



## **Guidelines and Support for Nellie Edge Online Seminars (NEOS) Study Group Leaders or Professional Learning Communities (PLC)**

1. **Invite potential study group teachers** to peruse the ABC Phonics, Handwriting, and Sight Word pages at [www.NellieEdge.com](http://www.NellieEdge.com). Would you like to make these authentic literacy lessons routine in your classrooms? NEOS is the easiest, most cost-effective way to make that happen! \$49.00 for single seminars, or \$119 for 3 online seminars. Save \$30!
2. **How Can a Study Group Leader register FREE and save on teacher's registration fees?** When a study group of **at least 4 teachers is ready to register for ALL 3 Foundational NEOS**, the Study Group Leader can send a list of teachers' names to [info@NellieEdge.com](mailto:info@NellieEdge.com). She/he will then receive a code for members to register for the 3 Online Seminars for \$99 each (saving \$80 or more) with unlimited access for three years. After the study group members have registered, the Study Group Leader may then request a code for FREE registration as the facilitator. [Nellie Edge Online Seminars](#)
3. Study Group Leaders may want to apply for **district or state professional development credit** or WA Clock Hours using our Self-Assessment Guidelines and practicum suggestions and WA Clock Hour documentation. (Or teachers may pursue approved credit option through the University of the Pacific at \$62 per credit.)
  - a. [ABC Phonics Self-Assessment Guidelines and Practicum Suggestions PDF](#).
  - b. [Kindergarten-Friendly Handwriting Self-Assessment Guidelines and Practicum Suggestions PDF](#)
  - c. [Authentic Sight Word Work Self-Assessment Guidelines and Practicum Suggestions PDF](#)
  - d. **WA Clock Hour documentation**
4. When planning for your (PLC) time, **build in time for teachers to download templates and organize props**, parent letters, and lessons. Read suggested

practicum projects: depending on my professional goals, a teacher could easily spend 10-15 hours (and up to 45 hours!) completing meaningful follow-up work for each NEOS topic. Putting together these authentic resources that you can use in your classroom will take time!

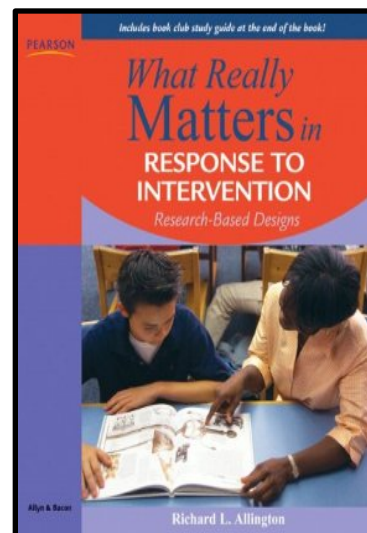
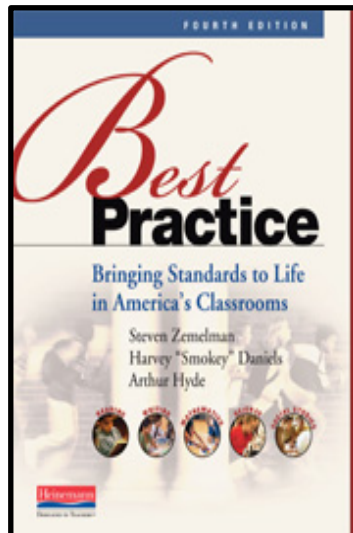
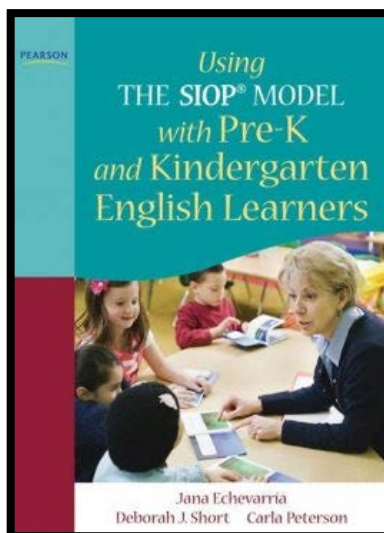
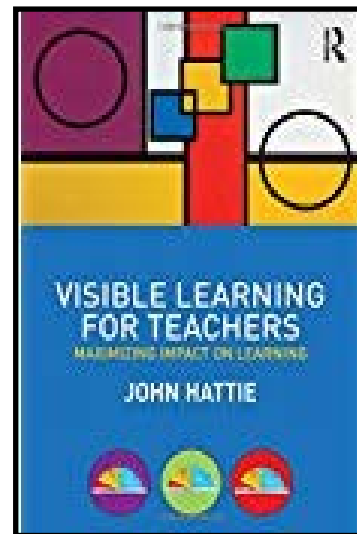
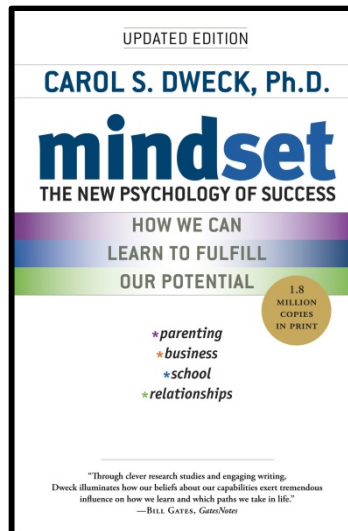
5. If possible, prior to the first study session, **print for each teacher the 130+ page step-by-step Power Guide book** (individual pages or 4 slides to a page, horizontal). Have it spiral bound. Teachers can use these books (along with sticky notes) as they study each seminar individually and generate comments and questions for discussion when the group meets each week.
6. **Encourage the teachers to subscribe to and read Nellie Edge kindergarten blogs**; these weekly posts wrap around the seminar content. [Nellie Edge's Teachers Pay Teachers \(TpT\)store](#), our [video clips](#) and Kindergarten [Pinterest boards](#) provide additional, carefully curated resources.
7. Early in the study group sessions, read and **discuss the research of Dr. Hatti on "visible learning"** and Dr. Dweck's work on **"growth mindset."** Consider why each NEOS high-impact strategy contributes to socioemotional learning and takes advantage of how the brain learns best. (Read article on ABC Phonics page: [What is Your Research Base?](#))

