

# Content-focused professional learning: Math & literacy suites

Teaching is a complex practice that develops over time. To support the evolution of their practice, educators must have the opportunity to engage in sustained learning of both content and content pedagogy throughout their career.

Content-focused professional learning from NWEA® is designed to enhance educators' content knowledge and strengthen their pedagogical practice. The math and literacy suites provide teachers with a deep understanding of content and research-based instructional practices, along with ways to apply that understanding to their unique grade-level instructional needs and content standards.

## Foster ambitious and equitable instructional practices

This professional learning builds teachers' content expertise and the pedagogical content knowledge necessary to teach the concepts of their discipline. Session content is instructionally relevant, actionable, anchored in the priorities of teachers' daily work, and aligned to rigorous college- and career-readiness standards. As an integral part of teaching and learning, equity is woven throughout, building educator knowledge as they progress through the session offerings.

## Improve instructional decision-making with a focus on responsive teaching and learning

Teachers learn how to develop or hone an effective formative assessment process to monitor student understanding. Educators engage in formative conversation starters and responsive literacy practices to uncover student thinking and meet students' specific needs while building content knowledge.

## Evidence-based content from leaders in the field

Sessions are derived from robust bodies of expert research from seminal organizations and publications, including the National Research Council, the Mathematics Learning Study Committee, and the National Reading Panel.

## Methods and strategies that work with any curriculum

Content-focused professional learning is not tied to the use of any specific assessment data or curriculum. The suites prioritize effective teaching and learning in mathematics and literacy to give teachers a solid, flexible knowledge base of content and teaching practices.



## Available offerings

### RESPONSIVE LITERACY PRACTICES

#### **Grades K-2: Foundations—Guided by the Shifts: Literacy\***

Beginning with a solid understanding of what is at the heart of today's college- and career-ready standards will provide educators with essential knowledge for instructional practice. In these foundational sessions, participants will gain a deep understanding of the key shifts in literacy, how they progress, and the development of a classroom culture that supports discourse and builds a culturally responsive environment. This provides both teachers and administrators with a foundation for the upcoming content within the workshop series if a school or district deems it appropriate.

#### **Grades K-2: Understanding How Students Learn to Read Parts 1 and 2\***

Our brains are wired to learn spoken language but learning to read does not happen the same way! By teaching reading in ways that align with how the brain acquires, processes, and retains letters, sounds, and language, we support all students' reading success. In this offering, participants will learn how students learn to read, the multiple components that make up reading, and how to structure their reading instruction to align to the Science of Reading research.

#### **Grades K-2: Phonemic and Phonological Awareness Parts 1 and 2\***

Phonemic and phonological awareness are key foundational skills that support students learning to read. Helping students to identify and manipulate units of language is a critical building block in students' reading development. In this offering, you will explore effective instruction in phonological and phonemic awareness.

#### **Grades K-2: Building Fluent Readers Parts 1 and 2**

Fluency plays an integral role in bridging students' decoding to automatic reading of connected text to determine meaning. In this offering, participants will discover strategies to help students increase fluency, advance their pedagogical content knowledge by analyzing reading fluency components, and examine the variables impacting reading fluency.

### RESPONSIVE MATH PRACTICES

#### **Grades K-8: Foundations—Guided by the Shifts: Mathematics\***

Beginning with a solid understanding of what is at the heart of today's college- and career-ready standards will provide you with essential knowledge for your instructional practice. In these foundational sessions, you will gain a deep understanding of the key shifts in mathematics, how they progress, and the development of a classroom culture that supports mathematical discourse and builds a culturally responsive environment. This provides both teachers and administration with a foundation for the upcoming content within the offering series if a school or district deems it appropriate.

#### **Engaging Students: Eliciting Evidence of Students' Math Understanding Parts 1 and 2**

Strengthening teachers' math identities and cultivating questioning skills can help you uncover student understanding and make instructional decisions that lead all learners to success. Customizable to grade bands K-2, 3-5, or 6-8, this offering helps participants discover and practice strategies to increase the value of classroom discussions and enable making timely instructional adjustments based on student responses.

#### **Grades 3-5: What Is a Fraction? Parts 1 and 2\***

As students progress and build their mathematical understanding, flexibility and accuracy with fractions are key elements for determining student success. Grades 3-5 teachers need to support all children in building their understanding of a fraction as a single number and conceptualizing fractions as part of the number system. In this offering, participants will discover the mathematical concepts underlying fractions, how to tackle common misconceptions, and how to make timely instructional adjustments based on student understanding.

#### **Grades 6-8: Integer Subtraction Parts 1 and 2\***

Students begin to develop meanings for operations as early as kindergarten (e.g., addition is "putting together"). As they progress, the numbers involved—and operational meanings—extend. Connections such as understanding that subtraction of fractions is still a form of subtraction and should connect to a meaning of subtraction are integral to supporting students' growth and deepening their conceptual understanding. In this offering, educators will discover how to support students in developing ways of thinking that enable them to connect operation meanings to everyday use of those operations, how to tackle common misconceptions, and how to make timely instructional adjustments based on student understanding.

*\*Coming for back to school 2022*



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MAR22 | KAP8160