

Reading Road Trip

An IDA Ontario Podcast

Episode 4: Lindsay Kemeny

Lindsay Kemeny is a primary teacher from Utah. After Lindsay's son was diagnosed with dyslexia and depression, she began her deep dive into evidence-based literacy instruction. In **Episode 4**, she showcases seven practical "mighty moves" she made to ensure reading success for all her students. We've assembled some points to support your discussions with colleagues, or use **#ReadingRoadTrip** on social media to join the broader conversation!

Key Takeaways

"It was when I was teaching Kindergarten that it really started to hit me. Wait, I'm giving these students the wrong idea of what reading is." (3:12)

"The magic is not in the (sound-spelling) wall, it's in the instruction." (16:40)

"If you only teach one letter a week, it's going to take those students all the way until February or March before they get through the whole alphabet. For kindergarten, that's way too slow." (20:45)

"When we teach students to read words using cues, we're literally teaching them to read like a poor reader." (25:29)

Let's Discuss

1 – Lindsay's book is focused on shifts she has made in her classroom to better align with reading research. What changes have you made in your class? What changes do you hope to make this year?

2 – Kate and Lindsay mention that it is often a personal connection to dyslexia or reading difficulty that can prompt a teacher's journey to learn about evidence-based reading instruction. Do you have a personal connection to someone who has struggled to learn to read? If so, how has that impacted your literacy instruction?

A Step Further

Do you have your copy of **7 Mighty Moves** yet? Kate frames this book as a "must-have" for any primary teachers who are exploring reading science.

Both Lindsay and Kate love using a partner reading routine to support stronger fluency outcomes. Check out Lindsay's partner reading and paragraph shrinking routine **webinar** for PaTTAN.

Lindsay mentioned that text sets are an effective way to purposefully build background knowledge to support comprehension. Achieve the Core's **text set handout** gives a nice explanation of where to find existing text sets, or how to build your own.



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