#### Reference Books:

- *Kindergarten Writing and The Common Core: Joyful Pathways to Accelerated Literacy*, Nellie Edge, Nellie Edge Resources, 2015.
- *Mindset: The New Psychology of Success*, Dr. Carol S. Dweck, Ph.D., updated edition, Random House, 2016.
- *Visible Learning for Teachers*, Dr. John Hattie, Routledge, 2012.
- *Using the SIOP™ Model with Pre-K and Kindergarten English Learners*, Jana Echevarria, Deborah J. Short, Carla Peterson, Pearson, 2012
- *Best Practice Bring Standards to Life in America's Classrooms*, Steven Zemelman, Harvey "Smokey" Daniels, Arthur Hyde, Heinemann, 2012.

- *What Really Matters in Response to Intervention: Research-Based Designs*, Richard L. Allington, 4<sup>th</sup> edition, Pearson, 2009.

1/2018



# **Nellie Edge Online Seminars: Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)**

## ***How do I purchase the Nellie Edge Online Seminars (NEOS)?***

- Click Add to Cart button next to each Nellie Edge Online Seminar you would like to purchase.
- Click View Cart button
- You will be taken to your Shopping Cart to review your order
- Proceed to Checkout
- You will also create your account (email and password) at this time
- Once complete, you will receive an introductory email (within 15 minutes)
- Once your order is complete, you can click My Account to access your Nellie Edge Online Seminars at your convenience

## ***I purchased the Nellie Edge Online Seminars. How do I get started?***

To begin watching:

- Click Log In (top bar)
- Enter your email or username, and password
- From there, the My Account Dashboard, you will see links to your Nellie Edge Online Seminars. Click the link of the seminar you would like to watch (see below)
- You will be taken to the seminar page with the videos and resources
- Scroll down to access all of your resources!

## ***How long are the Nellie Edge Online Seminars?***

Each 60-minute Nellie Edge Online Seminar is divided into chapters, so that you can quickly access the content to study and review. We highly recommend first downloading the Power Guide eBook (from the seminar page) to follow along.

## ***Are there guidelines for teacher-leaders facilitating Professional Learning Community (PLC) study groups using Nellie Edge Online Seminars?***

Yes! There is a detailed set of documents including Facilitator Guidelines, Self-Assessment Guidelines, Practicum Project Suggestions, credit options, and lists of free resources included in each NEOS.

*This year we've been using your online seminars as a focus for our district PLC time. This has provided us with the most meaningful PD we have participated in in years! - Betsy Mahoney*

## ***What comes with the Nellie Edge Online Seminar?***

With each Nellie Edge Online Seminar, you can download seminar resources including the 129+ page step-by-step seminar Power Guide, Self-Assessment Guidelines, Practicum Suggestions, templates, classroom props, Parents as Partners resources, and more. See the complete list of free resources. [NEOS #1 Multisensory ABC Phonics Immersion](#), [NEOS #2 Kindergarten-Friendly Handwriting Matters!](#) [NEOS #3 Authentic Sight Word Work](#)

### ***How long does my subscription last to view the Nellie Edge Online Seminars?***

Nellie Edge Online Seminars come with unlimited (3-year) access to watch, study, and review at your own pace on any modern browser or mobile device.

### ***Who can access the Discussion Forum?***

The Discussion Forum can be viewed by anyone, but only those who have purchased a Nellie Edge Online Seminar can post comments or questions.

Our Discussion Forum is designed as a place for you and your colleagues to dialogue about the seminars and strategies. Nellie Edge will also be joining the discussion from time to time to answer questions or elaborate on a strategy.

### ***Is there a special discount for group registrations? Yes!***

The **teacher-leader** who facilitates Nellie Edge Online Seminar Study Groups or Professional Learning Communities (PLC) for four or more teachers **will receive complimentary registration**. Four to nine teachers may register at \$99 each; 10 or more teachers may register at \$89.

#### **Study Group Leader:**

As soon as you have the names and emails of your PLC team, please email Nellie Edge at [info@nellieedge.com](mailto:info@nellieedge.com) to receive your special discount codes for registration and study group guidelines.

### ***Is this a secure purchase?***

Yes, we use Authorize.net to accept credit cards and electronic check payments safely and securely for our customers. Please read our Privacy Policy ([LINK](#)) for more information.

### ***Do you offer refunds?***

To keep administrative and total costs low for these online seminars, we do not issue refunds. See our Terms ([LINK](#)) for more information. Once you have registered, you automatically receive access to all of the resources, and we are not able to rescind these.

### ***How many credits are available?***

Up to three semester units of post-baccalaureate professional development credits are available through the University of the Pacific in California for each Nellie Edge Online Seminar. Read more details in our Professional Development section ([LINK](#)). 15 hours of practicum project work is required for each unit of credit. You may also work through your district crediting systems, using our detailed goals statement.

### ***Can I receive Washington Clock Hours for these Nellie Edge Online Seminars?***

Literacy leaders from school districts, universities, and individual states are welcome to offer NEOS PDUs through their preferred crediting system. Use our Self-Assessment Guidelines, practicum suggestions, and goals statement when filling out the required application. We also



recommend you include in your proposal at least five additional hours for organizing and making the props to implement each Nellie Edge Online Seminar.

