

Knowledge shared = Knowledge²



Chit Chat Discussion Sheet

Linda Farrell – Structured Literacy

Welcome to the Chit Chat between Carla McNeil of Learning MATTERS and Linda Farrell. During this Chit Chat, Carla and Linda discuss what Structured Literacy is, the principles and the implications of these.

We encourage you to listen to the Chit Chat (30 minutes) with your colleagues, team and/or staff, and consider the following questions and discussion points along the way. We hope this helps to cause some robust conversations, build shared understandings and offers an opportunity for reflection.

You may wish to use the strategy of **READ** (*this discussion doc*) → **LISTEN** (*listen to the Chit Chat*) → **CHAT** (*with your colleagues*), sharing your thoughts, learnings and reflections.

- What are the components of a Structured Literacy Approach?
- What were some of the key aspects to consider when instructing in a Structured Literacy approach?
- What sort of knowledge do teachers need to have and why is their knowledge crucial?
- How is 'on the way' to reading different to 'actual reading'?
- Discuss what positive error correction is and how this might be useful in your setting.
- What are the key differences between Structured Literacy and Balanced Literacy?
- What is the difference between Mastery and Automaticity and what does this mean for our practice?



We hope you found the Chit Chat thought-provoking and a good opportunity to reflect on your practice. Perhaps you have begun your journey into Structured Literacy and the Science of Reading and there was a lot of affirmation, or perhaps this is your starting point. Either way, you are on your way. We wish you all the best as you too work to make a greater evidence-based shift in your setting.

- Do you have more to learn? What will you do now? What do you think are the next steps for your school?
 - Build more knowledge?
 - Improve teaching practice?
 - Consider resourcing?
 - Build consistency across classrooms?

