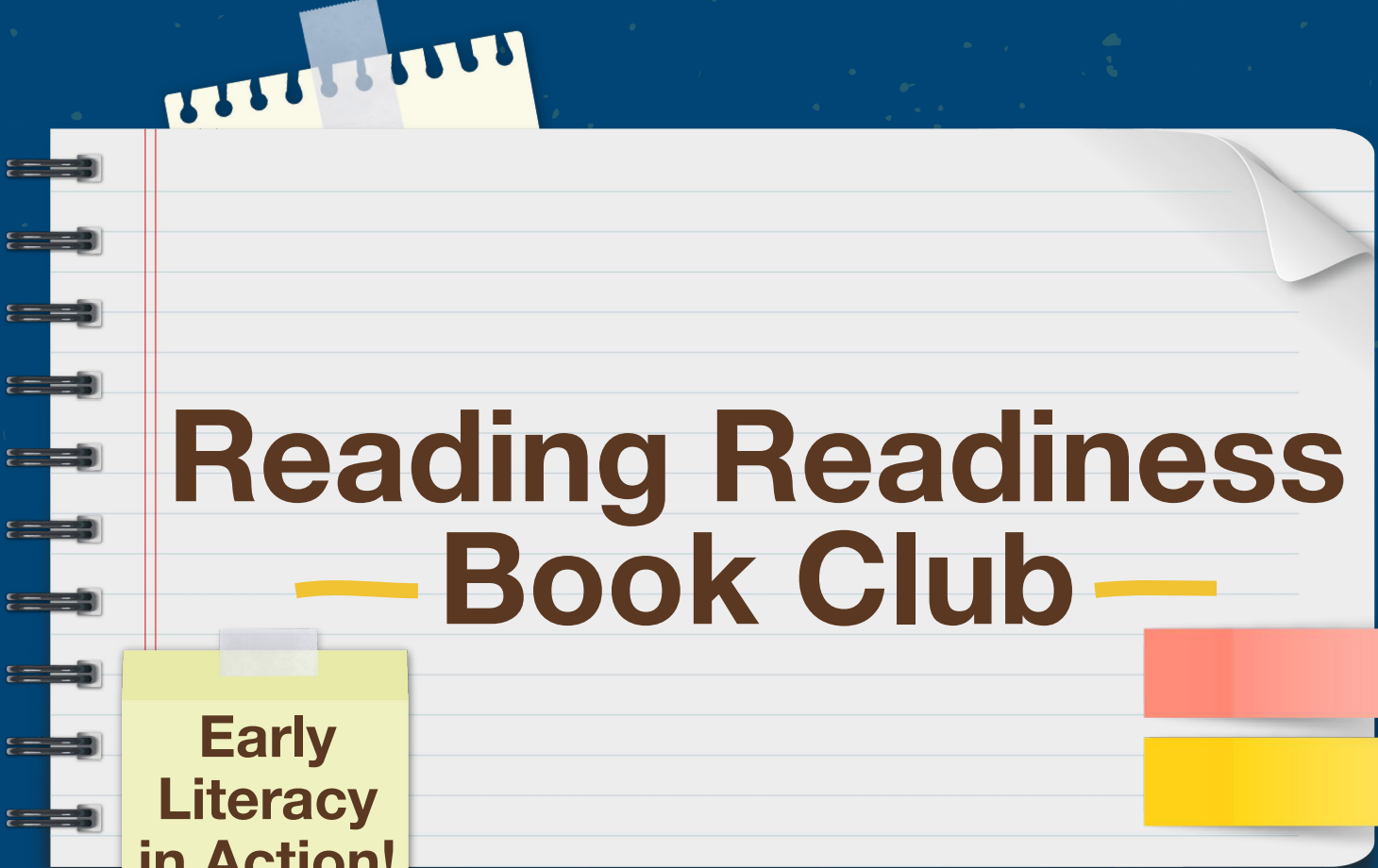




Reading Readiness — Book Club —

**Early
Literacy
in Action!**

Who Am I?

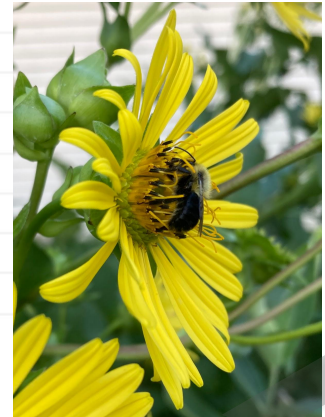


Me, this summer, after a vague social media request for stuffed animals resulted in a bajillion people wanting to give me their beloved stuffies when I only needed beanie babies...

- Bachelor's Degree in Early Childhood Development and Learning with a focus on birth-8 years
- Master's in Higher Education: Student Affairs
- Master's in Library and Information Sciences with an Archival Administration certificate



Professional hair flipper, experienced bunny handler, avid book reader, amateur bumblebee photographer



I Have Help!



Vera — sweet angel on earth, our teen librarian volunteer!

Truly Lofty Goals for this Session

Why did I start this program specifically?

Breaking down the Reading Readiness Book Club

Elements that matter the most (to me)

Questions from you and you creating your own outline!