### ***How many hours are required?***

Follow-up practicum projects through the University of the Pacific require 15 hours per semester credit. This is acceptable where local school districts approve and are applicable to state licensure where such activities are approved. We recommend that you always check with your literacy director or university counselor to verify the appropriateness of all professional development opportunities for your teaching credentials. For other credit questions please call Dr. Allen Lifson at 1-800-479-1995 (teacherfriendly.com). You are not limited to our PDU arrangement with the University of the Pacific. You may also work through your own crediting agency if that is more cost-effective or convenient.

### ***How long do I have to complete the projects for credits through U of the P?***

After you send in your registration (which is available once you register for each online seminar), you have four months and, if necessary, you can request an extension from the University of the Pacific. Read more details in our Professional Development section ([LINK](#)).

### ***How do I decide on a practicum project?***

After watching the Nellie Edge Online Seminar and reviewing your notes on the seminar Power Guide eBook, study the Self-Assessment Guidelines and Practicum Suggestions. Reflect on what you are most passionate about. What will take your teaching to a higher level? Set personal goals to organize and develop curriculum ideas that you will implement. (Remember, you have unlimited access (3 years) to the Nellie Edge Online Seminar.) Take photos, or make copies of your work. (Consider saving a copy of your documentation for your professional portfolio: these projects have supported many teachers in pursuing National Board Certification.) Each practicum project that you develop could easily take you 15 hours; some may take much longer. Read more details in our Professional Development section ([LINK](#)).

### ***What type of browser do I need?***

Our Nellie Edge Online Seminar videos are designed to play on any major browser (Firefox, Safari, Chrome, and Internet Explorer as far back as IE8) and both iOS and Android mobile devices. If you are not using a current browser, please update. Check your browser status here. ([LINK](#))

### ***Problem with a resource download?***

When you click a resource, it may open in new tab/window in your browser or automatically download to your computer. (Check your downloads folder.) If you cannot view a PDF, first determine that you have a PDF file reader program installed on your computer. Adobe has a free reader available on their website. If you need help saving a PDF to your computer, here is a quick reference guide ([LINK](#)). If you are still having problems downloading a PDF or Word document resource, please email support@nellieedge.com.

# Nellie Edge Online Seminars

## Practicum Suggestions for University Credit Option

### Course Numbers

#### **Seminar #1: Multisensory ABC and Phonics Immersion: Building the Reading Brain**

PEDU9008 (DEVELOPING NEW IDEAS IN EDUCATION PRACTICUM (1), (2) OR (3) CREDITS)

#### **Seminar #2: Kindergarten-Friendly Handwriting Matters!**

PEDU9014 (CREATING PRACTICAL STRATEGIES AND IDEAS (1), (2) OR (3) CREDITS)

#### **Seminar #3: Accelerate Literacy with High-Frequency Sight Words: Make Learning Visible! (We Call These “Heart Words”)**

PEDU9009 (ACTIVITIES TO ACCELERATE LEARNING (1), (2) OR (3) CREDITS)

**Up to three semester units of post-baccalaureate professional development credits are available through the University of the Pacific in California** for each Nellie Edge Online Seminar. (3 semester units = 4.5 quarter hours.) An additional \$62 fee per credit is required, payable on the day of the seminar. Details and registration forms for direct enrollment are available for each online seminar. You will mail the registration, fee, and practicum projects directly to the university. Nellie Edge Online Seminars is **not involved** in reading your papers or assigning grades. You are responsible directly to the university.

**Follow-up practicum projects require 15 hours per semester credit.** This is acceptable where local school districts approve and are applicable to state licensure where such activities are approved. We recommend that you always check with your literacy director or university counselor to verify the appropriateness of all professional development opportunities for your teaching credentials. For other credit questions please call Dr. Allen Lifson at 1-800-479-1995 ([www.teacherfriendly.com](http://www.teacherfriendly.com)).

### **Frequently Asked Questions:**

#### ***How long do I have to complete the projects?***

After you send in your registration (which is available once you register for each online seminar), you have four months, and if necessary, you can request an extension from the University of the Pacific.

#### ***What kind of project should I complete?***

Whatever will be the most relevant to you! We have included a list of specific practicum suggestions; however, you are welcome to design a personal project that fits your professional needs. Dr. Lifson and Nellie Edge want this project to meet your professional development goals. You need not write an essay unless it fits your professional needs.

#### ***How do I decide on a project?***

- Watch the online seminar, and review the seminar Power Guide eBook, Self-Assessment Guidelines, and Practicum Suggestions.
- Reflect on what will take your teaching to a higher level. Set personal goals to organize and develop curriculum ideas that you will implement. (You have unlimited access to the online seminar.)
- Take photos, or make copies of your work. (Consider saving a copy of your documentation for your professional portfolio: these projects have supported many teachers in pursuing National Board Certification.)
- Each practicum project that you develop could easily take you 15 hours; some may take much longer.

***As a result of each online seminar, what would you like to be doing in your classroom one week, one month, and four months from now?***

Nellie Edge (updated 12/2017)

Nellie Edge Online Seminar #1 – **Practicum Suggestions**  
University Credit Option – Multisensory ABC and Phonics Immersion

❖ **15 hours of practicum project work is required for each unit of credit.**  
**Nellie Edge Online Seminar #1 may be taken for up to 3 units of credits.**

**1. Preview the SMILE Approach to Joyful Accelerated Literacy: Self-Assessment Guidelines**

Use this detailed document to assess your current teaching of ABC/phonics skills. What are your goals and what specific steps will you take to implement a more systematic, multisensory approach to alphabetic skills? Take the challenge: 20 Days to 20 Letters and Sounds. Document observations and evaluate.

