

# Adolescent Literacy

## The Middle School Years



### Introduction/Creating a Literacy Rich Classroom Environment/Effective Differentiation

*Module I, II:A, II:B*

**29 minutes of video 41 minutes completion time**

Discover how to quickly identify a struggling reader, and create intervention strategies that work. Students learn best when they “gain ownership” of the reading materials. See how organized and print-rich classrooms pave the way to encourage student reading. In this module you will learn how to effectively differentiate students by level using linguistics, planning, and fluency. An abundance of examples will help you understand why grouping students by level ultimately increases reading comprehension.



### Effective Assessment

*Module II:C*

**20 minutes of video  
28 minutes completion time**

Watch intervention specialist and teacher Laura Pietrandrea at work with real students. See first hand how she gets to know her students as readers, and what techniques she uses to evaluate their reading levels. Learn the “Before-During-After” strategy that is an integral part of Laura’s assessment process. Watch how “synthesizing” creates changes in student’s comprehension from “before” reading to “after” reading. Visualization can help immerse students in their reading materials and assist them with their comprehension. Learn how to empower students by encouraging visualization and asking just the right “interview question” to help them “open up” about a particular book they are reading. This is an excellent module that gets to the heart of students’ perceptions and attitudes about reading.



### Word Study / Comprehension Strategies

*Modules II:D & II:E*

**36 minutes of video  
51 minutes completion time**

This compelling mix of real classroom examples provides teachers with a roadmap for word study. Learn how readers look for patterns in words and associate meaning with something they have already seen and processed. Watch as a teacher helps a student spell an unknown word. Reading fiction presents opportunities for students to increase their vocabulary. Watch and learn how students answer guided questions to help them recognize and identify characters in the fictional stories they have read. Transform your students into avid readers by bringing a novel to life and using creative approaches to encourage them to finish the books they are reading – and start new ones.



### Supporting The Struggling Adolescent Reader

#### Panel Discussion of Dayton

*Module III*

**40 minutes of video  
56 minutes completion time**

Drawing on the expertise of four experienced adolescent literacy experts, this module provides you with practical recommendations to help support struggling readers. See how acceptance, community, and praise make the reader feel confident - and ultimately more successful. Learn how to differentiate between the struggling reader and the uninterested reader. Hear how to make the classroom environment more conducive to progress. This module offers alternative strategies to develop comprehension and overcome obstacles. Ideas such as nonfiction articles, pictures with captions, even comic strips are explored as beneficial alternatives. This intriguing discussion concludes with an in-depth analysis of how reading affects all other areas of academia.





## Reading to Learn / Guided Reading

### Module IV:A

**55 minutes of video**  
**77 minutes completion time**

This dynamic module is designed to enhance a teacher's knowledge of text structures and features. Learn how patterns help students make meaning of what they are reading and how human beings interpret text. Discover why definitions, synonyms, and antonyms are all used as control clues. This compelling module will help you gain an understanding of the six basic structures of text, and show you how to use this knowledge to help your students improve their reading and writing skills. Finally, find out what external factors affect a reader's understanding of the text, and how you can effectively intervene to overcome these misinterpretations.



## Reading to Learn / Managing Guided Reading Groups

### Module IV:B

**40 minutes of video**  
**56 minutes completion time**

The key to guided reading is introducing the text of a particular passage in the most impactful way. Watch renowned educator Jeffrey L. Williams as he breaks down the key elements, and provides insight into the critical aspect of engaging the group. Discover when and where a reader gets "stuck", and the importance of getting that reader back on track as soon as possible. Small nuances can have a profound impact on the success of guided reading groups. Learn how to guide students, through conversation, pauses, resurfacing techniques, and even eye movements. This module drives home the importance of thoughtful discussion, and how it contributes to new ideas and a richer thought process. In addition, take note how discussions often include feedback given to the reader, and the ultimate impact this has on a student's attitude and self-awareness.

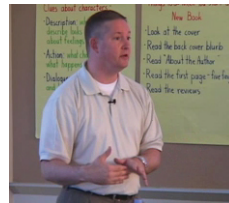


## Reading to Learn / Guided Reading Modeled Lessons

### Module IV:C

**81 minutes of video**  
**146 minutes completion time**

There is a general misconception that "learning to read" is over by the end of the 6th grade. Discover why this is not true and why mapping out a course of progression for each reader, including establishing pre-determined benchmarks, is critical for adolescent students. In the second part of Jeffrey William's compelling presentation, he drills home the fact that staggering improvement in literacy skills can be realized with just a few significant changes to a teacher's approach. Learn why balancing reading assignments between fiction and non-fiction is an important, yet often-overlooked strategy that helps insure that all students are presented with engaging materials.



## Reading to Learn / Science Lesson/Math Lesson

### Modules IV:D & IV:E

**39 minutes of video**  
**55 minutes completion time**

This comprehensive look at reading within the content areas provides two rich examples of real middle school math and reading lessons. Watch as these exemplary teachers provide you with a visual understanding of how learning math and science can also help students improve their reading and writing skills. Watch how students use picture clues that bring meaning to the text. Hands-on activities can dramatically increase student engagement and are effective in almost any classroom. The teachers in this classroom use powerful activities to encourage students to make connections with the text that is presented. Educator Bern Schwieterman, with 14 years of experience as a teacher, shows you how to purposely interact with students at their level to achieve powerful results.

