



Rx for Discovery Reading – Fundamentals Workshop 2026

I. WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION

The Rx for Discovery Reading - Fundamentals training is a didactic and practicum workshop. The professional learning provides pre-school through third-grade educators with foundational understandings from brain research on how reading develops from a biological and cognitive developmental perspective and the instructional implications. Specific topics include the neurobiological basis for literacy development, literacy foundations for multilingual learners, and developing higher level language skills to build reading comprehension. Educators will explore how reading impacts thinking and learning and examine the link between reading, spelling, and writing. Mediated learning is the overarching instructional approach used to facilitate the norms, learning tasks, and discourse in the educational context. The training focuses on broadening educators' conceptions of structured literacy instructional practices that support reading success for all learners. Key literacy instruction covered includes phonology, syllable instruction, fluency, morphology, reading comprehension, and cognition. Successful completion of this workshop will enable educators to use evidence-informed strategies to teach students basic reading skills.

A. Evidenced-based: Based on meta-analyses research from the Institute of Education Sciences (*Foundational Skills to Support Reading for Understanding in Kindergarten through 3rd Grade* (2016); *Improving Reading Comprehension in Kindergarten Through 3rd Grade* (2010); *Effective Literacy and English Language Instruction for English Learners in the Elementary Grades* (2007); What Works Clearing House (Practice Guides)

B. Philosophy: Multi-modal, structured literacy approach (Carreker & Birsh, 2018) based on Scarborough's Reading Rope (2001) and the Simple View of Reading (Gough & Tunmer, 1986) within a mediated learning instructional framework (Feuerstein, 1996)

C. Instruction: Didactic and practicum learning experiences with hands-on, role-playing activities and lesson plan development.

D. Assessment: Participants will practice implementing a reading lesson plan with a small group and receive feedback on their demonstrations. Proficiency with designing and implementing multi-modal lesson plans that include the 6+1 writing traits will be assessed as well as the use of mediated learning instructional framework.

II. WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES:

A. **General:** Successful completion of this workshop will enable educators to use evidenced-based strategies to teach Pre-K - 3rd grade students basic literacy skills.

B. **Specific:** Upon completion of this workshop, participants will be able to:

1. Understand the neurological basis of reading development and what educators should know about teaching reading
2. Articulate how reading is related to spelling, written composition, and thinking
3. Understand the *Reading Rope* and *Simple View of Reading* and how they provide a framework for the elements of a structured literacy approach to teaching reading
4. Understand higher level language skills traits and how to use language skills to develop students' reading comprehension
5. Use a multi-model, structured literacy approach to design and implement reading lesson plans
6. Implement Mediated Learning as the instructional methodology in decoding and reading comprehension instruction
7. Conduct informal assessments of students' literacy skills

III. WORKSHOP RESOURCES:

A. Rx for Discovery Reading – Fundamentals *training manual* (provided by NILD SA)

B. Research and Journal Articles (provided below and in the training manual)

Cancellation policy: Should you cancel after the course closing date you will lose 25% of the fee and if cancelling within 1 week of the start of the course you will lose 50% of the course fee.

Please note: You need to attend the entire training to fulfil the pass requirements.

V. WORKSHOP REQUIREMENTS:

A. Asynchronous Learning Activities

1. Read six research/journal articles
2. Review online resources and watch two videos
3. Three Knowledge Assessments (to be done prior to your live training)

B. Synchronous Learning Activities

1. Engage in lectures and practicum activities
2. Observe instructor implementing a lesson plan
3. Create a reading lesson plan
4. Implement a lesson plan while role-playing with other participants

C. Workshop Workload

1. Asynchronous learning – time required is approximately 6 hours
2. Synchronous learning – time required is two days

NILD Position Statement: The National Institute for Learning Development (NILD SA) was founded upon the biblical worldview that affirms everyone was created in the image of God and therefore has innate potential to learn and become effective in service to the world. As a professional educational training centre, we strive to maintain integrity at every level of service delivery. NILD SA has a policy of non-discrimination in relation to race, colour, gender, national or ethnic origin and religious belief.

NILD's Philosophy: Believing that all students can learn and that the brain is open to modification at all stages of development, we provide direct and focused educational treatment for cognitive systems that are weak and vulnerable.

I trust that the information contained above will enable you to make an informed decision and that I will hear from you soon.



Rx for Discovery Reading – Fundamentals

Workshop Application 2026

Personal details:

Full Name	
ID Number	
Cell Number	
Email Address	
Closest Postnet	
Province	
Code	

Educational Background:

<i>College / University</i>	<i>Major</i>	<i>Degree/Diploma held</i>

Training: Please indicate which courses you have successfully completed.

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Rx for Writing	Rx for Reading F	Rx for Maths	Search & Teach	Executive Functions	Linking Spelling & Reading

Cost:

- ☐ R2 900 (paid on application)
- ☐ Please email this completed Application form (pg.5 only) to admin@nildsa.co.za
- ☐ Email a copy of degree obtained
- ☐ Order the course and pay online at www.nildsa.co.za under the Online shop tab.