**2. Study the ASL Instructional Videos from Sign2Me**

Practice with the videos until you are confident fingerspelling a-z and signing the key phonics symbols. Download the free Family Reference Chart to use for frequent reviews, or use the book, *ABC Phonics: Sing, Sign, and Read!* by Nellie Edge (available at your library or from Sign2Me or amazon).


**3. Develop Your Parents as Partners Program**

Use or adapt the parent letters for the ABC/phonics program and develop a plan for how you will encourage parent involvement in *Multisensory ABC and Phonics Immersion*. How will you involve families in nightly review of the song to accelerate your teaching effectiveness? Some schools actually present the program to parents when they register their child for kindergarten in the spring. Parents are encouraged to practice over the summer using the free video clips. Other teachers present the program to parents at Back-to-School night and provide direct links to the ASL videos from their school-to-home website.

- Describe your plan for parent collaboration, communication and education. Adapt any Nellie Edge parent letter to meet your teaching needs. See: *Parents and Partners: Family Connections That Multiply Our Teaching Effectiveness*, by Nellie Edge, updated 2015.
- Develop a Parent Information Notebook (each of our literacy manuals contains articles that you may want to include). Plan how you will develop your parent lending library.
- How will parents be encouraged to be a part of your classroom community and a partner in meaningful learning projects at home?
- Plan for monthly “Good News” post cards to go home to families.
- Send home the monthly Family Learning Calendar.

**4. Keep an Observation/Reflection Journal of Your Experiences Teaching ASL (American Sign Language) and Fingerspelling**

Teach the *ABC Phonics: Sing, Sign, and Read!* song picture book to a small or large group of children and monitor progress. What did you notice?

What do you notice when you begin singing and signing this song? How are your children responding? Are they teaching each other? How do parents respond? How do you systematically use this signing song to accelerate literacy? See ASL instructional  Video Clips at [www.nellieedge.com](http://www.nellieedge.com) to practice. Use the *Self-Assessment Guidelines for Excellence: Multisensory ABC and Phonics Immersion*.

**5. Introduce the book, *ABC Phonics: Sing, Sign, and Read!* in rich literary detail to an individual or small or large group of children**

Invite the children to echo read after you, page by page. Use animation and dramatic flair to deeply engage the children in learning 4 to 8 letters, sounds, and signs at a time. Examine the photos and drawings for text features and details. Notice Common Core vocabulary, nouns, verbs, and transition words. How does “saying and doing” language increase comprehension? Record your observation and experience as you teach the entire program.

**6. Prepare your environment to optimize the ABC and Phonics Immersion program and integrate consistent visual supports across the curriculum**

Set up a vertical teaching chart close to your large group shared literacy space. Post A-Z Wall Cards. Use miniature charts (free on ABC Phonics tab at [nellieedge.com](http://nellieedge.com)) in your literacy centers; print free writing Dictionary Pages for writing folders and Family ABC Phonics Reference Charts. Collect puppets, make games, create additional props (e.g. ABC Mastery Cape).



**7. Use these multisensory learning strategies to enhance your current (district mandated) literacy program**

- Learn to fingerspell, and add that to your literacy framework.
- Create your own class book of ABC sign language experts, using photos of children fingerspelling the first letter of their names.
- Sing, sign, and send your program home for nightly review.
- Celebrate mastery as each child is able to fingerspell and name each letter and sound. This will dramatically increase learning!

**8. Create a growth mindset with specific empowering language.**

- Create a culture of "I can!"
  - o *You already know the letters of your name! **Wow! How did you learn them?***
  - o *You already learned a-g. **Keep practicing** and soon you'll be an ABC/Phonics Expert!*
  - o *You learned the whole alphabet: letter, sound and sign! **Aren't you proud of your hard work?***
  - o ***You worked hard to learn all those letters!** Let's take your picture with the Master of the Alphabet crown!*
  - o *Wow! You **almost** know every letter and sound! Keep practicing the last six letters: u through z! **Soon you will be an expert of the whole alphabet!***
- Consider reading ***Mindset: The New Psychology of Success*** by Carol Dweck.

**9. Make learning visible. Have high expectations. Teach children to work hard toward their individual learning goals. Celebrate their accomplishments.**

- **Clearly define your goal or target** for all children with Parents as Partners: *Kindergarten Friends, we are going to learn every letter and sound a-z (ABC Phonics), and we will learn to sing, sign, and read! We already know a, b, c, d: let's review! Now we get to practice e, f, g, and h.*
- **Teachers, children and parents know what the next individual ABC/Phonics target is:** Ongoing assessments allow children to take pride in their progress.
- For less experience learners the Special Education or Response to Intervention (R.T.I.) team provides additional multisensory and writing-to-read support consistent with these "best practices."
- Consider reading ***Visible Learning for Teachers: Maximizing Impact on Learning*** by John Hattie.

**10. Take the Next Step to National Board Certification — Kindergarten Teachers as Researchers and Literacy Leaders: Use Self-Assessment Guidelines**

- Articulate to the school community why Multisensory ABC and Phonics Immersion works!
  - o *The reason we are learning to fingerspell is that multisensory teaching helps the brain remember the letters and sounds, and fingerspelling builds writing muscles!*
- Video your children performing *ABC Phonics: Sing, Sign, and Read!* Are they cutting off the consonant sounds crisply? Study the corresponding Nellie Edge Online Seminar.
- Incorporate ABC/Phonics review into brain breaks and transitions.
- Provide opportunities for more proficient students to read the *ABC Phonics: Sing, Sign, Spell and Read!* book during Read-to-Self and Buddy Reading time. Provide guided reading with sets of the book.
- Integrate ABC Phonics fingerspelling and symbols into the curriculum throughout the day.

