

# WHAT'S HOT IN LITERACY

Exemplar Models of  
Effective Practice

**Edited by**

Evan Ortlieb, Stephanie Grote-Garcia,  
Jack Cassidy and Earl H. Cheek, Jr.

LITERACY RESEARCH,  
PRACTICE AND EVALUATION

**VOLUME 11**

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# LITERACY RESEARCH, PRACTICE AND EVALUATION

Series Editors: Evan Ortlieb and Earl H. Cheek, Jr

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LITERACY RESEARCH, PRACTICE  
AND EVALUATION VOLUME 11

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# FOREWORD

*Evan Ortlieb*

Understanding how to address current trends and issues in literacy education is more important than ever, as local, state, and inter/national legislation and agendas are increasingly recognizing literacy as a foundation for success in all disciplines in education. Learning the languages of mathematics, science, and history is quintessential to content knowledge acquisition and dissemination. As a result, this text not only addresses hot topics in literacy but also features current practices across the globe that foster literacy success in K-12 classrooms.

With its first chapter on digital literacies for disciplinary learning, this volume begins with Manderino and Castek calling for pedagogies that youth deserve. Dobbs et al. showcase promising practices, with extended foci into the home, school, and neighborhood through Johnson and Pratt-Johnson's chapter on early literacy initiatives. Specific suggestions for English Language Learners are explicated in Mokhtari et al.'s chapter that precedes Wolsey's influential work discussing the nuances between assessment, instruction, and learning in K-12 settings.

How adolescent literacy is different today is discussed in Ortlieb and Cheek's chapter before an explicit focus on building purposes and engagement in writing assignments is discussed by Verlaan and Verlaan. Perkins et al. stress the importance of social, emotional, and cultural learning in literacy. Robertson et al. discuss the need to re-conceptualize literacy instruction to accelerate student progress, and Lindsey et al. remind us that core literacies like phonics and phonemic awareness must remain cornerstones of effective literacy instruction.

Educators are always in search of professional development that supports their increasingly diverse learners' language and literacy acquisition in print and digital spaces, as antiquated instructional practices still prevail in classrooms worldwide. Engaging learners in purposeful instruction in skills and strategies is a cornerstone in every classroom. This text provides exemplar models of effective practice involving hot topics in literacy, prompting teachers, specialist, coaches, and administrators alike to be empowered to reconsider and improve their curricular planning and instruction.