

READING ASSESSMENT – IDENTIFYING READING SKILLS TO GUIDE LEARNING

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Abstract

How do we know what reading skills to teach to adult learners? Not all learners have the same knowledge or skill sets when they return to learning. Finding out what reading skills a learner has and what skills they need to work on helps literacy instructors create learning experiences that meet the unique needs of each learner. In this session, participants will be introduced to Read Forward - an easy to use assessment tool that measures and helps identify reading skills that can be used in everyday reading activities. Read Forward provides concrete information about what skills to teach and at the same time involves learners in decision making about their own learning. *Readforward* was developed by Bow Valley College.

WRITING ASSESSMENT – IT'S ALL ABOUT THE CONVERSATION

Abstract

Adult learners are the drivers on their own learning journeys. They know where they want to be and what they want to learn. How do literacy practitioners engage learners in assessing their own learning and setting learning goals that get them where they want to be? For users of *Writeforward* it is all about the conversation. In this session, participants will be introduced to *Writeforward* - an informal writing assessment tool designed for adult literacy learners. Based on common everyday writing tasks, this tool helps to identify learners' skill gaps while also providing sensitive and constructive guidance on how to improve. Conversation between the learner and literacy practitioner is key for developing a shared understanding and language for talking about learners' goals, progress, and writing skills. *Writeforward* was developed by Bow Valley College.

Biography



Corrie is part of the Regional Support team with the Community Learning Network where she provides support, training and resources for staff in community-based adult literacy and learning programs. She has worked on adult literacy projects at Bow Valley College that focus on developing learner-centred resources for literacy practitioners. Her work and passion for adult literacy began during her time as a literacy coordinator in Spruce Grove. Before her time in adult literacy, Corrie's background in linguistics enabled her to be part of Indigenous language revival programs developing language curriculum and training instructors, with the focus of her work on the Stoney language from the Alexis Nakota Sioux Nation.