



# CORE Professional Learning Workshops: Support Teachers of Adolescents with Word Reading Difficulties

As Dr. Louisa Moats stated, “Teaching reading IS rocket science.” CORE provides a series of workshops specifically designed for secondary educators to equip them with the knowledge and skills to identify, understand, and provide scaffolding to adolescents with word reading difficulties.

Learn more about CORE’s professional learning services at [corelearn.com](https://corelearn.com).

## CORE Intensive Intervention Series — Strand A: Decoding Instruction for Adolescents and Fluency Development

This two-day workshop will provide secondary educators with foundational information about the science of reading to begin to make informed instructional decisions and address the needs of adolescents. The focus is on gaining a basic understanding of decoding instruction and fluency development.

## Academic Literacy Series — Strand B: Adolescent Vocabulary and Comprehension Strategies and Text Structures

This two-day workshop focuses on enhancing vocabulary knowledge for all middle and high school students and on improving content understanding through comprehension strategies that work for both literary and informational text.



## Effective Vocabulary Instruction Across Content Areas

Participants learn and practice:

- Evidence-based methods to directly teach important content vocabulary
- Effective instructional practices to allow students to figure out unknown words using contextual analysis and morphemic analysis skills
- Technological and web-based resources to create effective and engaging vocabulary lessons

## Building Comprehension and Collaborative Conversations — Using Questions to Deepen Understanding

This one-day seminar focuses on moving through questioning levels using a variety of text and discipline-based content. Participants will:

- Understand how Webb's Depth of Knowledge (DOK) levels and the revised Bloom's Taxonomy levels support the expectations of most states' standards
- Develop questions and instructional prompts to facilitate partner, small, and whole class discussions
- Explore discussion structures, such as fishbowl, pinwheel, and Socratic seminar to provide students with rich opportunities for collaboration and conversation that deepen comprehension

Video lessons provide models of exemplary classroom conversations and teacher questioning. Participants will receive checklists for rigor (application of DOK and Bloom's Taxonomy) and components of effective collaboration and academic conversations.

## Language Conventions and Writing Fundamentals — Adolescent

This workshop provides teachers with the knowledge and strategies for teaching language conventions and writing to adolescents, from basic sentence construction to longer compositions.

## The Close Reading Classroom for Grades 6–12

Through modeling, mini-lecture, guided practice, and various activities, participants will learn and practice the close reading skills that students need to be college and career ready and meet rigorous state standards. Participants will:

- Learn routines for teaching close reading
- How to select texts
- Appropriate ways to introduce as well as guide students through and beyond the close reading process with both literary and informational texts

Throughout the three-day seminar, instructors will demonstrate how to incorporate various methodologies into the lessons, including:

- Discussion
- Writing
- Self-reflection

Sessions one and two are targeted for English, social studies/history, and science educators, while session three is reserved for English educators.

## Argumentative and Opinion Writing: Taking a Stand

This workshop equips educators with the skills and knowledge to help middle and high school students become strong argumentative or opinion writers, essential to mastering state standards and leaving high school prepared for college or careers. The workshop will address four important aspects of argumentative writing:

1. Asserting a claim
2. Supporting the claim with evidence or grounds for the claim
3. Providing additional backing to support the evidence
4. Articulating the exceptions or qualifiers to the argument

The workshop builds on CORE's Language Conventions and Writing Fundamentals trainings.

## Narrative and Informative/Explanatory Writing, Adolescent Level

This one-day session focuses on both narrative and informative/explanatory writing. We break down narrative writing by setting up a problem or situation (the beginning), developing the plot and character (the middle), and crafting strong conclusions or resolutions.

At this level, the focus is on:

- Descriptive details and coherent sequences
- Writing with a point of view
- Using dialogue effectively

The afternoon session centers on informative/explanatory writing:

- Ways to organize and analyze the topic
- Using organizational structures such as cause and effect, compare and contrast, and definition
- Transitions and strong conclusions

► Explore all of CORE's professional learning workshops and consulting services at [corelearn.com](https://corelearn.com).