**Choose any one suggestion to develop an in-depth practicum or any combination of meaningful projects that would allow you to apply the skills shared in this seminar in the most useful and relevant way.** How can you use the content of this Nellie Edge Online Seminar to make your teaching more effective and powerful to the lives of your students? What do you want to be doing in your classroom one week and one month from now as a result of this seminar?

Dr. Lifson at the University of the Pacific always allows teachers to design their own practicum project that meets their unique teaching and learning needs.

Nellie Edge Online Seminar #2 – **Practicum Suggestions**  
University Credit Option – Kindergarten-Friendly Handwriting Matters!

- ❖ **15 hours of practicum project work is required for each unit of credit. Nellie Edge Online Seminar #2 may be taken for up to 3 units of credits.**

*If handwriting motions are not automatic, it interferes with the whole writing process.*

Watch the online seminar repeatedly, read through the Power Guide documents, self-assessment guidelines, and Nellie Edge Handwriting Blogs. Define goals and projects that are most meaningful for you. The following practicum ideas are only suggestions. You are always welcome to design a special project that meets your unique professional development goals relating to the online seminar topic.

1. **Analyze your current name writing program:** How can you make it more intentional, systematic, and successful? How do you make the learning goals visible to each child? Include name writing guides for families, and support materials for instructional aides and classroom volunteers.
2. **Connect kindergarten-friendly handwriting with teaching of high-frequency “heart words.”** Efficient handwriting motions for the words “I love you” provides the anchor sentence that children will write over and over again. Notice that the pink and purple “heart words” and related sentences provide authentic handwriting practice for all of the lowercase letters except p, q, x, and z! Have high expectations that children are capable of remembering what their target letters are, verbalizing the language for letter formation, working hard, and getting it right!
3. **Develop a “Parents as Partners” in Kindergarten-Friendly Handwriting and Fine Motor Development Activities** packet to share with families. Use the Nellie Edge Handwriting Blogs and Pinterest Fine Motor Development and Kindergarten Handwriting boards for additional finger dexterity building activities. Stress how helpful it is for the children to practice these skills in the classroom and at home. Remember — fingerspelling the ABCs is one of the best strategies for fine motor skills development!
4. **Learn the Kindergarten-Friendly Handwriting songs and chants from the *Sing, Sign, Spell, and Read! CD*.** Teach them to the children with passion and dramatic flair! Remind the children of the key handwriting positive affirmation “I always start my letters at the top!”
5. **Enhance handwriting skills by teaching children to draw and explore shapes.** Provide lessons that teach the child how to make a twinkling star (lift-the-pen motion), a spiral van Gogh-like star (continuous motion), and a five point star to help children integrate movement patterns. What do you notice? Are the children using rich art related language such as “a Van Gogh-like star”?

6. **Read the excerpts from handwriting research.** Google additional resources. Write a paper on why handwriting matters for children today. Share the paper with kindergarten colleagues, parents, and your school primary team.
7. **Coordinate with preK-2 teachers**, special education and literacy coaches in your school or district to develop a consistent approach to handwriting for young children. What resources will you use?
8. **Read excerpts from *Choice Words*** by Peter Johnston (Stenhouse, 2012), pages 172-173 from ***Kindergarten Writing and the Common Core*** by Nellie Edge, 2015 and the pages on *How to Talk to Children about Their Handwriting* in the Teacher's Guide to ***Kindergarten-Friendly Handwriting, Word Work and Phonics Skills*** pages 13 and 26. Create a list of empowering ways to talk about student handwriting progress. Stress that *hard work is valued* in your classroom.  
  
*Praise effort, hard work, and movement toward a handwriting goal—not how smart children are!*
9. **Provide ABC Brain Exercises for fluency** (pages 56-58 of the Teacher's Guide). Notice which children will benefit from more intentional abc work for quick visual retrieval of letters from long-term memory.
10. Read ***Visible Learning for Teachers: Maximizing Impact on Learning*** by John Hattie (Routledge, 2012). Discuss how you will use the practices shared in this Nellie Edge Online Seminar to make the learning of efficient handwriting practices visible for each student and their parents beginning with name writing. How will you involve students in self-evaluation and what is necessary to celebrate mastery?

**Choose any one suggestion to develop an in-depth practicum or any combination of meaningful projects that would allow you to apply the skills shared in this seminar in the most useful and relevant way.** How can you use the content of this Nellie Edge Online Seminar to make your teaching more effective and powerful to the lives of your students? What do you want to be doing in your classroom one week and one month from now as a result of this seminar?

Dr. Lifson at the University of the Pacific always allows teachers to design their own practicum project that meets their unique teaching and learning needs.

*Handwriting practice is woven into authentic writing experiences that have meaning to the child — not isolated drill!*

## Nellie Edge Online Seminar #3

### Practicum Suggestions

University Credit Option –Teaching High-Frequency Sight Words (“Heart Words”)

- ❖ **15 hours of practicum project work is required for each unit of credit. Nellie Edge Online Seminar #3 may be taken for up to 3 units of credits.**

Listen to the online seminar, while making notes in the step-by-step Power Guide. Study the self-assessment guidelines and practicum suggestions: Define goals that are most meaningful for you. The following practicum ideas are only suggestions. You are always welcome to design a unique project that meets your professional development goals relating to the online seminar topic, or write a three-page action-research paper.

