

There is no doubt that the latest media frenzy around what's considered 'best practice' in terms of early reading and writing instruction has captured public attention. Making sense out of the plethora of information becomes even more overwhelming when it is presented within 'this' or 'that' narratives.

Becoming critical consumers of information is no easy task. It takes time, effort, and ultimately a mindset of curiosity. While each of us may hold different views as to how learning might best be achieved for individual children, we ultimately share the common goal of wanting to support their social, emotional, and cognitive growth.

At MELIT we aim to help both members and non-members stay informed. Below you will find a series of links that respond to the current media storm promoting phonics first instruction.

RE: Responding to the Science of Reading:

- [Responding to the Science of Reading - CIRRR Panel Discussion](#) (Passcode: l3@rn4l)v3
- Paul Thomas (2020). [How to End the Reading War and Serve the Literacy Needs of All Students: A Primer for Parents, Policy Makers, and People Who Care \(Amazon.ca: Books\)](#)
- P David Pearson's response to Emily Handford's "Sold a Story": [Marie Clay.A personal reflection.Final.pdp..pdf](#)

RE: The Science of Reading and the Media

- Maren Aukerman (University of Calgary).
 - [The Science of Reading and the Media: Is Reporting Biased?](#)
 - [The Science of Reading and the Media: Does the Media Draw on High-Quality Reading Research?](#)
 - [The Science of Reading and the Media: How Do Current Reporting Patterns Cause Damage?](#)

RE: Phonics/phonemic instruction

- Wyse and Bradbury (2022). [Reading wars or reading reconciliation? A critical examination of robust research evidence, curriculum policy and teachers' practices for teaching phonics and reading](#)
- [Aligned with the Sciences: How does Reading Recovery teach phonics?](#)
- [Phonemic Awareness Phonics.pdf](#) (readingrecovery.org)

PODCASTS:

- [The Science of Reading and the Media, Part 1 \(substack.com\)](#) (Panel discussion with Matt Renwick and Debra Crouch)
- [Classroom Caffeine™ Podcast](#)
 - [Nell K. Duke — Classroom Caffeine™ Podcast](#)
 - [Cynthia Brock — Classroom Caffeine™ Podcast](#)
 - [Peter Johnston — Classroom Caffeine™ Podcast](#)
 - (Plus many more!)

BLOG POSTS:

- Sam Bommarito: <https://doctorsam7.blog/>
- Matt Renwick:
 - [Teaching Reading is Not Simple - by Matt Renwick \(substack.com\)](#)
 - [You can't buy the science of reading - by Matt Renwick \(substack.com\)](#)
- Paul Thomas: <https://radicalscholarship.com/category/science-of-reading/>

