



OC Literacy and Language

JANUARY 2025 NEWSLETTER



Happy New Year! As we step into 2025, we are thrilled to bring you this edition of the OCDE Literacy & Language Newsletter filled with exciting opportunities, valuable resources, and key updates to support your work in empowering students across our county. As we celebrate the International Day of Education on January 24 and Lunar New Year on January 29, let's continue fostering inclusive and innovative approaches to literacy that reflect the diverse voices in our classrooms.

Additionally, we are committed to supporting the implementation of the new Screener for Risk of Reading Difficulties, including Dyslexia. Be sure to explore the [OCDE Reading Screener Information Guide](#) for the latest updates and practical strategies to meet the needs of your students. SAVE THE DATE- We will be hosting an **Assessment Materials Fair on February 4th at OCDE** to learn more about the screening tools on the approved list.

Thank you for your unwavering dedication to literacy and language education. Here's to a year of collaboration, growth, and success!

Upcoming Dates

- January 1: New Year's Day
- January 20: Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- January 24: International Day of Education
- January 29: Lunar New Year



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Upcoming Literacy Offerings



Ignite Early Literacy

January 29, 2025
8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Register [here](#)

Looking for some professional learning targeted specifically for PK/TK/K in elementary school? We are hosting a free, in-person session to discuss literacy strategies for our youngest readers alongside an exploration of the updated TK state guidance, foundations and alignment to Kindergarten standards. Great for PK/TK teachers, Kinder/1st grade teachers, administrators, TOSA's and coaches. Breakfast and lunch is included!

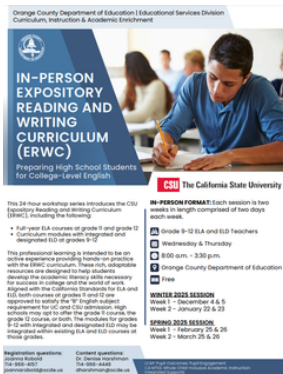


Empowering Writers Summit

June 14, 2025
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Register [here](#)

Connect with fellow educators, explore new strategies, and spark creativity in your students. Engage in dynamic workshops, lively discussions, and collaborative sessions designed to leave you with fresh ideas and practical tools to make writing exciting for all your students. Featured speaker Jen Roberts, a National Board Certified teacher and digital pedagogy expert, will share her insights on literacy and generative AI in education. Don't miss this opportunity to reignite your passion for teaching writing! Accepting Proposals - submit [here](#)



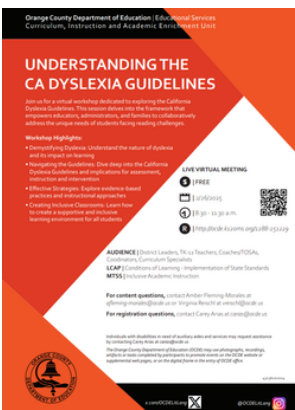
ERWC: In-Person

Register [here](#)

ERWC: Virtual

Register [here](#)

A free four-day introductory course for Grade 9-12 ELA and ELD Teachers is available for those new to teaching the ERWC course and those interested in learning how to incorporate ERWC modules into their curriculum. Each session is two weeks in length comprised of two days each week.



Understanding the Dyslexia Guidelines

January 22, 2025
8:30 - 11:30 a.m. **NEW**

Register [here](#)

February 26, 2025
8:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Register [here](#)

This virtual workshop will dig into the California Dyslexia Guidelines and specifically, the Screener for Risk of Reading Difficulties, including Dyslexia. We will go through the Screener Toolkit to support District Implementation of this initiative, provide strategies for systems and create space for collaboration.

Please click on the link below to see our professional development trainings

2024-25 Literacy and Language Calendar

Orange County Department of Education | Educational Services
Curriculum, Instruction and Academic Enrichment Unit

DIVERSIFYING OUR TEXTS: FOSTERING JOY AND EXPANDING PERSPECTIVES

In three-part asynchronous series supports K-12 educators in understanding the importance of diverse texts as Mirrors, Windows, and Sliding Glass Doors, grounded in Dr. Rudine Sims Bishop's work. Integrating Gholdy Muhammad's focus on joy, identity, and critical literacy, the course helps participants integrate inclusive stories that enrich student learning. Participants will receive *Unearthing Joy* by Dr. Muhammad and join virtual sessions after each module for collaboration and discussion.