Sharing the research and literature I consume about early literacy, if we have time



**Why did you start
this program?**

YDL Storytimes

Baby Storytime

**Little Ones
Storytime**

Read, Sing, Play

Discovery Time

**Jumpstart
Kindergarten**



Objectives and Scope

- Under 5
- Pre-Literacy
- Caregiver connections
- School skills practice
- Time for play

YDL Book Clubs

Read to the Dog

Kids Book Club

**Graphic Novel
Book Club**

Tween Book Club

Teen Book Club

Banned Book Club

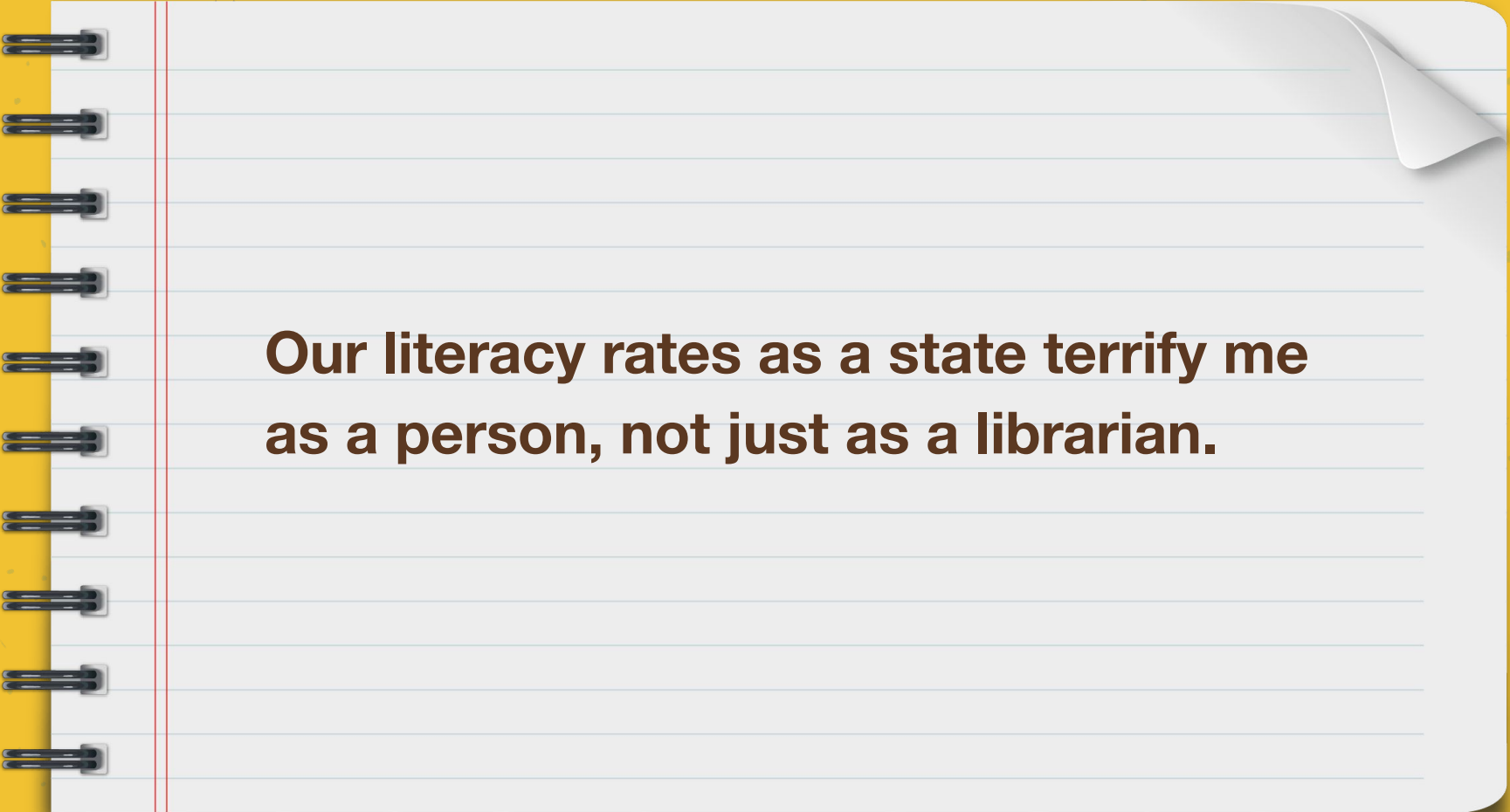


Objectives and Scope

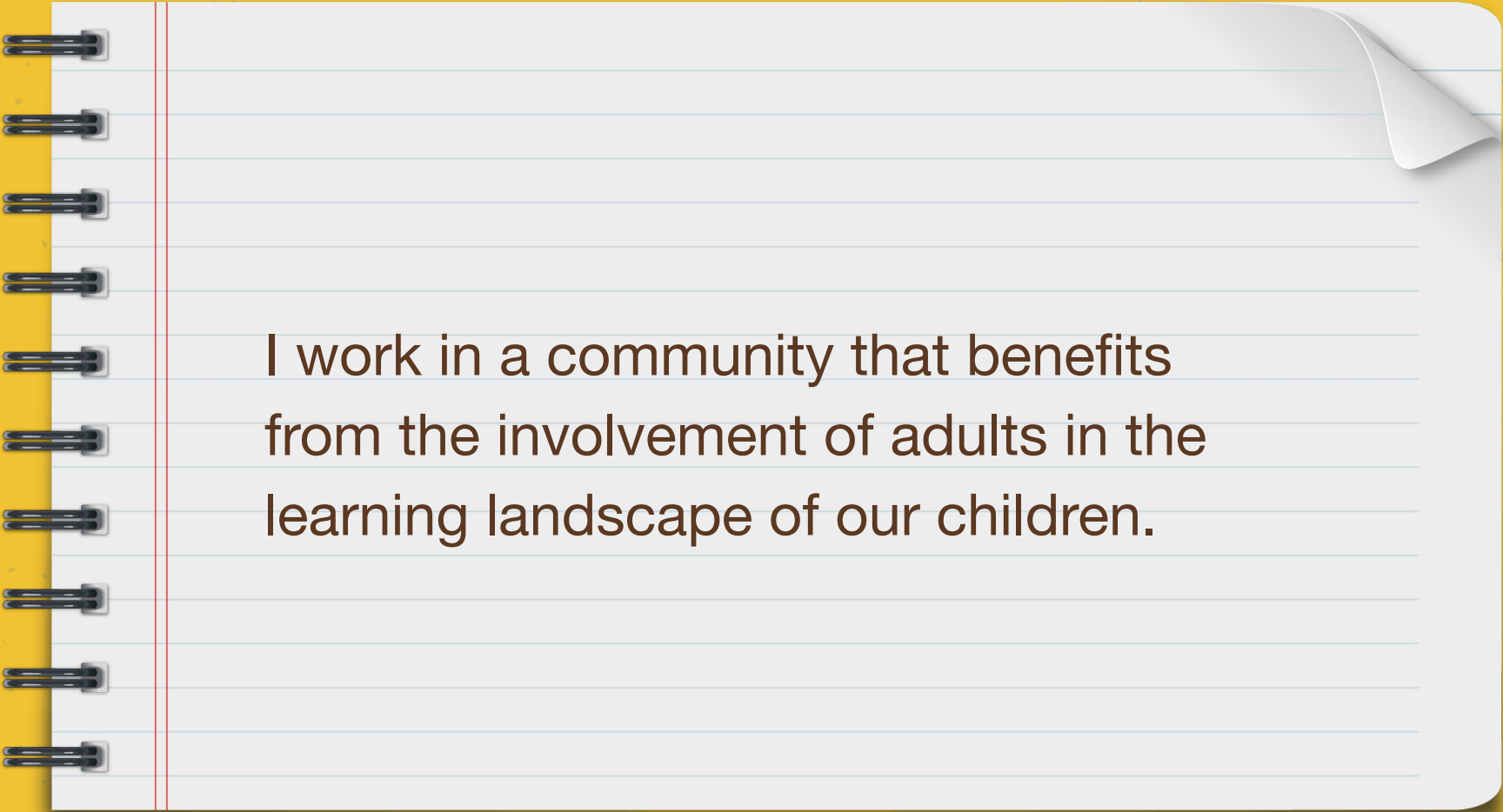
- 7-18 yrs old-ish
- Read to Dog offers 10 minute time slots for fluency practice
- Focused on reading to learn, explore, dive deeper

- 4-6 yrs old**
- Not *reading***
- Learning decoding skills**
- In school**