1. **Document your high expectations for students and parents with clear learning targets.** How will your students know there are two kinds of words: Words they will learn “by heart” and words they can listen to, stretch through, and write the sounds for? Teach for mastery with clearly visible goals of 15-16 color-coded words. Use the words selected in our action-research, or create your own word lists in collaboration with school staff.
2. **Document how you provide multisensory, memorable teaching of high-frequency words and make learning visible.** Have your high-frequency word wall visible from the front and sides of the room. Create “heart word” posters: pink, yellow, purple, and green. (You may to choose your own favorite colors and images as long as you are consistent!) Color coordinate miniature “heart words,” floor charts and word wall words.
3. **Plan with the first and second grade teachers, special education and reading teachers** in your building or district so there is one consistent set of clear learning targets for children K-2. Many kindergartners by mid-year have already mastered the first 62 words. They delight themselves in the challenge of going on to first and second grade level words or their own personalized set of words. Make color specific sets of small “heart words” ahead and have a system for sending them home.
4. **Plan your “Parents as Partners” program.** Send home the first set of pink “heart words” in a small box after you have introduced most of the words. Explain your system of family support so that parents understand how to support “heart word” practice in a positive, engaging way. (Each child gets to take home the next set of colored “heart words” to add to their box as soon as the previous set is mastered!) *Our expectation for pink and purple “heart words” is for children to be able to read, write, and spell them conventionally.* Consider sending home

word/fingerspelling cards and/or “I Can Read” Anthology pages for the first 32 words. Permission is granted for teachers to send home copies of the *Sing, Sign, Spell, and Read!* CD, anthologies, and word cards for family literacy and listening enjoyment.

5. **Create an ongoing organization and assessment system that drives instruction. Celebrate mastery!** Create a folder or notebook with individual student assessment forms, parent letters, “heart word” templates, and your *Hip Hip Hooray* book pages to celebrate learning. Create your own class book that honors student achievement.
6. **Integrate high-frequency “heart word” work throughout the curriculum.** Connect pink and purple “heart words” with your handwriting instruction. Create independent writing/drawing/book making totes that provide authentic practice writing “heart word” sentences. Expect children to write a growing number of “heart word” sentences each morning during settling-in time.
7. **Read excerpts from John Hattie’s meta-analysis of 15 years of educational research on Making Learning Visible.** Review the online seminar again and write about how this approach to teaching high-frequency sight words is consistent with the evidence-based research documented in this important book. How does this systematic approach to teaching sight words set high expectations for student achievement, make learning visible, differentiate learning, and take advantage of how the brain learns best?

**Choose any one suggestion to develop an in-depth practicum or any combination of meaningful projects that would allow you to apply the skills shared in this seminar in the most useful and relevant way.** How can you use the content of this Nellie Edge Online Seminar to make your teaching more effective and powerful to the lives of your students? What do you want to be doing in your classroom one week and one month from now as a result of this seminar?

Dr. Lifson at the University of the Pacific always allows teachers to design their own practicum project that meets their unique teaching and learning needs.



# **Grow Your Kindergarten Writers: Foundational Strategies for Building the Reading and Writing Brain**

Nellie Edge Online Seminars with Study Group Collaboration  
(with WA clock hour documentation)



## **Participants will learn how to:**

- Use multisensory ABC phonics immersion with fingerspelling
- Involve Parents as Partners to multiply student learning
- Use kindergarten-friendly handwriting strategies, beginning with their students' names
- Weave handwriting into authentic writing lessons
- Teach high-frequency "heart words" with expert multisensory lessons
- Give children crystal-clear learning targets and celebrate mastery
- Connect instruction with ELA Common Core Writing Standards

## **Content – What participants will be able to do as a result of this class:**

- Provide *ABC Phonics: Sing, Sign, & Read!* lessons and assess for 3 levels of ABC Phonics mastery
- Provide integrated handwriting lessons
- Accelerate mastery of high-frequency sight words
- Differentiate learning for a diverse student population
- Use formative assessments to plan instruction
- Give children and parents crystal-clear learning targets
- Understand how writing teaches early reading skills
- Articulate "growth mindset" and "visible learning" research that supports these authentic, meaning-centered literacy strategies

## **How will your assessment methods show you that the participants have learned and can apply the content?**

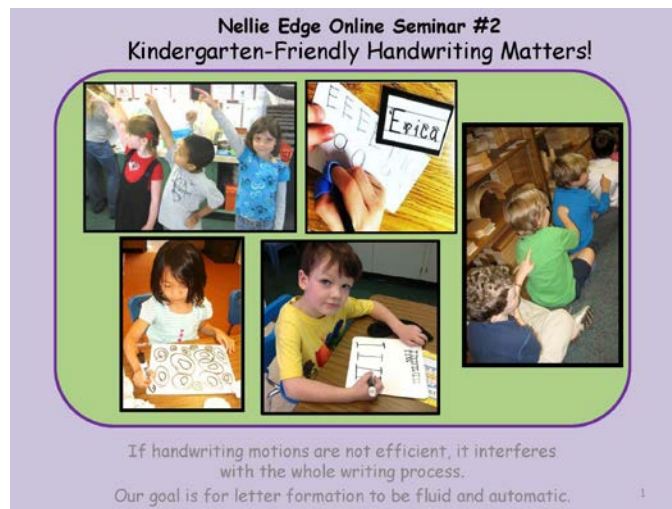
- Seminar Power Guide (and ability to review portions of the Online Seminars) will provide needed reinforcement and support for implementation.
- Participants will each define specific practicum projects that will allow them to make these practices routine in their classrooms.
- Teachers will participate in ongoing dialog with their study group leader.

- Teachers may post questions on the Nellie Edge Online Seminars forum, and Nellie Edge will respond.

