NYS LITERACY BRIEF 1 • STAFF QUICK REFERENCE

SCIENCE OF READING

What is it?

Five key ideas for literacy instruction

01 Research guides practice

50+ years of research across disciplines inform how we teach reading and writing.

02 Every learner. PreK–12.

Use evidence to shape daily instruction, prevention, and individualized support across ages and learner populations.

03 Structured literacy develops six connected skills

Sequence skills cumulatively • Explain and model clearly
Respond to learners in meaningful contexts

Oral language
Speaking and listening

Phonological awareness
Recognizing speech sounds; phonemic awareness works with individual sounds

Phonics
Connecting sounds and letters

Vocabulary
Knowing words and meanings

Fluency
Reading accurately, expressively, and at an appropriate pace

Comprehension
Constructing meaning from text

Writing strengthens and applies all six skills.

04 Culture and inclusion

Create welcoming, rigorous classrooms that affirm students' identities, languages, and experiences.

05 Literacy and social skills

Use rich texts, discussion, and collaboration to develop perspective-taking and problem-solving.

REFLECT ON PRACTICE

Which key idea could strengthen your next literacy lesson?

Summary of NYSED Brief 1 • Nonie K. Lesaux, PhD & Katie C. Carr, M.Ed.

Source: nysed.gov/sites/default/files/programs/standards-instruction/literacy-brief-1.pdf