



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

Dear Colleague:

The US Department of Education's 2009 Reading Institute is designed to expand and enrich the knowledge base and professional expertise of reading professionals and educational leaders. In particular, the institute will focus on reading comprehension. Featured throughout this three day institute are national reading experts, researchers, and practitioners at the forefront of topics critical to high quality scientifically based reading instruction. The experts will present on topics of comprehension and vocabulary as well as other essential elements of teaching and learning to read. Participants will have opportunities to engage in professional conversations and share ideas that promote students' reading achievement. Some sessions are especially designed for school and/or district teams.

Reading Institute topics are scheduled to include:

- Practical strategies for increasing vocabulary;
- Multiple approaches to reading comprehension;
- Reading and writing connection;
- Sessions focused on English language learners;
- Early language development and reading success;
- Coaching – embedded professional development;
- Providing high-intensity intervention for students with serious reading difficulties;
- Literacy and technology integration;
- Building literacy success in schools and district;
- Exploring the relationships between vocabulary knowledge and reading comprehension;
- Early childhood literacy instruction and assessment; and
- Transition from pre-kindergarten to kindergarten.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

- Teachers of Reading
- Reading Coaches and Specialists
- Reading Program Administrators at the school, state and district levels

Districts and schools are encouraged to have teams (e.g. an administrator, coach, and teacher from the same school) attend the conference together. Each individual will be able to attend sessions focused on their role in improving literacy skills. At the end of each day, teams will be able to work together in facilitated discussions to plan for maintaining and expanding rigorous reading programs.

Sincerely,

Joseph Conaty
Director, Academic Improvement and Teacher Quality
Programs

www.ed.gov

400 MARYLAND AVE., SW, WASHINGTON, DC 20202-6200

The Department of Education's mission is to promote student achievement and preparation for global competitiveness by fostering educational excellence and ensuring equal access.