Word Study Matters: The Synchrony of Literacy Development

Facilitator(s): Karen Loerke
Date: March 11, 2015
Time: 9:00 am – 3:30 pm
Cost: $50.00
(includes lunch, which is not prepared in a nut/gluten-free environment)
Location: Edmonton (ERLC Office at Elmwood School)
Room 17/18, 16325 - 83 Avenue
Session Code: 15-LI-043

Target Audience
Grades 4-6 Teachers

About this Learning Opportunity
Are you frustrated with your phonics and spelling program knowing that word study is more than memorizing isolated rules and definitions? Although word study is a small part of our daily instruction, it is critical component.

Automaticity – the fast accurate recognition of words in reading, and accurate production of words in writing, allows students the cognitive resources needed for comprehension and composing. Becoming fully literate depends on these unconscious competencies.

Topics include:
- Analysis of students’ spelling that cues timely instruction in phonics, spelling and vocabulary
- Systematic approach to word study
- Effective instruction, hands on practice and application

Providing learning opportunities for phonics, spelling patterns, high frequency words, decoding strategies and word meanings for a wide range of learners is complex. This session will feature a differentiated approach to word study.

Connections to Competencies:
- Highlight literacy, with communication and collaboration playing a major role

The research strategies explored in this session are derived from Bear, Invernizzi, Templeton, Johnston and Brailsford.

About the Facilitator(s)
Dr. Karen Loerke has been an educator for over 30 years. She received her PhD in 2012 from the University of Alberta with a focus in Literacy and Language Acquisition. Prior to joining Edmonton Regional Learning Consortium, she worked as a consultant with Edmonton Public Schools. Karen has taught in diverse classrooms from K-12, including special education settings and inclusive classrooms. Currently Karen teaches English Language Arts in the Faculty of Education at the University of Alberta alongside her work as the ERLC Implementation Support Consultant focusing on literacy.

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