**How will you, as the instructor, know that the objectives of this class have been met?**

- Students of this course will review their self-assessment guidelines for each Nellie Edge Online Seminar in collaboration with instructor.
- Students will actively participate in ongoing weekly study group meetings (Professional Learning Community time).
- Students will fill out course evaluation and goals statement to provide instructor feedback.

*Nellie Edge Online Seminars were designed by accomplished kindergarten teachers to provide quality, affordable research-based strategies for kindergarten professional development. Each step-by-step master class features a proven and documented approach to grow kindergarten writers.*



# Multisensory ABC and Phonics Immersion

## Resources Included in Nellie Edge Online Seminar #1:



Notebook cover and spine plus 107 step-by-step Power Guide pages to organize in resource binder.



How to Build the Reading and Writing Brain: 3 Levels of ABC Phonics Mastery! (12-page PDF)  
New 6/2017



We Love Lists: Exemplars and Independence Chart



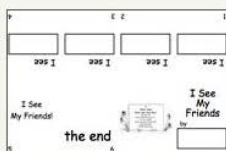
We Love Lists: Teaching Tips for Independent Writing Totes



Independent Assessment, ABC Assessment, Certificate, and ABC Family and Me! Graphic



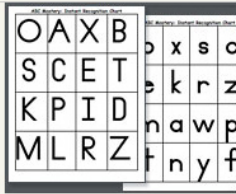
Editable Parent Letters



2 Little Book Masters: *I See My Friends* and *I Like My Friends* (print on 11"x17" paper, trim 2/3" for balance on page.)



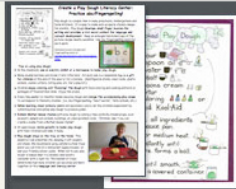
How to Make Little Fold-a-Books (a.k.a. Squish Books)



ABC Mastery Instant Recognition Charts: Upper and Lower Case Letters (group and student sizes)



ABC Phonics Experts Class Book Cover



Play Dough Mats: ABC and Fingerspelling Literacy Center



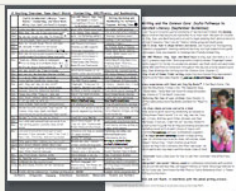
All Day Kinder Schedule and Settling-In Time



Great Drawing, Writing, and Word Work Resources and Where to Get Them



Excerpts from Visible Learning: A Synopsis of Over 800 Meta-Analysis Relating to Achievement by John Hattie



A Yearlong Overview: New Heart Words: Handwriting, ABC/Phonics, and Bookmaking (4 pages)



Kindergarten Writing and the Common Core



Dancing with Words: Signing for Hearing Children's Literacy by Marilyn Daniels. Bergin & Garvey , 2000



What is Your Research Base for ABC Phonics: Sing, Sign, and Read!? (12-page PDF)

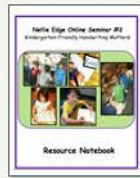


Certificate of Completion



# Kindergarten-Friendly Handwriting Matters!

## Resources Included in Nellie Edge Online Seminar #2



Notebook Cover and Spine plus 134 Step-by-Step Power Guide pages to organize in resource binder



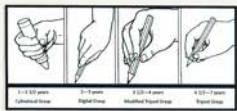
Success in Kindergarten Registration Packet



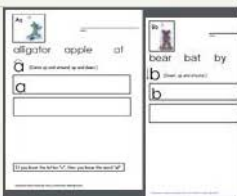
Kindergarten-Friendly Handwriting, Phonics, and Word Work (74-page Teacher's Guide)



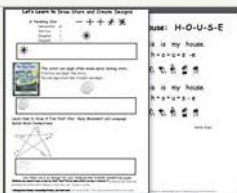
Handwriting Parent Letters (editable)



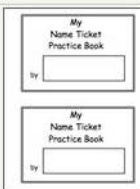
Developing Small Motor Skills and an Efficient Pencil Grip Parent Letter (editable)



Complete a-z Student Notebook Reproducible Templates. If font does not display correctly download to your computer, open in Adobe Acrobat.



Complete Kindergarten-Friendly Group Handwriting Lessons



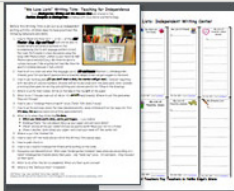
My Name Ticket Practice Book for Families



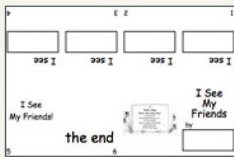
5 Songs (Mp3s from the *Sing, Sign, Spell and Read! CD*)  
L-o-v-e Spells Love, M-O-M Spells Mom, The "I" Chant,  
I Always Start My Letters at the Top, and Helper of  
the Day



We Love Lists: Exemplars and Independence Chart



We Love Lists Writing Tote: Teaching for Independence



2 Little Book Masters: *I See My Friends* and *I Like My Friends* (Print on 11"x17" paper, trim 2/3")



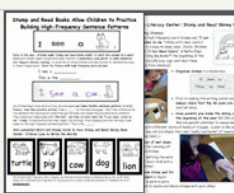
How to Make Little Fold-a-Books (a.k.a. Squish Books)



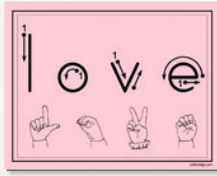
Make a Stamp and Read Skinny Book Poster (22"x28")



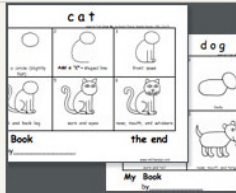
Instructions for printing poster



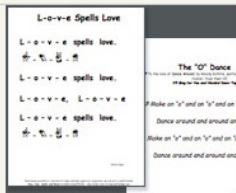
How to Make Stamp and Read Books (8-pages)



