

# Knowledge shared = Knowledge<sup>2</sup>



Learning MATTERS

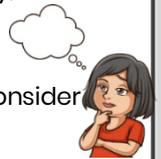
## Chit Chat Discussion Sheet

Welcome to the Chit Chat between Carla McNeil of Learning MATTERS and Mary Wennersten, M.Ed. (IDA). During this Chit Chat, Carla and Mary discuss the term Structured Literacy

We encourage you to listen to the Chit Chat (32 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.

- How did the term Structured Literacy originate, and what were the key influences in its development?
- How does the science of reading relate to Structured Literacy, and why is it important to understand the distinction between the two?
- What are the implications of the IDA trademarking the term "Structured Literacy," and how has this decision impacted its global adoption and perception?
- How can countries like New Zealand adapt the principles of Structured Literacy within their own educational frameworks while maintaining alignment with IDA standards?
- How does the IDA stay updated, informed, and up to date with evolving evidence and science, and what mechanisms are in place to adjust the definition of Structured Literacy if new research emerges?
- Carla and Mary discussed our New Zealand curriculum and the importance of developing a top-down/ bottom-up approach simultaneously. Discuss what this means and why it is essential as we move forward in education settings across New Zealand.
- What role does educational leadership play in the successful implementation of Structured Literacy, and how can leaders support teachers in this process?
- What was Mary's key message to educators and parents who work to support dyslexic children? Consider how this may impact your practice moving forward.



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?



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