



LEARNER OBJECTIVES

WEBINAR – Reading Comprehension in ASD: The Intersection of Language, Social Competence, and Reading Part 1 of 2

Drs. Christina R Carnahan and Pamela S Williamson

As a result of this activity, participants will be able to identify the following:

- The Literacy Lens of the presenters
- Social communication, reading, and writing
- What is reading comprehension?
- Reading profiles in ASD
- Big ideas in reading comprehension

Reading Comprehension in ASD: The Intersection of Language, Social Competence, and Reading

Drs. Christina R Carnahan and Pamela S Williamson

chresticarnahan45@gmail.com

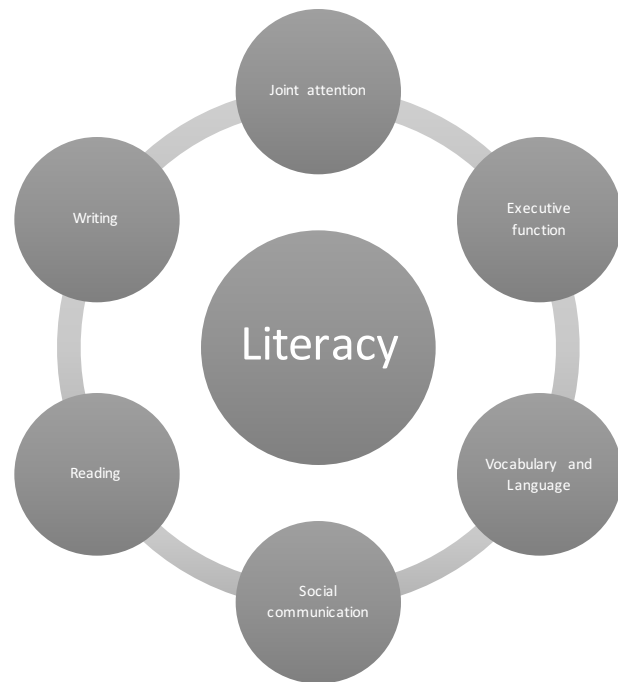


Overview

- The two part webinar series
- Our literacy lens
- Today
 - Social communication, reading, and writing
 - What is reading comprehension?
 - Reading profiles in ASD
 - Big ideas in reading comprehension



Social
communication,
reading, and
writing in ASD

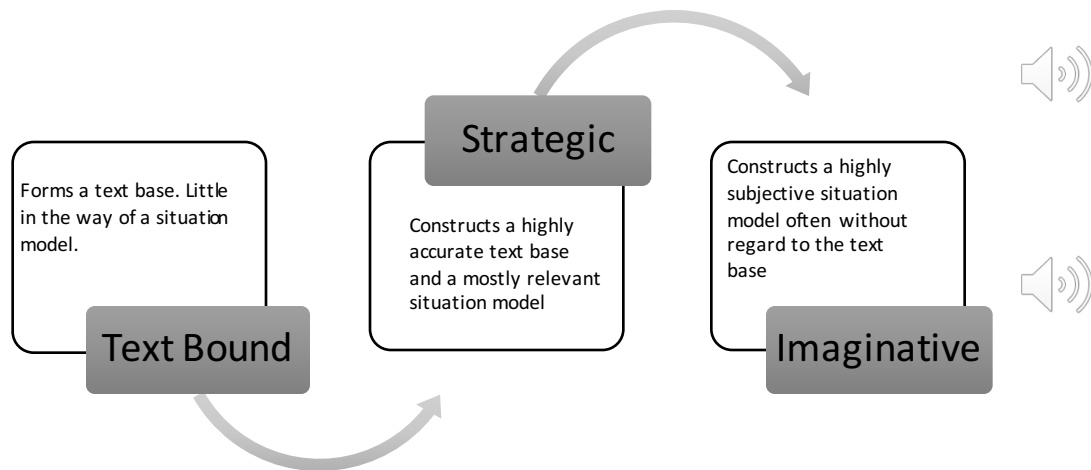


What is reading comprehension?

- A combination of reading the words, knowing the meaning, and activating lots of relevant background knowledge to understand the text.
- Two levels of processing necessary
 1. Text base – what's included in the text by the author
 2. Situation model – relevant background knowledge and experiences and connected to text
 - Involves deep level vocabulary knowledge
 - Relevant prior experiences
 - Social competence
 - The ability to direct your attention to important details and monitor understanding
 - ... which all support extensive Inferencing skills



Reading Comprehension Profiles in ASD



Big Ideas in Reading Comprehension Instruction

1. The 27 evidence based practices (EBPs) are the foundation (<http://autismpdc.fpg.unc.edu/>)
2. Identify research based practices to support reading comprehension for individuals with ASD
 - Cognitive strategy instruction
 - Graphic organizers as thinking tools
 - Teach students systematically about different text structures and story grammar
3. Begin with **special interests** and activate **relevant background knowledge**
4. Most importantly
 - Reading comprehension requires well developed vocabulary knowledge, social communication competence, and executive control. To build comprehension, we must address these in an integrated way.
 - **Vocabulary, reading, and writing** are all essential – balance these throughout your instruction
 - **Read, read, and read some more. Write about what you read, and read about what you write.**



Bringing it All Together

- A few more basic principles
 - Read everyday both teacher selected and student selected materials
 - Read to self, read to others, and listen to others read
 - Consider quality read aloud procedures to develop language and question answering (dialogic reading, RECALL, etc)
 - Study words in context everyday
 - Read about what you write, and write about what you read (yes, we said it again!)
- Bringing it all together and preparing for session two



Bringing it All Together