



IRC Webinar Series

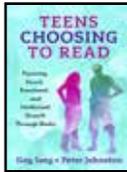
All webinars will begin at 7:00 p.m.

IRC will be offering the Webinar Series for members only in 2024-2025. All webinars will begin at 7:00 p.m. Members who watch the live or recorded webinars can earn professional development clock hours. Mark your calendars and register to take part in this convenient, free IRC membership benefit. Members will receive monthly emails with links to register. Nonmembers can join online and email for the registration link.

September 4, 2024 ~ Peter H. Johnston Classroom Talk and Literacy Learning



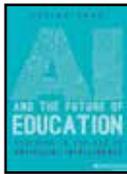
The ways in which we talk with students and arrange for them to talk with each other have substantial effects on their literacy learning. This webinar examines the relationships among classroom talk, student engagement, and individual and collective student development. It shows how the classroom choices we make, particularly our language choices, influence the qualities of the classroom learning community along with students' literate, social and emotional development.



October 2, 2024 ~ Priten Shah AI in the Literacy Classroom: Friend or Foe?



Is Artificial Intelligence a revolutionary tool for literacy instruction or a threat to traditional teaching methods? This webinar explores the dilemma of AI in education. We'll examine how AI can enhance learning and save time and discuss concerns about over-reliance on technology and potential biases. Join us to critically assess AI's role in shaping the future of literacy education and decide: Is AI a valuable ally or a challenging adversary in our classrooms?



November 6, 2024 ~ Jan Hasbrouck Understanding, Assessing, and Teaching Our Students with Dyslexia



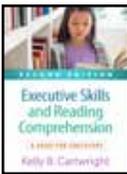
Dyslexia is a disorder with emotional, behavioral, and social impacts. Our understanding has deepened with new technologies being used by researchers to study the complex brain functions involved in reading and writing. While the IDA has developed a definition of dyslexia based on a convergence of reading science, there still is not universal agreement on how to define it. A number of myths and misunderstandings continue to persist regarding this neurobiological disorder which must be addressed and dispelled.



December 4, 2024 ~ Kelly B. Cartwright Why Don't My Best (Word) Readers Comprehend Text? Reading Science to Support Self-Regulated Comprehension



Some students seem to have the necessary skills they need to be good readers, yet still struggle with putting all of these things together in order to comprehend texts. In this session, we will look beyond these familiar skills to explore essential thinking skills, called executive skills, that support successful word reading and reading comprehension. Executive skills are self-regulatory skills that help students manage their thoughts, emotions, actions, and involve things like working memory, self-control, and mental flexibility.



January 8, 2025 ~ Becky Anderson Discovering the 2025 Illinois Reads Books



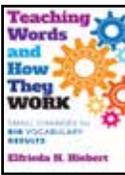
Join Becky Anderson as she presents the Illinois Reads books for 2025. Learn more about the Illinois Reads statewide literacy initiative that promotes reading for all Illinois citizens. Six books in six age bands from Birth to Adult will be shared. A variety of book topics and themes are chosen for each age band, highlighting the work of Illinois Authors.



February 5, 2025 ~ Elfrieda H. Hiebert Applying the Science of Reading in Vocabulary to Build Comprehension and Engagement



In this presentation, Freddy will share valuable insights from recent scholarly research, highlighting how vocabulary instruction can effectively support students in three key areas: expanding their word knowledge, enhancing their ability to comprehend complex texts, and facilitating the construction of knowledge from these texts. Freddy will delve into the research that shows how students can have strategies and enthusiasm for deciphering the meanings of unfamiliar words within complex texts.



March 5, 2025 ~ Chase Young Developing Fluent Readers



Embark on a journey to develop confident readers in this immersive session. Learn and practice strategies to boost reading fluency, from pacing to expression. Discover effective ways to overcome obstacles and personalize instruction for every learner. Leave equipped to empower students with the fluency skills they need to thrive academically and beyond.



April 2, 2025 ~ St. Clair Detrick-Jules Empowerment Through Storytelling



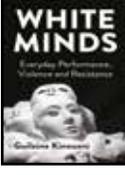
St. Clair Detrick-Jules will share her journey to becoming an author, photojournalist, and public speaker. She'll touch on her writing process, finding subjects to include in her work, and creating spaces for people to share their stories. Themes will include representation of marginalized groups in media, cultivating community empowerment, and narrative storytelling as a vehicle of self-empowerment and social change.



May 7, 2025 ~ Guilaine Kinouani African Conceptualizations of Trauma



Group analysis has much to contribute to our understanding of ourselves and the world. It requires us to be deliberate, effortful and reflective; so we may start to see forms of violence which often go unnoticed and within been which we are all implicated. In this talk, we will do just that as we explore the importance of witnessing and storytelling for the survival of black groups across the globe. Trauma constitutes a form of (a)temporal and (a)spatial bodily archives which ensures that the memory of the suffering of those who came before us is kept alive across timespace and geopolitical boundaries.



June 4, 2025 ~ Rachel Lesinski-Roscoe Students Should OWN It! Fostering Secondary Students' Ability to Independently Navigate Complex Texts



Our goal is always for students to be able to navigate this world independently by applying what they learn from us. We can support that goal by not only teaching students how to use strategies, but how to independently transfer those strategies to new and unfamiliar texts. Join us in learning how to foster students' independence when working with complex text.



To register, sign into your IRC Membership Account at www.illinoisreadingcouncil.org