- “Too old” for storytimes**

Does anyone else have this gap?

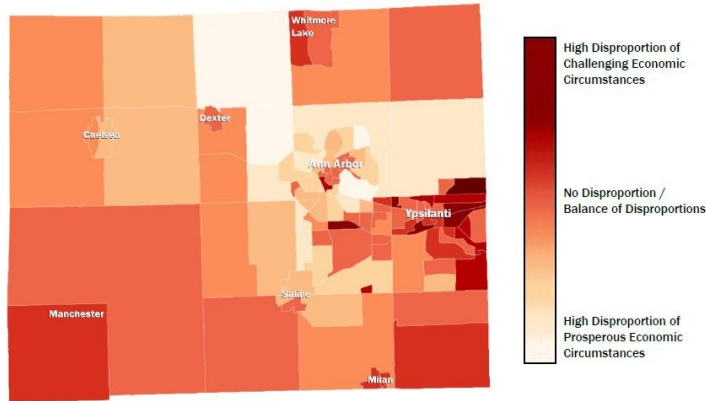


**Our literacy rates as a state terrify me
as a person, not just as a librarian.**



I work in a community that benefits
from the involvement of adults in the
learning landscape of our children.

Washtenaw County is economically polarized.



Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation

Our local school districts, Ypsilanti Community Schools and Lincoln Consolidated School District, are the most economically disadvantaged.

MISchoolData.org

Economically Disadvantaged Students by School District



MISchoolData

51.2%

Of Lincoln Consolidated students are
labeled as economically disadvantaged.

64.2%

Of Ypsilanti students are labeled
as economically disadvantaged.

