

## **Advancing Literacy Beyond the Classroom: Workshops for Families and Caregivers**

Welcome to the launch of our new workshop series **Advancing Literacy Beyond the Classroom: Workshops for Families & Caregivers**. We designed this series to provide support for kids' literacy development outside of school, beyond the classroom.

This platform will help you understand the powerful role literacy plays in children's lives and will provide essential guidance for supporting kids outside the school day – from new books & texts for kids, to the latest research in education. Our aim is to support the entire community in helping kids become powerful, lifelong readers and writers.

We will have a few episodes each month, live on Zoom, for families, caregivers, and educators. The topics for each episode will support students in grades PreK through 12, covering a variety of subjects, including:

- Early literacy
- Spelling, punctuation, and grammar
- Essay writing
- AI Tools & education
- Finding real purposes for writing
- Recommended children's literature

These sessions will be recorded. A collection of episodes will be released as a podcast starting in January 2026. There will be two time offerings for the live Zoom sessions:

- ❖ 4:00 - 4:30 PM ET (Live recorded sessions. These will be rereleased, as recordings, starting in January 2026.)
- ❖ 7:00 - 7:30 PM ET (Live recorded sessions)

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## Advancing Literacy Beyond the Classroom: Workshops for Families and Caregivers

September 17th @ 4:00 PM ET	<p>Practical Advice for Families and Caregivers to Support Literacy Development Outside of School*</p> <p>Presenters: Amanda Hartman, Natalie Louis, &amp; Emily Smith</p> <p>*Will be released in 2026</p>
October 8th @ 4:00 PM ET	<p>What Does It Mean for a Book to be Decodable?: Recommendations for Reading with Your Beginning Readers*</p> <p>Presenters: Amanda Hartman, Christine Holley &amp; Emily Smith</p> <p>*Recording will be released in 2026</p>
October 22nd @ 7:00 PM ET	<p>Crafting Compelling College Essays: An Inside View of How to Effectively Support Writers</p> <p>Presenters: Coley Conter &amp; Emily Smith</p>
October 29th @ 7:00 PM ET	<p>Series Book Reading Promotes Lifelong Reading: Recommendations to Help Students Fall in Love with Chapter Books</p> <p>Presenters: Nancy Brennan &amp; Heather Burns</p>
November 5th @ 4:00 PM ET	<p>Fostering a Love for Fiction Reading in Kids of All Ages*</p> <p>Presenters: Emily Smith &amp; Kristin Smith</p> <p>*Recording will be released in 2026</p>
November 12th @ 7:00 PM ET	<p>What is the Science of Reading?: Practical Advice for Families and Caregivers to Support Children's Literacy Development</p> <p>Presenters: Beth Hickey &amp; Natalie Louis</p>
November 19th @ 7:00 PM ET	<p>Writing is an Essential Skill for Life and School: Recommendations to Support Student Engagement, Confidence, and Fluency</p> <p>Presenters: Heather Burns &amp; Natalie Louis</p>
December 3rd @ 7:00 PM ET	<p>Establish Easy Routines to Nurture Writing Development in Preschool and Early Elementary Grades</p> <p>Presenters: Amanda Hartman &amp; Natalie Louis</p>

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December 10th @ 7:00 PM ET	Reading Together to Raise Questions, Build Vocabulary, and Stay Connected  Presenters: Heather Burns & Natalie Louis
December 17th @ 7:00 PM ET	What are Phonemic Awareness and Phonics?: Practical and Fun Ways for Families and Caregivers to Support Readers and Writers  Presenters: Nancy Brennan & Beth Hickey
January 7th @ 4:00 PM ET	All the Places for Meaningful and Joyful Writing in the World: Journals, Letters, Essays, and More!*
	Presenters: Amanda Hartman & Emily Smith  *Recording will be released later in 2026
January 14th @ 7:00 PM ET	Understand New Technologies: Adapting and Changing with the World while also Thinking Critically about these Tools with Kids  Presenters: Nancy Brennan & Heather Burns
January 21st @ 7:00 PM ET	Books that Tell True Stories Inspire Powerful, Thoughtful Reading in Students of All Ages  Presenters: Nancy Brennan & Amanda Hartman
February 4th @ 4:00 PM ET	Practical and Positive Strategies to Support Grammar and Spelling Development*
	Presenters: Kim Brooks, Amanda Hartman, & Emily Smith  *Recording will be released later in 2026
February 25th @ 7:00 PM ET	Raising Independent Learners: Teach Kids to Advocate for Themselves, Raise Questions, and Solve Problems  Presenters: Nancy Brennan & Alexandra Roman
March 4th @ 4:00 PM ET	What is Reading Fluency?: Practical Advice for Families and Caregivers to Support Children's Literacy Development*
	Presenters: Kristi Guinness, Amanda Hartman, & Emily Smith  *Recording will be released later in 2026

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March 18th @ 7:00 PM ET	Read and Talk Purposefully about History with Your Kids  Presenters: Heather Burns & Alexandra Roman
April 8th @ 7:00 PM ET	What is Multimodal Reading?: Practical Advice for Families and Caregivers to Support Children's Literacy Development  Presenters: Nancy Brennan & Natalie Louis
April 15th @ 4:00 PM ET	Graphic Novels are Great for Readers: Build Volume, Knowledge and a Love for Reading and Writing*  Presenters: Amanda Hartman, Molly Picardi, & Emily Smith  *Recording will be released later in 2026
April 29th @ 7:00 PM ET	What is Literacy Work in STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts, and Mathematics)?: Practical Advice for Families and Caregivers to Support Literacy Development  Presenters: Nancy Brennan & Heather Burns
May 20th @ 7:00 PM ET	Give Kids Tools to Talk about and Grow Information about Current Events  Presenters: Amanda Hartman & Natalie Louis
May 27th @ 7:00 PM ET	Summertime is Almost Here!: Things Families & Caregivers Can Do to Continue Nurturing & Developing Literacy Outside of School  Presenters: Nancy Brennan & Natalie Louis

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