: Morphology and the Science of Reading – Kristen Large

What exactly is morphology, and how can it unlock stronger vocabulary, deeper reading comprehension, and more confident writing for your students? Discover when to introduce key morphological concepts and how to weave them seamlessly into your daily instruction. Whether you're supporting emerging readers or guiding more advanced learners, you'll leave with practical tools that make morphology an engaging and impactful part of your teaching.

Second 75-Minute Morning Sessions 10:25 – 11:40 AM

CHOOSE ONE: C-4 or C-5

C-4: Strategies for Motivating Your Reluctant and Disengaged Readers

– Annemarie Johnson

Revitalize your approach to reluctant and disengaged readers with practical strategies that captivate and motivate! This session will focus on engaging lessons, routines, and read-aloud rituals that foster an engaging classroom community. Discover the most effective small-group instruction methods that instill a love for reading and help struggling students build confidence.

C-5: Consonant and Vowel Articulation – Kristen Large

Boost your students' word decoding skills with a deeper understanding of how sounds truly work. Explore how pronunciation patterns directly impact reading—and how this knowledge can help you deliver clearer instruction, address common pronunciation challenges, and better support struggling readers. You'll also receive a useful tool to help you identify and correct articulation difficulties that may be interfering with students' decoding success. Leave with practical tools you can use immediately to strengthen your students' reading foundation.

Comprehensive Digital Resource Handbook

You will receive an extensive digital resource handbook, specifically designed for this conference. Included in the handbook are resource materials for ALL conference sessions, even those you don't attend. These materials include:

- Numerous strategies you can use right away to better support the needs of your readers
- Easy-to-implement Science of Reading resources to enrich your teaching
- Dozens of powerful techniques to help you guide your K-6 students to greater success



“Well-researched, but also demonstrations of how these strategies look with real students.”

– Anna Jorgensen, 4th Grade Teacher



Lunch Break • 11:40 AM – 12:40 PM

“Really enjoyed this – excellent strategies and useful resources!”

On-Site Training

Conferences like this one along with many other topics can be brought to your school or district. Please view all of our On-Site PD options at www.ber.org/onsite or call 877-857-8964 to speak with an On-Site Training PD Consultant.



Who is BER?

The Bureau of Education & Research is North America's leading presenter of training for professional educators. Our goal is to provide high-quality PD programs, based on sound research, with an emphasis on practical strategies and techniques that can be immediately implemented.



Day Two

AFTERNOON SESSIONS • 12:40 – 3:20 PM

Choose **TWO** 75-Minute Afternoon Sessions
One mid-afternoon break

First 75-Minute
Afternoon Sessions
12:40 – 1:55 PM

CHOOSE ONE: D-1, D-2 or D-3

D-1: Advanced Phonics and Word Study: High-Leverage Routines

– *Annemarie Johnson*

Unlock the secrets of advanced phonics and word study designed specifically to increase the reading skills of your students! Focus on vital concepts such as orthographic mapping and syllable types while discovering practical strategies for teaching multisyllabic words. Enhance your students' cognitive flexibility and integrate morphology to support students' decoding skills and enrich their word knowledge.

D-2: Using Sound Walls to Improve Spelling and Promote Orthographic Mapping

– *Heather Kenny*

Transform your teaching with a dynamic and interactive Sound Wall! Discover how to create and utilize a powerful Science of Reading tool that provides essential information about the orthographic structure of words. Leave with practical strategies to help your students master sound-letter correspondence and boost their confidence in spelling and decoding.

D-3: Cognitive Flexibility to Improve Comprehension – *Kristen Large*

When students can flexibly switch between different ways of processing language, research shows they become stronger at making meaningful connections— leading to deeper comprehension. Explore this game-based practical activity that helps learners adapt their thinking when they encounter new or complex information. You'll walk away with dozens of ready-to-use lessons that empower your students to tackle challenging texts with greater ease.

Second 75-Minute
Afternoon Sessions
2:05 – 3:20 PM

CHOOSE ONE: D-4, D-5 or D-6

D-4: Making Sense of the Science of Writing

– *Annemarie Johnson*

You've heard of the Science of Reading, but how much do you know about the Science of Writing? Unpack key research on how students develop writing skills and highlight the critical connections between reading and writing. You'll leave with a clearer understanding of the major shifts needed to move beyond traditional writing instruction toward a more explicit, structured, and integrated approach that supports developing writers.

D-5: Game-Based Learning for Fluency and Orthographic Mapping (Grades K-3)

– *Heather Kenny*

Explore over a dozen interactive games that provide your students with essential practice to improve their word reading fluency. Discover classroom-based games that are appropriate for large groups, small groups or pairs of students. Learn techniques to embed games into transition times and differentiate the level of challenge so that your students feel more capable and competent!

D-6: Unlocking Literacy: The Power of Phoneme-Grapheme Mapping in Reading Instruction – *Kristen Large*

In this interactive session, you'll receive your own phonics diagnostic assessment and uncover exactly where your students excel— and where they need focused support. Using these insights, you'll learn how to design more impactful phoneme-grapheme mapping instruction, the essential process that helps students connect sounds to print, better recognize word patterns, and build confident reading and spelling skills. Walk away with practical, ready-to-use strategies driven by the diagnostic information you gather.