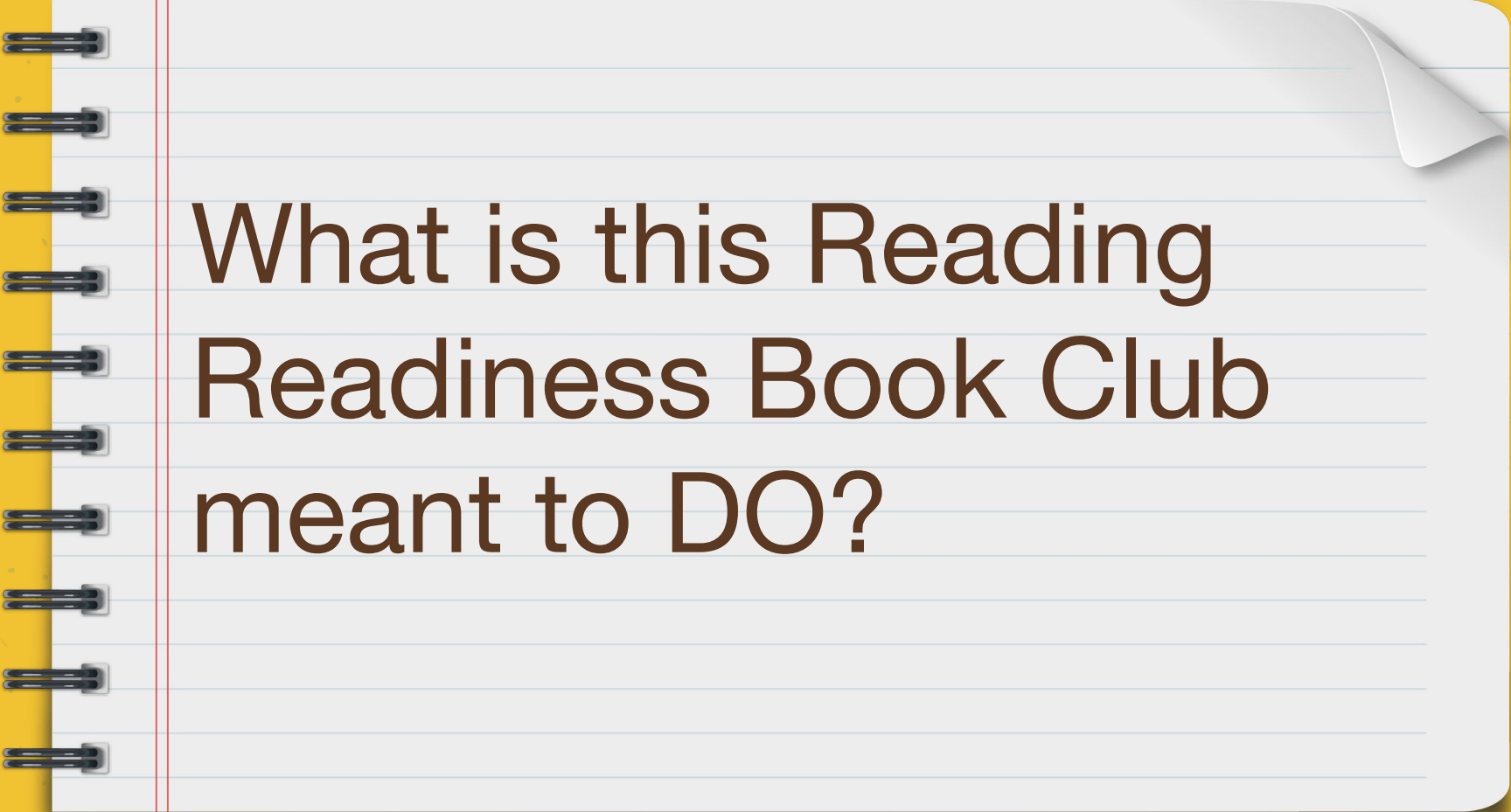
MISchoolData.org

25.6%

Of Lincoln Consolidated students tested
at the benchmark for ELA for their grade.

19.2%

Of Ypsilanti students tested at the benchmark
for ELA for their grade.



What is this Reading
Readiness Book Club
meant to DO?

Create Connections

To The Library

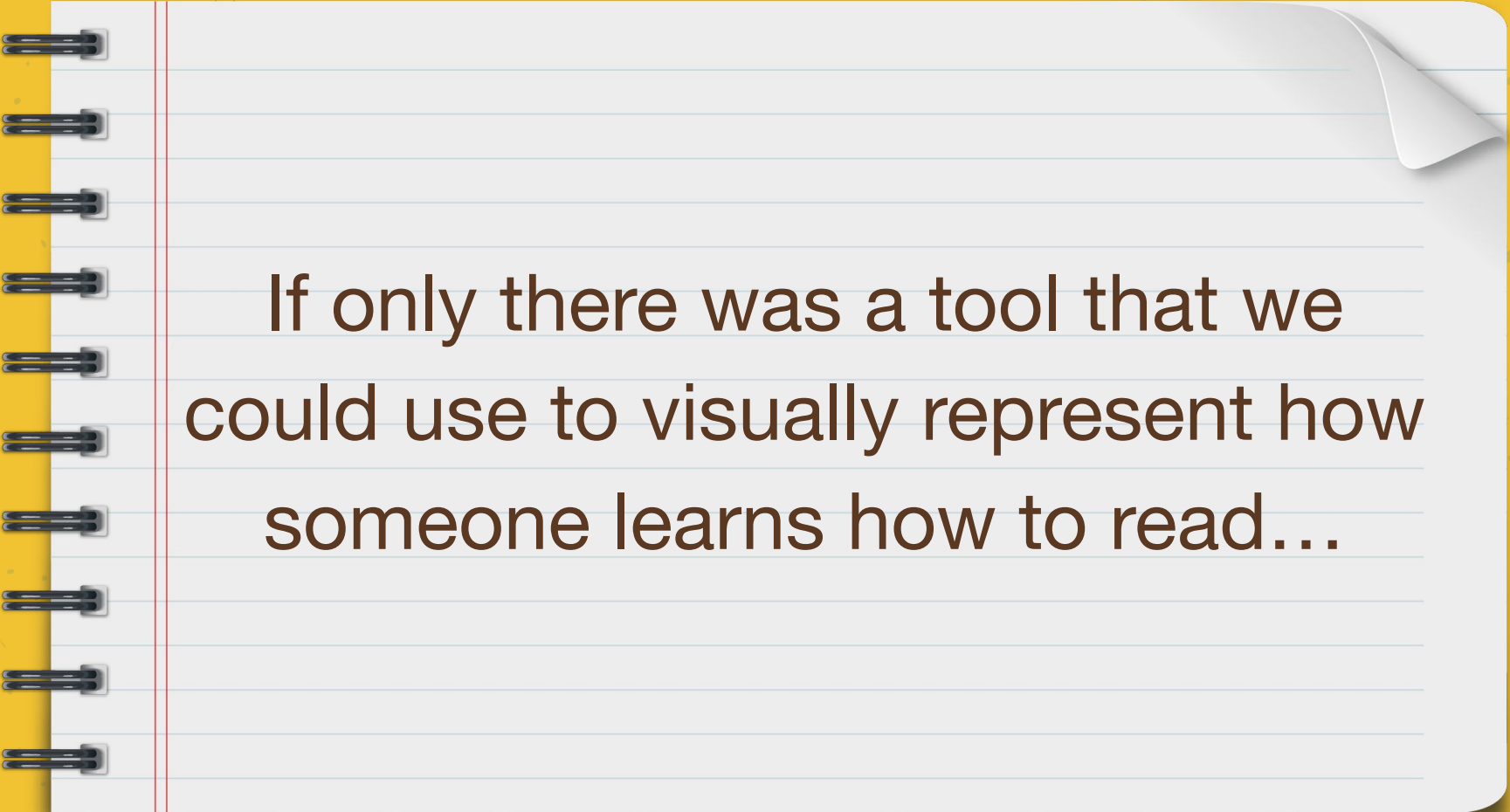
Keeping families engaged in literacy work through a child's life