Virtual Sessions
Cost: \$45 includes book
Time: 3 pp. - 5:00 p.m.
Dates: 3/13, 4/3 & 4/24
Registration: <http://ocde.k12or.ca.us/RS> 449375 or scan QR Code

Series Objectives

- Examine the role of diverse texts in supporting diverse identities in educational settings
- Evaluate how history and current practices affect the availability and accuracy of texts
- Utilize resources to enrich educational practices with diverse texts that foster identity, development and joy

Target Audience: K-12 teachers, coaches, administrators, librarians, literacy/media techs interested in diversifying their libraries

CAP: Conditions of Learning Implementation of State Standards
RTSS: Inclusive Academic Instruction

Diversifying Text

March, 13, April 3, and April 24
3:30-5:00 p.m.
Register [here](#)

This three-part asynchronous series supports K-12 educators in understanding the importance of diverse texts as Mirrors, Windows, and Sliding Glass Doors, grounded in Dr. Rudine Sims Bishop's work. Integrating Dr. Gholdy Muhammad's focus on joy, identity, and critical literacy, the course helps participants incorporate inclusive stories that enrich student learning. Participants will receive *Unearthing Joy* by Dr. Muhammad and join virtual sessions after each module for collaboration and discussion.

Save the Date

SAVE THE DATE

OC GLAD® Spring Institute 2025

Celebrate impactful learning moments that elevate content knowledge, comprehension, and language development.

April 24, 2025
Hilton Orange County
Costa Mesa

Registration: links will be sent separately.

CATE 2025

MAJOR SPEAKERS

- Gerry Brooks**
Social Media Personality and Principal
- Dashka Slater**
Author of *Accountable: The True Story of a Racist Social Media Account* and the *Personas Whose Lives It Changed*
- Megan E. Freeman**
Author of *Aloha* winner of CWRM Middle School Award
- Jennifer Gonzalez**
"Call of Pedagogy" Podcast
- Tina Korani**
Co-founder of the School of Journalism and Mass Communication Immersive Storytelling Lab, San Jose State

Our annual statewide convention will take place in Burlingame at the Hyatt Regency Hotel SFO on February 28-March 2, 2025, with a pre-convention by the California Writing Project on Thursday, February 27.

WORKSHOP SESSIONS

Participate in sessions on the following topics (plus more):

- Reading
- Writing
- English Language Arts for Elementary Grades K-6
- Teaching English Learners
- ERWC (Expository Reading and Writing Course)
- Integrated Curriculum
- Social Emotional Learning Strategies
- Social Media in the Classroom

NEW THIS YEAR: A mobile app to help you navigate the convention program.

To register and for additional details about CATE 2025: www.CATEweb.org

Orange County Department of Education
Educational Services Division
Curriculum, Instruction and Academic Enrichment Unit

Multilingual Academic Services (MAS)

Utilizing The English Learner Roadmap For Effective Program Design

Learn how to support continuous improvement with English Learner (EL) students using the EL Roadmap to create services that meet all the EL typologies.

Date: March 3, 2025
Time: 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM
Location: Holocaust Education Center of Orange County
2240 University Drive
Newport Beach, CA

Register Cost: FREE

CSU The California State University
ERWC
Inspiring Reading, Writing, & History

June 23, 2025 ERWC Literacy CONFERENCE

Newbery award winning and New York Times bestselling author of *When You Trap a Tiger*

Join California educational leaders for an inspiring showcase of best practices in rhetorical reading and writing instruction, language learning, curriculum development, and culturally and linguistically sustaining pedagogies.

Long Beach Marriott
4700 Airport Plaza Dr.,
Long Beach, CA 90815

STAY CONNECTED writing.csiuaccess.org @csu_erwc @CSU_ERWC

WINTER READING CHALLENGE

December 9, 2024 - January 25, 2025

Read books and complete challenges to earn badges.
Register at ocpl.beanstack.org

Join us for winter fun at your local branch! Celebrate with performers, author events, storytimes, movies, and crafts.



