

Halifax Learning's Teacher Training - The art of teaching a proven, science-based literacy program



There is an art to teaching reading. Our goal is to make sure you leave our training feeling equipped to work with your students and supported by our ongoing mentoring and coaching opportunities.

Read a person a book, and they're enthralled for a moment. Teach a person to read and they can live an enthralling life. **Equitable access to efficient literacy is found in teachers' classrooms**. The Right to Read is a basic human right and far too many students in Canada are disenfranchised by a curriculum that fails to build adequate reading capacity.

When Dr. Kay MacPhee first developed the SpellRead program in the 1990s, her intention was to design a program that would meet the needs of classroom teachers working with public school students that need more explicit literacy instruction. Fast forward to 2022, the team at Halifax Learning has taken the foundation that Kay created and enhanced Halifax Learning's delivery and training of the SpellRead program so that we're always aligned with the science and changes in SoR pedagogy.

Our team has participated in training over 75 public and private sector teachers in Canada, the USA and overseas.

Our student outcomes have been favorably reviewed and published by some of the expert scientists in this field.

- SpellRead was named as one of the programs being used in Tier 2 and Tier 3 in Ontario after the OHRC Right to Read inquiry in February, 2021.
- Dr. Jamie Metsala demonstrated how potent our students' results are, especially in moving fluency skills in the *Journal of Research in Reading* in 2017.
- In 2007 What Works Clearinghouse compiled a list of proven programs that move the needle in reading comprehension and SpellRead came out as the number one program.
- The Florida Centre for Reading Research reviewed the SpellRead program and noted the strong gains our students made and noted "no weaknesses."





Training Outcomes, Halifax Learning's Delivery of SpellRead Phase A:

Linguistic Foundations

- Know and articulate clearly the 44 sounds of English.
- Deliver instruction in SpellRead's engaging multisensory phonemic activities.
- Gain automaticity in SpellRead's speed-reading card packs used to gauge student fluency development.
- In-person and virtual delivery.

Active Reading

- Be proficient in leading all 4 steps of the Active Reading process and know the best practices for each step.
- Collaboratively curate book lists.
- Understand how to use Halifax Learning's robust reading fluency and reading comprehension rubric tracking.
- In-person and virtual delivery.

Writing Connections

- Provide instruction on Writing Connections.
- Provide constructive and responsive feedback to writing.
- Gauge student progress and tailor instruction to address student needs in writing
- Understand how to use Halifax Learning's robust writing rubric
- In-person and virtual delivery.

Training Outcomes, Halifax Learning's delivery of SpellRead Phase A continued:

SpellRead ™ Manuals and Materials

• Know how to use the SpellRead Teacher's Manual and materials to plan effective intervention lessons.

Halifax Learning ™ Lesson Preparation and supporting documents

• Prepare materials in advance to ensure smooth transitions during teach-back.

Halifax Learning ™ Lesson Delivery and enhancements

• During the teach-back, teachers complete activities within the expected range of time, provide effective error correction and ensure that training partners use recommended techniques for phonemic activities.

Blended Learning Model for Training

• Our blended learning training model uses Brightspace as our LMS (Learning Management System) and follows best-practices in UDI (universal instructional design). Halifax Learning also provides regular support PD using this tool.

Ongoing coaching, mentoring and professional development

• Ongoing coaching, mentoring and PD are important components of our delivery and training. The goal is to ensure program fidelity and teacher empowerment and student success.

Schedule and material information:



Training schedule and group size

- Training ratio 1:6 (1 trainer to 6 trainees) in-person in HRM or virtual globally.
- Full days, half days, part time and full time training options are available let's choose a schedule that works for everyone.



Teacher materials and booklists

- All trainees will receive:
 - o A SpellRead ™ Phase A Teacher's Manual (published by Pro-Ed)
 - o A SpellRead [™] Phase A Student Activity Book (published by Pro-Ed)
 - o A SpellRead ™ Phase A Answer Key (published by Pro-Ed)
 - o A complete set of vowels and consonant cards + 9 study packs reword
- All trainees will receive access to Halifax Learning's suggested booklist applicable for grades P-6 and for use in-person or virtually.



Brightspace

- Each trained teacher gets full access to our asynchronous training and resources for one full year. This subscription can be renewed year over year.
- Brightspace D2L is a learning innovation platform, built by educators and for educators.



Halifax Learning's ™ ongoing coaching, mentoring and PD

- Halifax Learning has a menu of options to choose from for schools and individuals wanting to ensure their delivery of the SpellRead program is done with fidelity and that outcomes are robust.
- Newly trained Phase A teachers can participate in ongoing PD on a monthly basis in an asynchronous capacity and elevate to face time if needed.
- Our commitment is to you and your students. There is an art to teaching a proven SoR literacy program and we are here to support you.

Cost details:



Individual cost breakdown 2021-2022

- \$1500.00 for the 25 hour SpellRead Phase A Training. This is broken down into 12.5 hours asynchronous and 12.5 hours synchronous. Trainees maintain a subscription to our resources and asynchronous training materials for one full year.
- \$250.00 for materials (as detailed above).

Later

- Ongoing professional development, modules released monthly \$300 per module, recommended but not mandatory.
- 8 months into Phase A delivery, \$800 for Halifax Learning's SpellRead Phase B and C certification, including materials

Conclusion

Our team has been working in the field of evidence-based literacy education for almost 30 years. We have developed a robust, large-scale training and coaching program that ensures teacher satisfaction and support and most importantly - excellent student outcomes.

We've worked with teachers internationally, overseas and the USA and across Canada with the goal of eradicating illiteracy and championing human rights and equitable access to efficient literacy programming.

We continue to work with communities and schools in Nova Scotia and Ontario to provide training and support in a cost-effective model to reach as many students as possible.

Our goal is to continue this work and engage individual teachers that want to bring a proven science of reading program into their classrooms.

Next Steps?

Let's meet and discuss how we can work together and make sure that children have access to 100% of the foundation needed to grow in a healthy and happy way.



