

# ProQuest Professional Development

Literacy Skills for Today's Classroom



PROQUEST®

Open even more eyes

Find even more answers

Explore even more subjects

The ProQuest Literacy Professional Development program provides educators with strategies for increasing the reading, information, digital, and media literacy skills students need to be successful in the classroom and in life.

**Tools for the 21<sup>st</sup> century learner** Our professional development program covers four key aspects of today's literacy requirements:

- reading literacy
- information literacy
- digital literacy
- media literacy

The program brings into focus the changing dynamics of literacy within today's technology-infused classrooms. This is especially important since technology has expanded the options for teaching and learning literacy skills, and broadened the definition of what it means to be literate in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

The program provides educators with research-based strategies and tools for increasing student literacy skills in all four areas, primarily by enabling students to improve their communication competencies in the core areas of reading and writing. Through a combination of hands-on, in-person workshops and ongoing use of technology- and content-rich resources for the classroom, schools can maximize teacher efficiency and effectiveness, and improve student achievement in the area of literacy.

This solution helps educators infuse communication, literacy, and critical thinking skills into instructional activities, regardless of classroom subject and required student output. It also makes

successful implementation and ongoing use of online supplementary instructional materials safe and easy. Educators will explore and better understand how to effectively use online content and electronic tools to create meaningful learning experiences—all using replicable techniques already in use in the classroom.

Educators receive rubrics, assessments, activities, and content designed to spur students' literacy skills, critical thinking, and reading and writing abilities, while increasing their own technology usage. Plus, our flexible model ensures that all instructional staff in a school or system can benefit from the lessons learned.

## The ProQuest Literacy Professional Development program enables educators to:

- **Explore** the correlation of literacy activities to increased student achievement and teacher effectiveness
- **Use** the unique content, teacher tools, and curriculum resources of SIRS
- **Integrate** information technology flexibly and broadly into the teaching and learning process
- **Create** a variety of customized critical thinking activities correlated to learner needs with Lexile and standards-based lessons
- **Train** other teachers to create and share standards-based critical thinking literacy activities

## Online resources recommended as part of the program:

- **SIRS Researcher®** features thousands of relevant, credible full-text articles and analysis on today's hottest and most controversial social, scientific, health, historic, economic, political, and global issues. Using Researcher, students can build essential critical thinking skills and form their own opinions by seeing all the angles on an issue.
- **SIRS® WebSelect** delivers safe, reliable, and credible websites for students in middle school and beyond. Students can explore vital issues and topics in 17 major subject areas, including business, culture, health, literature, and science.
- **SIRS Discoverer®** provides safe online access to thousands of carefully selected images, maps, and articles that supplement classroom activities and homework in 15 major curricula subject areas, and that help develop students' research, writing, language, and computer skills.

- **SIRS® Discoverer WebFind** delivers safe, reliable, and credible websites for students in grades 1 through 9. Designed to complement SIRS Discoverer, it covers 15 major curricula subject areas of interest to younger learners.

SIRS also provides schools with the ability to easily locate content aligned to state and national learning standards in English Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies, and Science. Plus, Lexile and reading levels match reader ability and text difficulty, allowing individualized student instruction.

**To learn more** about our professional development services, call 800-521-0600.

Visit our website at [www.proquestk12.com](http://www.proquestk12.com) to learn more about our resources and services. Stay up-to-date by signing up for our monthly ProQuest product bulletins at [www.proquestk12.com/news](http://www.proquestk12.com/news).

## About K-12 resources

Since 1938, ProQuest Information and Learning has served as a global leader in collecting, organizing, and distributing value-added information to researchers, educators, and students in libraries, government, universities, and schools in more than 160 countries.

Our eLibrary®, ProQuest®, and SIRS® educational resources unite high-quality content, standards-based curriculum, and online technologies—helping schools deliver on the promise of technology to develop educators' skills and improve student achievement across the curricula.

## Program Description

Four different aspects of today's literacy requirements are covered in each learning module—reading literacy, information literacy, digital literacy, and media literacy. Each module contains background context and materials, discussion and round-table sharing, and hands-on learning using practice activities.

**Reading Literacy** The ability to read both printed and electronic text is the foundation for success in today's classroom. Tools for differentiating instruction based on various student reading levels, and the ability to apply a variety of reading skills in student instruction and activities, is covered in this module.

**Information Literacy** Most students have easy access to electronic information on a wide variety of topics. The challenge for them is finding credible, relevant information in an efficient manner. This module explores information literacy skills that enable students to locate, discern, and retrieve relevant information resources and effectively manage the information they retrieve.

**Digital Literacy** An important component to students' critical thinking skills is the ability to effectively communicate their ideas to others. The various hardware and software tools now available enable students to do this in creative and innovative ways. The process of choosing the appropriate communication tool and effectively sharing knowledge with others is covered in this module.

**Media Literacy** Television, advertising, entertainment, and other forms of media provide information in a variety of ways. Successful students will have expertise accessing, analyzing, evaluating, and communicating with various media formats. This module explores the application of these analytical skills and tools for increasing student media literacy.