

This learning guide is designed for use by Professional Learning Communities, learning coaches and teacher leaders, or as a self-paced study to enhance and support teacher practice in the area of literacy for students with significant disabilities.

Literacy for All:

*In Conversation with
Dr. Caroline Musselwhite*



This conversation guide is intended to be used after viewing the video clip, **Giving both Reinforcement AND Informative Feedback.**



General synopsis

In this short video clip, Dr. Caroline Musselwhite discusses the importance of providing students with feedback during the writing process. She uses examples to differentiate between different types of feedback: reinforcement feedback, informative feedback, and evaluative feedback.

Key understandings

- It is important to have a clear understanding of the purpose of the task in order to provide meaningful feedback.
- Reinforcement feedback, when used intentionally, can motivate and engage students.
- Informative and evaluative feedback can be powerful teaching tools.

Questions for discussion

- What one statement in this video caught your attention? Why?
- How does setting a clear purpose for writing (or any other task) affect your ability to provide helpful feedback to individual students?
- From your own work with students with significant disabilities, describe an example when informative feedback was more effective than reinforcement feedback.
- How is your understanding of feedback changing as a result of this conversation? How will this affect your classroom practice?

For more information

- Edmonton Regional Learning Consortium. *Literacy for All*. Retrieved from <http://abliteracyforall.wikispaces.com/>
- Erickson, K., and Koppenhaver, D. (2007). *Children with Disabilities: Reading and Writing the Four Blocks® Way*. Greensboro, NC: Carson-Dellosa. 87, 103.
- Musselwhite, C. *AAC intervention*. Retrieved from <http://aacintervention.com/>

Acknowledgement:

This guide was developed through a collaboration between Edmonton Regional Learning Consortium and Alberta Education. It is freely provided in support of improved teaching and learning under the following Creative Commons licence. 

Link to the Inclusive Education: Support for Implementation website at <http://inclusiveeducationpdresources.ca/> for Professional Development Resources.

For further information on learning opportunities to support inclusion, visit <http://www.arpdc.ab.ca/>.