For more information please visit ocpl.org



CELEBRATE LUNAR NEW YEAR

IRVINE HERITAGE PARK LIBRARY
14361 Yale Ave
Irvine, CA 92604
949-936-4000
Monday - Thursday: 10am - 8pm
Friday - Sunday: 9am - 5pm

Tuesday, January 7

4:30 PM Lion Dance
5 PM Crafts



Come celebrate the year of snake with your family and friends and enjoy a special treat of lion dance, dragon dance, and yo-yo performance! We'll be making fun crafts and more!

Interested in learning more?
ocpl.org/libraries/irvine-heritage-park



READ TO A DOG

FOUNTAIN VALLEY LIBRARY
17625 Los Alamos
Fountain Valley, CA 92708
714-962-1324
Monday - Thursday: 10am-7pm
Friday & Saturday: 9am-5pm
Sunday: Closed

WITH OC ANIMAL ALLIES

2nd Monday of the month
4-5pm

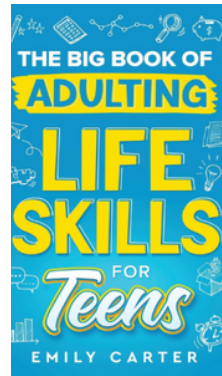


What's more fun than reading?
How about reading *to a dog*?

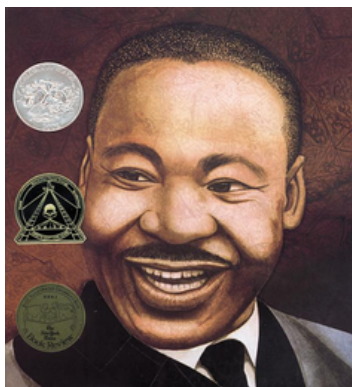
Practice your reading-out-loud skills with a specially trained dog from OC Animal Allies in a quiet and relaxing environment.

Space is limited! Please register at the Service Desk.

Interested in learning more?
ocpl.org/libraries/fountain-valley

Check out all of Teaching Books' January's Timely Topic Resources [Here](#)



Spotlight

Spotlight on PYLUSD Summer Camp



At our December Literacy and Language Network Meeting, Blanca Gibbons and Maria Hepp presented their incredible work supporting language development in Summer Camp at PYLUSD. Their thoughtful and intentional planning led to a fun and language-rich summer experience for students! They will be back and even bigger next summer! Thank you for sharing your inspiring work!

We invite you all to submit [this](#) form to be included in an upcoming spotlight section. You can spotlight a teacher, an event, a literacy initiative- anything you would like to share! All submissions will also be featured on our OCDE Lit&Lang Social Media!

Resources

- Need information about the upcoming Screener for Risk of Reading Difficulties, including Dyslexia? Here is the [OCDE Information Guide](#), updated frequently as new information is released. We are here to support the implementation of this initiative in any way that we can!
- Check out the latest [CDE Literacy Newsletter](#) for information on Statewide Literacy
- [Bookshare](#) curated a [list](#) for the 2024 update! Bookshare provides access to a huge collection of ebooks that are customizable for people with reading barriers.

Tech Corner

EMPOWERING WRITERS SUMMIT
STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS ACROSS
THE DISCIPLINES

Featured speaker Jen Roberts
@TheJenRoberts | LitandTech.com

June 14, 2025
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
OCDE COSTA MESA
\$150 per person or \$125 each group of 4 or more
<http://ocde.k12oms.org/1288-251230> or scan QR Code



For content questions, contact Amber Fleming-Morales at afleming-morales@ocde.us or Virginia Reschi at vreschi@ocde.us
For registration questions, contact Caney Anas at canas@ocde.us

Jen Roberts, a National Board Certified teacher and expert in digital pedagogy, will be the keynote speaker at our upcoming Empowering Writers Summit, where she will explore the intersection of literacy and generative AI in education. We're thrilled to announce that Jen is also set to present at [ABCUSD's IGNITE Ed Tech Symposium](#) at Cerritos High School on January 25, 2025 from 8-3 pm.

Don't miss your chance to engage with her and other inspiring educators at the Empowering Writers Summit, happening on June 14, 2025, in Costa Mesa. Join us for a day of dynamic workshops and collaborative sessions designed to reinvigorate writing instruction across all disciplines. Register now at [Empowering Writers Summit Registration](#).

To subscribe to our newsletter scan the QR code below

