

# Top Takeaways From the 2020 What's Hot in Literacy Report

Four of the **top five** most critical issues in literacy education, as selected by respondents, relate directly to **instructional issues**.

1. Building Early Literacy Skills Through a Balanced Approach That Combines Both Foundational and Language Comprehension Instruction	<b>51%</b>
2. Determining Effective Instructional Strategies for Struggling Readers	<b>42%</b>
3. Increasing Equity and Opportunity for All Learners	<b>40%</b>
4. Increasing Professional Learning and Development Opportunities for Practicing Educators	<b>39%</b>
5. Providing Access to High-Quality, Diverse Books and Content	<b>36%</b>

Respondents say that **variability of teacher knowledge and effectiveness** is the greatest barrier to **equity in literacy education**.

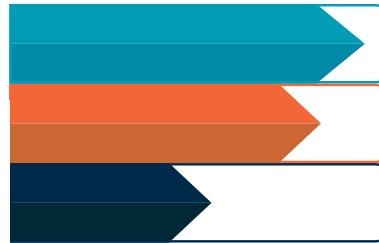
**60%**

say **TEACHER PREP PROGRAMS ARE NOT EQUIPPING TODAY'S EDUCATORS** with the skills they need for effective reading instruction

**No. 1**

**AREA IN WHICH RESPONDENTS WANT MORE SUPPORT** is addressing inequity

Respondents place high value on **the role of research** in literacy instruction and say they would like more support in **staying current** on the latest findings.



**93%** believe **research is the backbone** of effective literacy instruction

**89%** believe staying abreast of literacy research is a **responsibility of literacy educators**

**44%** point to this as an area in which they **need more support**

**Using digital resources** is the topic in which most **respondents want more professional development (PD)**, an interesting finding considering digital literacy is a topic in which respondents are split when it comes to attention received.

#### TOP AREAS IN WHICH RESPONDENTS WANT PD:



**Using Digital Resources to Support Literacy Instruction, 49%**

**Supporting Social-Emotional Learning, 40%**

**Writing Instruction, 39%**

Respondents believe that the right to literacy **must be protected** from the beginning.

**98%**

of respondents believe **LITERACY IS A FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHT**

**96%**

of respondents believe all children deserve access to a **FREE, HIGH-QUALITY PRESCHOOL EDUCATION** that lays a foundation for literacy development

Want to learn more? Download the full 2020 What's Hot in Literacy Report:  
[literacyworldwide.org/whatshot](http://literacyworldwide.org/whatshot)