To Each Other

Creating space for families to work together and build a team with others in the same place

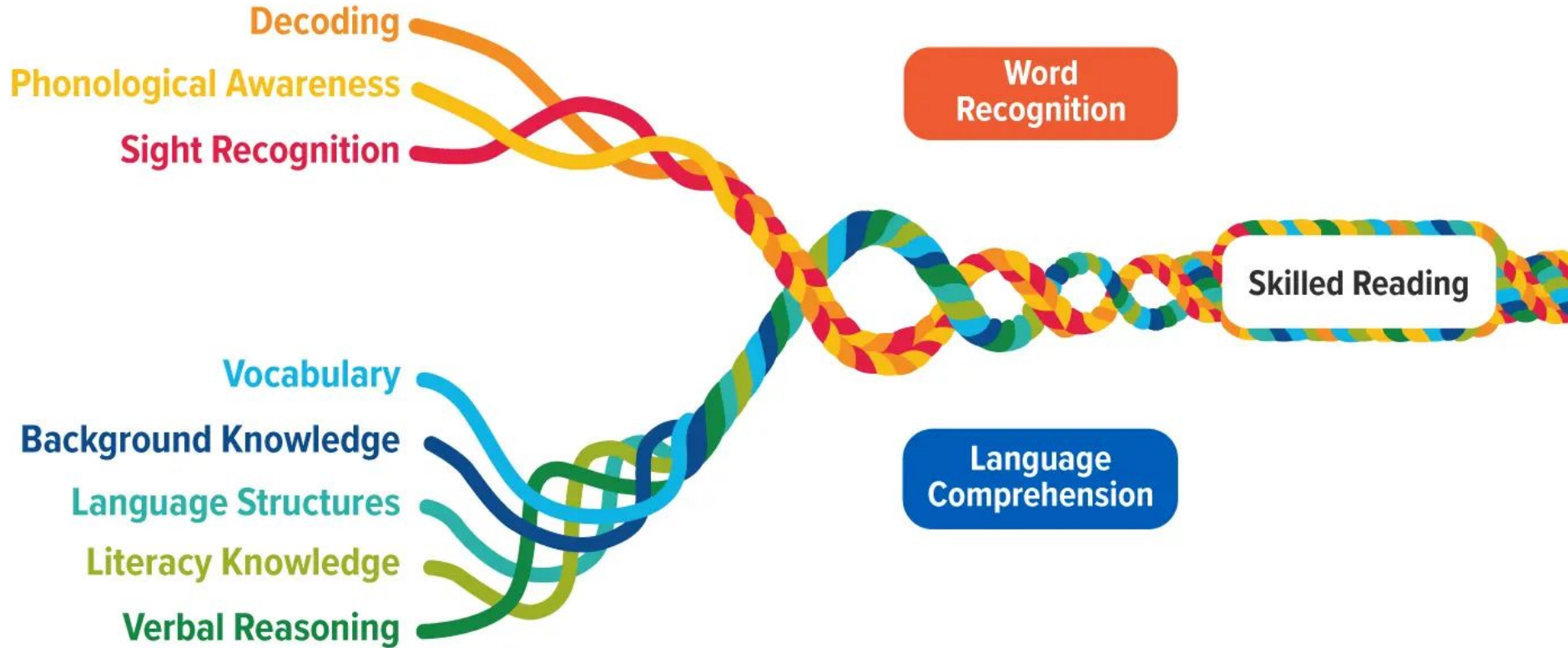
To The Learning Processes

Help adults/caregivers understand the learning to read process their children are undertaking and show them supports that they can replicate anywhere



If only there was a tool that we
could use to visually represent how
someone learns how to read...

