

Connected Educator™ Reading

Helping teachers become better reading teachers.

Fact Sheet

Connected Educator Reading is a professional development program that helps educators gain the skills to ensure all students become successful readers.



The screenshot shows the 'Home' page of the Connected Educator Reading platform. At the top, there are navigation links for 'HOME | GLOSSARY | SIGN OUT | HELP'. The main header says 'Home'. On the left, there are sections for 'MY RECORDS' (Profile, Transcript), 'COURSE CATALOG' (Phonics Grade K, Phonics Grade 1, Text Comprehension Grades 2-3, Text Comprehension Grades 4-6), and 'RESOURCE LIBRARY' (Kindergarten through Grade 6). The main content area is titled 'Welcome, Callie!' and shows the user is enrolled in 'Text Comprehension Grades 4-6' with a start date of 11/19/03. It displays 'Course Progress' for 'Part 3: Story Structure, Summarizing, and Cooperative Learning' with a video by Mary Kreul. A 'Continue Course' button is at the bottom right.

Sample Home Page

Connected Educator Reading's staff development content is built on the National Reading Panel/Reading First essential components of effective reading instruction that lead to student achievement.

With access to online courses and resources and tools to facilitate face-to-face interaction, Connected Educator Reading helps improve the quality of reading instruction by:

- **Making reading research meaningful to the individual classroom teacher, with course content that builds the bridge between research and classroom practice.**
- **Ensuring staff development is relevant to the individual teacher's needs, with self-appraisal and assessment opportunities.**
- **Providing teachers with support throughout the learning process, with trusted online faculty, a community of other educators, and a recommended series of onsite meetings.**

Research Says...

Connected Educator Reading is built on a solid base of scientific research, including the latest analysis of:

- The five effective components of reading instruction:
 - Phonemic Awareness
 - Phonics
 - Text Comprehension
 - Fluency
 - Vocabulary
- Adult learning theory
- Online learning best practices

To see a summary report of the scientific research base, please visit the Connected Educator Reading portion of the Classroom Connect Web site at <http://www.classroom.com>.

Connected Educator Reading Features and Benefits

Benefit	Program Features
<p>Engaging Delivers an engaging, impactful staff development experience.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunity to interact with experienced online faculty and other educators through online discussions and email. • Interactive exercises keep the participant active in the learning process. • Case study videos modeling best practices are embedded in each course session.
<p>Targeted & Relevant Ensures staff development is relevant to the individual teacher's needs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Course-level pre-assessment targets the learning experience to each educator's need. • Self-paced courses allow teachers to move at their own pace.
<p>Practical Resources and information are ready to use with students right away.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every course session includes two lesson plans with blackline masters. • Courses include 20-30 teacher planning tools and reference materials. • Resources from all courses can be accessed at any time.
<p>Flexible & Time Saving Provides increased flexibility for administrators in terms of scheduling meaningful professional development AND creates new flexibility for educators in terms of fitting staff development into their busy lives.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learning is primarily completed using online resources, so can be accomplished from any Web-enabled computer. • Suggested face-to-face meeting agendas for each course allow reading coaches to make the most of limited meeting time.
<p>Effective Built on principles and research known to impact actual classroom practice.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Based on the scientifically-research based principles of adult learning theory. • Built around the five components that lead to student reading achievement as put forth by the National Reading Panel. • Comes with observation checklists to ensure in-class application of learning.
<p>Broad Availability CER enables more educators to participate in high quality staff development more quickly.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to course content from any Web-enabled computer provides teachers anytime, anywhere staff development and reduces the need for time-consuming in-service trainings.

Program Details

Educators gain access to the Connected Educator Reading program when their district or school purchases a one-year subscription for them. The subscription includes:

- Access to one online Course experience; additional courses can be purchased at any time during the subscription period
- Access to online Resources for *a*ll course topics throughout the year, whenever they are needed; resources include:
 - Teaching References such as planning tools and reference materials
 - Model Activities, including lesson plans, blackline masters, and assessment activities (see Sample below)
 - Videos of real classroom teachers modeling research-based practices (see Sample on next page)
- Online transcript of individual progress, including Course completion certificates
- Getting Started materials kit to get everyone up and running
- Onsite and/or Web conferencing kickoff training
- Suggested meeting agendas for reading coaches or staff development professionals to hold local team meetings
- In-class observation checklists for use by reading coaches or other administrators to ensure the learning is translated into classroom practice

The screenshot displays the Classroom Connect interface for a lesson titled "Compound Word Lesson" under "Phonics Grade 1, Session 7: Phonics and Reading for Meaning". The page is divided into several sections:

- RESEARCH & PRACTICE:** Includes "Word Attack Strategies" and "Word Study".
- MODEL ACTIVITIES:** Includes "Guided Word Attack" and "Compound Word Lesson" (the current activity).
- REFLECT & REVIEW:** Includes "Session Discussion" and "Session Review".

