

Multilingual Learning Toolkit Supports Educators in Pre-K–3



education faculty whose work supports multilingual learners in pre-K to third grade. The Toolkit features a Starter Guide that shares the research-backed, asset-based foundational principles for practitioners to know in order to best support multilingual learners. In addition, the Toolkit offers eleven instructional topic areas—the essential elements of what educators and administrators need to know to best serve multilingual learners. They are structured into key questions that an educator may have and include evidence-based strategies and resources. The Toolkit provides over 400 free, practical, and easy-to-use resources directly related to the instructional topic areas, including an array of videos, handouts, vignettes, and more.

includes researchers, practitioners, advocacy organizations, state agencies, and philanthropic organizations from California and across the nation. The American Institutes for Research (AIR) served as the lead research partner and was responsible for reviewing the literature, synthesizing the evidence base, and writing the background research and strategies presented in the Toolkit.

Testimonials from the field:

“This really helps with new ideas. It’s easy to get stuck on what you already do.”
—Early learning teacher

“I used the Toolkit in my course and will be designing assignments based on your amazing content for the next time I teach the course—totally blown away with everything in it.”
—Higher education faculty

“Well done! As a visual learner, I love the colorful photos, organization, and videos.”
—Elementary school teacher
www.multilingualllearningtoolkit.org

The Multilingual Learning Toolkit is an online hub that features a vetted selection of resources and best practices for educators, administrators, and teacher

The Toolkit was developed by early learning policy and advocacy organization Early Edge California and its partners and is the result of a collaborative effort that

Tools 4 Reading Adds Spellography Program

Tools 4 Reading has announced the addition of two renowned reading experts to its team, Dr. Louisa Moats and Dr. Bruce Rosow. In the authors’ first collaboration with Tools 4 Reading, Dr. Moats—author of LETRS Professional Learning, LANGUAGE! Live, Speech to Print, and other programs and publications—and her co-author, Dr. Rosow, are bringing their popular book, *Spellography: A Fun Guide to Better Spelling*, to the company’s product lineup.

The classroom-tested program is designed for grades 3–5 or older students who may have been introduced to spelling and language concepts but need additional practice to transfer their spelling knowledge to writing.

Newly revised and updated, *Spellography* helps students make sense of the English spelling system and thus

become better at understanding, reading, and writing words.

“Teachers and kids will love this new and improved version of the original,” Dr. Moats said. “It’s fun because it challenges kids to think about words, learn where they came from, and understand how they’re put together. As a bonus, the insights that our structured literacy approach gives to students will carry over not just to better spelling but to better reading and better vocabulary.”

With *Spellography*, Dr. Moats added, she and her co-author have discarded traditional rote memorization of spelling lists. For example, there are no lists to memorize and no “Friday tests” whose words are soon forgotten.

“Rather, on the principle that ‘we all remember best what we understand,’ we emphasize analysis of words, drawing on

the idea of the language layer cake,” she said. “We teach explicitly; the teacher explains each concept with the help of our main characters.”

Spellography’s lead narrator is Hari, an Asian Indian spelling whizz who is trying to help his younger sister, Tara, grasp the ideas about language structure. These characters, with their dog Yogi, provide gentle humor all throughout the spelling journey.

“Tools 4 Reading is thrilled to offer content created by these two respected names in literacy,” said Dr. Mary Dahlgren, president and founder of Tools 4 Reading. “Educators everywhere have relied on *Spellography* in the past, and we know the new 2022 revision will not disappoint. It’s a perfect complement to any current reading and language arts program.”

www.tools4reading.com/product-page/spellography-student-lesson-book-a-1

One-Click Differentiation and Practice Recommendations

Renaissance has connected two of the most widely used tools in its education portfolio, Nearpod and Star Assessments, to help teachers better and more easily connect assessment results with effective instructional solutions.

Nearpod offers more than 22,000 interactive lessons, interactive videos, games, and other learning resources and activities. After teachers get an overall picture of students' math and reading abilities using Star Assessments, they can immediately put that information into action by clicking the new "Plan Instruction with Nearpod" button in the Star Record Book. Next, they can see recommended resources for individual students, small groups, or the whole class.

The new connection also allows teachers to link the prerequisite

skills a student may need to learn to lessons in Nearpod, enabling students to immediately begin practicing those skills in targeted areas with interactive tools, resources, and content.

Recommended Nearpod resources are available to educators through the English-language versions of Star Early Literacy, Star Reading, Star Math, and Star CBM. Teachers simply sign up for a free Nearpod account to share the recommended resources with their students. Star Math also recommends free resources from the Nearpod library and recommends additional premium resources from the Nearpod Math program.

www.renaissance.com/product_update/accelerate-instruction-with-the-new-star-assessments-to-nearpod-connection

Science of Reading Paired with Tech-Enabled Instruction



Reading Horizons has launched the latest generation of Reading Horizons Discovery, pairing a multisensory approach to science-based reading instruction with a tech-enabled delivery system.

The program offers accessible, engag-

ing, grade-specific lessons based in the science of reading to help teachers guide K–3 students toward mastery of foundational reading skills. A simplified scope and sequence integrating phonemic awareness and phonics further supports mastery, while the program provides teachers with immediate actionable data to inform instruction, building student confidence and momentum to become proficient readers.

Thanks to automatic grouping and suggested intervention and extension lessons. Training videos in each lesson help to reduce teacher prep time.

Teachers will find differentiating instruc-

tion easier than ever before with the new Reading Horizons Discovery.

Reading Horizons Discovery empowers educators to teach foundational reading skills that students can apply in all subjects by helping teachers pace lessons, monitor student mastery, and ensure instructional quality. Featuring turnkey lessons focused on helping students become proficient readers by third grade, Reading Horizons Discovery enables teachers to provide every student with consistent, engaging, and effective foundational reading instruction.

<https://readinghorizons.com/reading-curriculum/elementary-reading-curriculum/overview>

Storyed Cuddly Animals Help Children Cope

Silver Lining Stuffies is a line of storybooks and companion stuffed animals crafted to help educators and parents provide children with the tools to cope with mental health conditions.

The first three books, *Slow Down, Alfie!*, *Andie and the Worries*, and *Frankie and Gloob*, tell fun stories that address attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), anxiety, and depression. Each stuffed animal stars in its own story as a lovable, relatable character who learns to cope with a unique set of difficulties, helping to normalize the experience of mental health challenges. Characters in the books model positive behaviors such as supporting each other, learning from each other, and embracing a growth mindset.

Silver Lining Stuffies was born out

of the darkness of COVID-19. CEO and founder Sara Moore recognized the massive toll the pandemic was taking on the mental health of children. As someone who has lived with depression and anxiety from a young age, Moore empathized and was inspired to draw on her decades of design experience to help.

The need is clear: one in six US children aged 2–8 are diagnosed with a mental or behavioral disorder every year, and only 20% of them ever receive treatment. Silver Lining Stuffies aims to improve that by offering educators, parents, and children strategies to deal with these conditions and by donating part of their proceeds to relevant organizations.

The books, which Moore created in consultation with child psychologists and

teachers, are targeted to children aged four to ten.

All of the Silver Lining Stuffies have extra-long, weighted arms designed to give warm hugs. Tucked inside their back pocket is a soft mini-blanket. When kids are in classrooms or places where they might not be able to bring a stuffed animal, the mini-blanket is a comforting reminder of Alfie, Andie, or Frankie.

Each book ends with a list of coping strategies that give children an approachable, personal toolkit to help them on their journey toward mental wellness while fostering imagination and play.

SilverLiningStuffies.com 