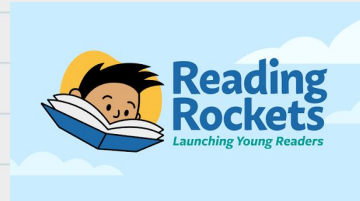
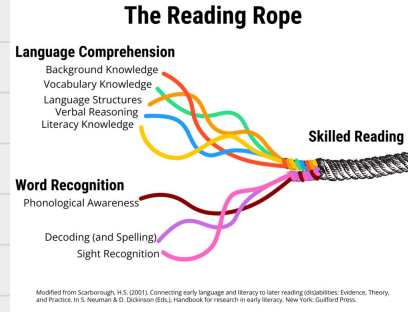
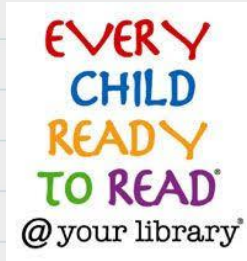
The Reading Rope



Modified from Scarborough, H. S. (2001). Connecting early language and literacy to later reading (dis)abilities: Evidence, theory, and practice. In S. Neuman & D. Dickinson (Eds.), Handbook for research in early literacy. New York, NY: Guilford Press

How do I layout a
book club?





ECRR 1:

Print Awareness, Print Motivation, Phonological Awareness, Vocabulary, Narrative Skills, Letter Knowledge

ECRR 2:

Read, Sing, Talk, Play, Write

Reading Rope Domains:

Language Comprehension—

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Background Knowledge | 4. Vocabulary Knowledge |
| 2. Language Structures | 5. Verbal Reasoning |
| 3. Literacy Knowledge | |

Word Recognition—

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Phonological Awareness | 3. Decoding and Spelling |
| 2. Sight Recognition | |

First Session Ever

June 2024:

Picture Book: ***Z is for Moose***

Early Literacy Activity 1: Book Walk (*Leo, Rise and Shine!*)

Book Walk guide is in the handouts!

Early Literacy Activity 2: Three Little Pigs Storybook Set



I found this while thrifting—it's from <https://storytimetoys.com/>

Read Aloud: *We Are In A Book!*

Early Literacy Activity 3 (with Vera): Tangrams Matching



Shape recognition is a pre-reading skill- letters are shapes!

Craft/Make and Take: **Alphabet Go Fish Cards**

My Favorite One

April: Poetry Month (Vocabulary, Rhyming, Pattern Recognition)

Welcome: *Down By the Bay*

My kiddos love rhymes and songs!

Read Aloud: Poetree

Early Literacy Activity with Vera: Creating a Poet Tree

Early Writing Activity: Writing a Poem Together

- The 5 Senses Walk: Take a walk and describe what you see, hear, smell, and feel.
- Color Poems: Pick a color and list objects that are that color (e.g., "Yellow is a lemon, yellow is the sun").
- Animal Sounds: Choose a favorite animal and write a poem about the noises it makes.
- Weather Wonders: Describe how rain sounds or how snow feels.