The main content area for the "Compound Word Lesson" includes:

- Objective:** To introduce students to compound words.
- Rationale:** Compound words are a good way to introduce children to the notion that many words are made up of smaller parts.
- Estimated Time:** 20 minutes.
- Materials:**
 - Compound Word Cards
 - Scissors
- Procedure:**
 1. Print out a copy of the Compound Word Worksheet. Photocopy the cards onto cardstock. (Make sure there is one compound word for each pair of students.) Cut the cards apart as shown.
 2. Introduce the lesson by announcing that the class is going to work with some long school words. Say these words: *lunch, backpack, desk, hallway, blacktop, wall, kickball, mailbox, chair*. As you say each word, ask children to clap once if they hear one word part (syllable) and twice if they hear two.
 3. Write the word *backpack* on the board. Ask children to clap for how many word parts they hear (2). Draw dots over each syllable. Explain to children that the parts they clap to are called syllables. Point out that each syllable has one vowel sound. Underline the two vowel sounds in *backpack*.

On the right side, there is a "Compound Words" section with a grid of words:

backpack	hallway
blackbird	kickball
mailbox	football
sandbox	classroom
lunchbox	restroom

Below the grid, there is a note: "Click the image to access a printer-friendly blackline master in PDF format. See the [Help](#) section for more information about PDF files."

Sample Model Activity

Course Details

Connected Educator Reading courses are built around the five essential components of reading instruction: phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary, fluency, and text comprehension.

- Each Course is designed to take approximately 10 seat hours to complete
- Courses are self-paced, allowing a teacher to move at his/her own pace
- Courses are broken into 9-11 sessions
- Each Course Session includes the following components:
 - 1) **Research & Practice:** Presents research-based reading strategies, including information on both the research behind the strategy and tips on implementing the strategy in the classroom
 - 2) **Model Activities:** Each session includes two Model Activities - typically lesson plans or assessment tools - that allow a teacher to put the research into practice right away in his/her classroom
 - 3) **Reflect & Review:** Each session includes a Discussion topic so that participants can share their experiences with others. The Session Review at the end of each session provides an assessment of the participant's mastery of the information
- Each Course will include a pre-assessment option to allow participants to display prior knowledge of critical concepts and to help better focus their time spent in staff development
- Participants receive support from knowledgeable, experienced faculty members throughout the course experience

The screenshot displays the Classroom Connect interface for the 'Phonics Grade K' course, specifically 'SESSION 4: Phonemic Awareness Instruction'. The page is divided into several sections:

- Navigation:** Includes 'HOME | GLOSSARY | SIGN OUT | HELP' and 'Resources | Discussions' tabs.
- Left Sidebar:** Contains a table of contents with sections: 'RESEARCH & PRACTICE' (Effective Phonemic Awareness Instruction, Sequence of Instruction), 'MODEL ACTIVITIES' (Assess Your Phonemic Awareness Curriculum, Leveling Phonemic Awareness Activities), and 'REFLECT & REVIEW' (Session Discussion, Session Review).
- Main Content Area:**
 - Topic 1: Effective Phonemic Awareness Instruction Activities Appropriate for Young Children** (Session 4, Page 6 of 24)
 - Phonemic Awareness Activity:** A video player showing three young children in a classroom setting. The video title is 'Phonemic Awareness Activity' and the description reads: 'Listen to the teacher engage her students in a rhyme production activity. Click the arrow button on the controller below to begin.' A 'Reset' button is visible at the bottom right of the video player.

Sample Model Video

Course List

Connected Educator Reading provides six courses in scientifically-based reading instruction methods. All courses are aligned with the National Reading Panel's recommendations regarding the fundamental components of reading instruction that lead to increased student achievement. Please see our Course Listing sheet for further description.

Currently Available Courses

- **Phonemic Awareness and Beginning Phonics**
- **Building Basic Phonics Skills**
- **Introducing Text Comprehension**
- **Expanding Text Comprehension**
- **Phonics Intervention**
- **Building Fluency**

Technical Requirements

- Minimum Operating System: Mac OS 8.6 or Windows 98, NT or 2000
- Minimum Web Browser: Netscape 6.0, Internet Explorer 5.0
- Acrobat Reader 4.0 or higher for downloading and reading documents
- Flash 6.0 plug-in for viewing animation and interactive activities
- Quicktime 6.0 plug-in for viewing video
- Email for communicating with the faculty