Literacy for All Professional Development with Nancy Steele

Literacy has commonly been defined as the ability to read and write. However, that definition has placed literacy beyond the scope of possibility for some children who have complex sensory, physical or developmental challenges. More recent work in the field of literacy has acknowledged the broader contexts in which literacy takes place and recognized literacy as a right for all individuals. This shift in perspective validates the role literacy plays in enhancing the quality of life for every learner. Literacy expands communication and understanding related to self-help, expressing an interest or participating more fully in the community. Regardless of age or ability, acquiring literacy skills is a question of "how" rather than "if" or "when".

This workshop will provide an overview of the continuum of typical literacy development, as well as the close relationship that literacy shares with communication development. The purpose is to help teachers identify where their learners are functioning on this continuum, regardless of age. Teachers will be given strategies to understand and enhance literacy exposure in their learner's daily routines, as well as materials provided to make an experience book.

October 7 & 14 and November 16, 2021

Registration is required: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/167516409089

Space is limited to a total of 40 participants.

When you register, you are registering for all three sessions

The deadline to register is **September 16**.

A zoom link to access the session will be sent out a few days prior to the event.

A little about the speaker:

Nancy Steele is an Educational Consultant, with expertise in children with significant disabilities. She was a Project Specialist for the National Center on Deaf-Blindness for 14 years. She served as the Lead on the Literacy Initiative, which included development of the website "All Children Can Read". She also worked on the Open Hands, Open Access Intervener Modules. Prior to that, she taught deaf and deaf-blind children in Kentucky for 17 years. She lives in Tennessee with her husband, Stuart. Together they have 7 children and 10 grandchildren.