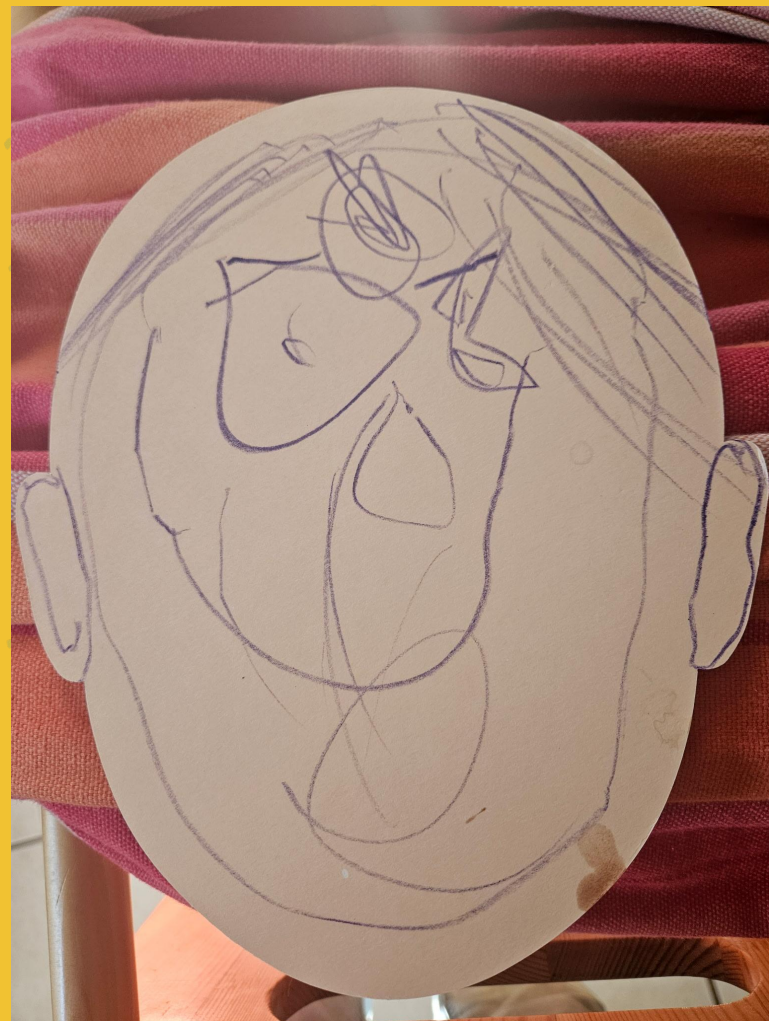
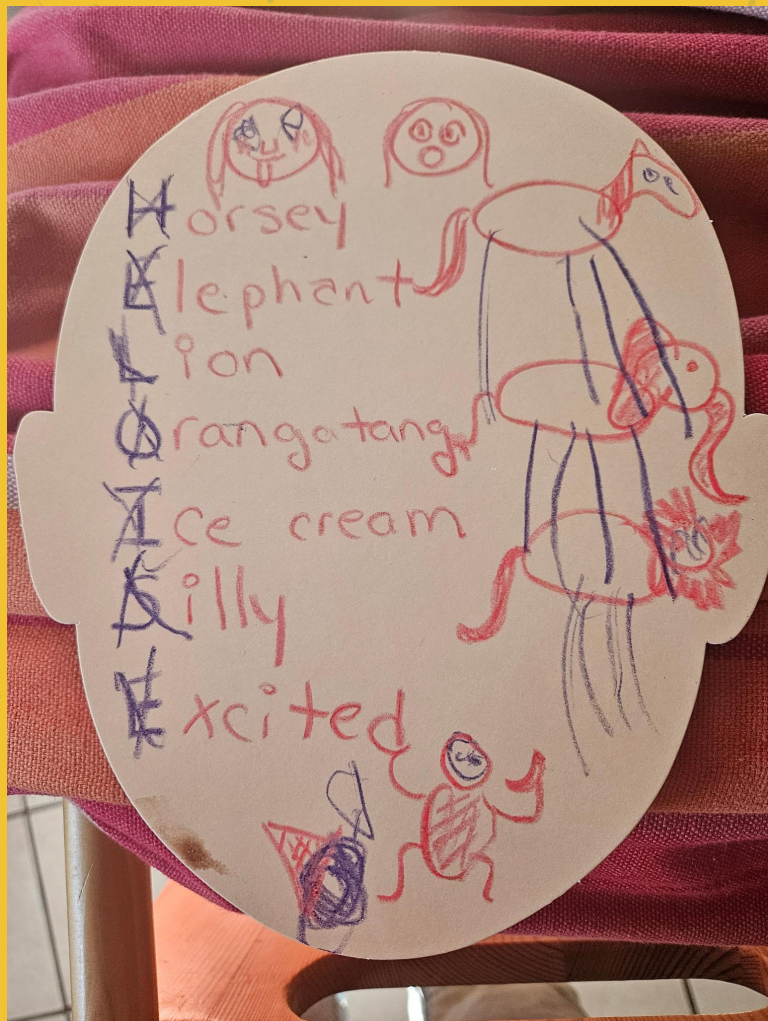
Having them practice with metaphor and more semantic language skills.

Read Aloud: The Dirt Book

Early Literacy Activity Large Group: Acrostic Poems

Craft/Make and Take: Face Name Poems: taking a face shape home, writing out their name, and then working with an adult to think of words that describe themselves that start with each letter of their name.

Again—reinforcing poetic language concepts and letter sound connections!



My Most Recent One

September (STEM Focused: Vocabulary, Documentation)
Natural Science

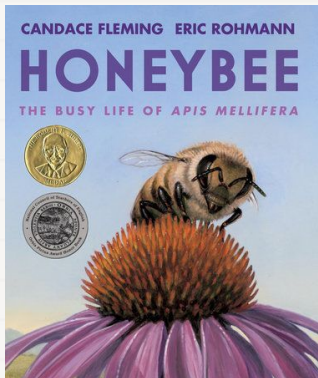
Welcome: What have you learned today?

Read Aloud: Red Leaf, Yellow Leaf

Large Group Question: Sequencing Life Cycles—Beans and Apple Trees

Read Aloud: Honeybee

What I believe to be one of the best nonfiction read alouds for young children. *chef's kiss*



Vocab Talk: What in Nature Do You Want to Learn About?!
White board list

Early Writing Activity: Nature Journals name on cover!

Group Work: What do you see? Drawing and describing caterpillars

Drawing the caterpillars and then finding "science" words to describe them!



Early Literacy Activity with Vera: Nature Journals outside, washi tape, blanket, colored pencils

Craft/Make and Take: Bug Catchers

What I Aim For Each Book Club

- Reading 2-3 books (or retellings of stories, flannel/felt, etc.)
- Large Group Work (group activity, vocab talk, large group question, etc.)
- Small Group Work (pair and share, some early writing or early literacy activities, games, etc.)
- Craft/Make and Take

I schedule book club for 1 hour but active content takes 35-45 minutes. I aim to have **1-2 early literacy activities** and **1 early writing activity** each book club! Those activities act as anchors while planning out the rest of the time. Most of the time I **overplan** so I can pivot if the group that month needs me too.



Your Turn

Stephanie's Tenets

1. Reading Aloud

Different types of text. Nonfiction, early readers, poetry, retelling a folktale, everything!

2. Group Work

Pairing up with their adult, working in small groups, doing large group discussions

3. Craft/Make and Take

Keep them simple but intentional, I've used all types of things.

4. Early Literacy Activities

Challenging enough to celebrate trying them. Not meant to frustrate kids or "teach" them something.

Let's Practice!

Month: Theme

Welcome: songs, writing name tags, rhyming greetings, puppets, etc.

Read Aloud: whatever you are reading that day!

Large Group Question: something that you pose to group to start a conversation

Early Literacy Activity: you can have this be an activity for just the kids or for the parents and kids to do together

Vocab Talk: I don't always include this but I like to when we are talking about a topic I think my kiddos might be more unfamiliar with or are very curious about

Early Writing Activity: anything that practices the fine motor skills of writing!

Group Work/Activity: something that the whole room does as a large group

Pair and Share: something that the room does in small groups

Craft/Make and Take: anything! Big or small, involved or not!

Sure Is Nice To Have



Free Books

We applied to a grant through the Rotary to give out books!



Snacks

We buy some with programming funds.

I buy some (don't be like me)
my colleagues buy some (don't be like them)

Stephanie's Rules

Active Involvement of the kids in all areas of the book club

Learn their names and use them! Use their interests as themes. Involve them in planning. Give them jobs at the book club if you have a lot of them. Ask them for help!

Adult Participation

There are specific times where adults are involved with the kids and specific times where they are not. There are specific times where the kids are doing one thing and the adults are talking to me.

Keep trying and do it even when it's not "perfect"

It will never be perfect. Just be intentional. It is about involving everyone in the process.

One night we had a bad snowstorm but one kid still came- I pivoted and did a Lego set with him and his mom. It's a perfect early literacy activity- instructions with pictographs lead you through a timeline of how to create the car, fine motor skills of putting all the pieces together, working through frustration if something is wrong or the Legos are hard to get together, etc.

You will not always be able to do the book club you planned but you will always be able to create intentional time with caregivers and children in your library.



MLA Reading Readiness resource
guide submission form!

Resources that I think might be helpful!

- Papers and research on school readiness skills, and factors that contribute to later learning and reading proficiency
- Website on how children learn to read and the steps a typical child takes to learn
- Information on the Science of Reading
- Link to a Google Drive stuffed with things

I've included every resource I've made digitally for Reading Readiness Book Club in the Google Drive!

Links to websites, webinars and trainings, and articles are compiled at the end of the slides.

“...early math concepts as knowledge of numbers and ordinality were the most powerful predictors of later learning” and are “...every bit as large as early reading skills in predicting later reading achievement.”

Math concepts as predictors of later learning

“Less powerful, but also consistent, predictors across studies were early language and reading skills such as vocabulary; knowing letters, words, and beginning and ending word sounds”

The importance of vocabulary and letter learning

School Readiness and Later Achievement

Greg J. Duncan, Chantelle J. Dowsett, Amy Claessens, Katherine Magnuson, Aletha C. Huston, Pamela Klebanov, Linda S. Pagani, Leon Feinstein, Mimi Engel, Jeanne Brooks-Gunn, Holly Sexton, Kathryn Duckworth, and Crista Japel

“Quality adult-child interactions shape children’s thinking skills. The conversations we have, the questions we ask, and the experiences we provide matter. Simple shifts in our approach and language boost children’s learning and cognitive development.”

Importance of the interactions between children and adults

“Demonstrating strong math skills at an early age is a strong indicator of developing conceptual thinking skills and predicts long term success in school, not just in later math learning but also in later reading proficiency.”

Link between strong math skills and reading proficiency

Reimagining School Readiness, A position paper with key findings

Elizabeth Rood, Ed.D. – Author, Helen Hadani, PhD – Co-author and Lead Researcher, Babe Liberman – Contributor, Amber Whiteside – Editor

How a typical reader develops skills

“For typical readers, word recognition tends to be especially important in the early stages of learning to read, when children learn the alphabet and begin to develop phonemic awareness, phonics and sight words.”

“Once children become proficient at word recognition, their further growth as readers tends to revolve more around language comprehension than word reading. For typical readers, this shift usually occurs around fourth grade, when typical readers have developed accurate and relatively automatic word recognition. At this point, children can focus more of their attention on reading for meaning.”

Reading Rockets. *Typical Reading Development*

<https://www.readingrockets.org/reading-101/how-children-learn-read/typical-reading-development>

Super Trendy “Science of Reading”

The Definition

The science of reading is a vast, interdisciplinary body of scientifically-based research about reading and issues related to reading and writing.

This research has been conducted over the last five decades across the world, and it is derived from thousands of studies conducted in multiple languages. The science of reading has culminated in a preponderance of evidence to inform how proficient reading and writing develop; why some have difficulty; and how we can most effectively assess and teach and, therefore, improve student outcomes through prevention of and intervention for reading difficulties.

Science of Reading: Defining Guide, pg. 6, The Reading League

The Library of Michigan recorded a two-part webinar presented by Rachel Griffin from The Reading League! Foundations of the Science of Reading **Part 1** and **Part 2**.

Watch them! No excuses! I've given you the direct links!

Google Drive for Reading Readiness!

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Youth and Teen Librarian
smorrison@ypsilibrary.org
(734)-482-4110 x1363

References and Resources

Library of Michigan Resources:

- Foundations of the Science of Reading **Part 1** and **Part 2**.
- Library of Michigan Recorded Webinars: Youth Services at the bottom of the page
- Read by Grade 3 brochure
- Upcoming Webinars and Workshops

The Reading League website

Reading Rockets website

Bay Area Discovery Museum Educator Resources