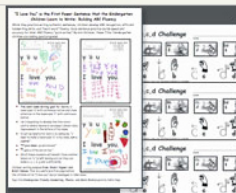
Pink Heart Word Playdough Mats



How to Draw and Bookmaking Templates



"I Can Read" Anthology Packet of Handwriting Songs



Suggested Sequence for ABC Brain Exercises (7 pages)



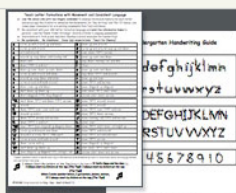
All Day Kinder Schedule and Settling-In Time



About Nellie Edge Read and Sign Big Books™



Great Drawing, Writing, and Word Work Resources and Where to Get Them



Handwriting Language, Guides, and Assessment (4 pages)



A Yearlong Overview: New Heart Words, Handwriting, ABC/Phonics, and Bookmaking (4 pages)



Kindergarten Writing and the Common Core



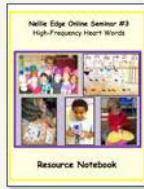
Excerpts from *Visible Learning: A Synthesis of Over 800 Meta-Analyses Relating to Achievement* by John Hattie



Certificate of Completion

# High-Frequency Heart Words

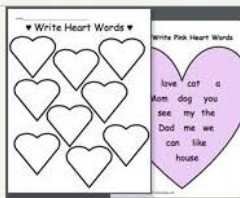
## Resources Included in Nellie Edge Online Seminar #3



Notebook Cover and Spine plus 129 step-by-step Power Guide pages to organize resources in 3-ring resource binder



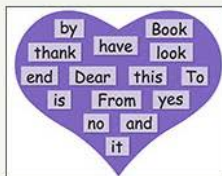
Parents as Partners for Kindergarten Success  
60+ page PDF (NEW)



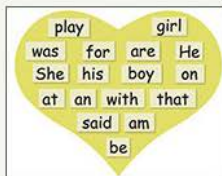
41 "Heart Word" Templates



Pink "Heart Words" Wall Poster (22"x28")



Purple "Heart Words" Wall Poster (22"x28")



Yellow "Heart Words" Wall Poster (22"x28")



Green "Heart Words" Wall Poster (22"x28")



Instructions for printing 22"x28" Posters

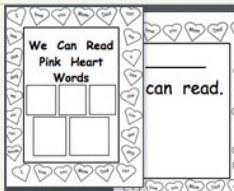




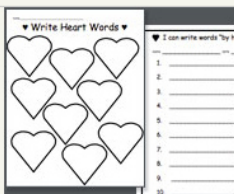
Pink and Purple "Heart Words" and Sentences  
(Print in color)



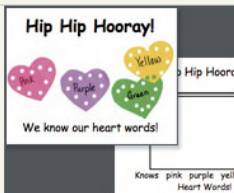
Pink and Purple "Heart Words" and Sentences  
(B/W - print on colored paper)



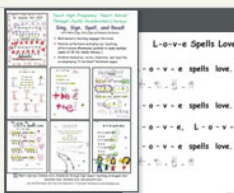
We Can Read Pink "Heart Words." Class Book Template



I Can Write Words "By Heart" 2 pages for  
Clipboard Word Work



Hip Hip Hooray! We know our "heart words!" Class  
Book Template (print in color)



*Sing, Sign, Spell, and Read!* "I Can Read" Notebook  
Pages and Fingerspelling Models (52 pages)  
Permission to make parents' copies



*Sing, Sign, Spell, and Read!* 34 songs (s) from the  
CD. Song list provided with the Notebook pages.  
Permission to make parents' copies



Editable Parent Letters



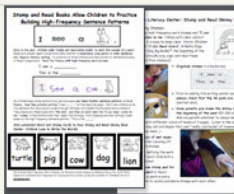
## Kindergarten Authors and Illustrators Decorate Their End Pages



## Make A Stamp and Read Skinny Book Poster (22"x28")



## Instructions for Printing Poster



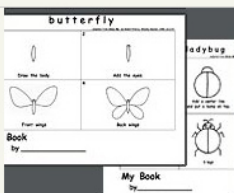
## How to Make Stamp and Read Books (8 pages)



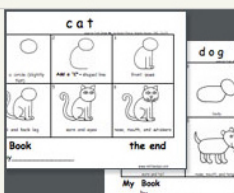
## Parents as Partners in Kindergarten Success Calendar 2017-2018 (NEW)



## Parent Letter about Family Learning Calendars (editable) (NEW)



## Draw an Animal: Make a Book Writing Center (NEW)



## How to Draw and Bookmaking Templates (9 pages)



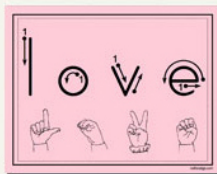
## I Can! C-a-n: I Can Write a Sentence Box Template



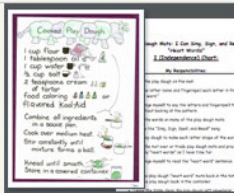
## Reading is Fun Anthology Page



## Heart Word Crowns (6 pages)



## Pink "Heart Word" Play Dough Mats



## Play Dough Mats "I Chant," Teacher Helpers Chart, and Recipe



## All Day Kinder Schedule and Settling-In Time



## About Nellie Edge Read and Sing Big Books™



## Great Drawing, Writing, and Word Work Resources and Where to Get Them



Excerpts from Visible Learning: A Synthesis of Over 800 Meta-Analyses relating to Achievement by John Hattie



A Yearlong Overview: New Heart Words, Handwriting, ABC/Phonics, and Bookmaking (4 pages)



Kindergarten Writing and the Common Core



Certificate of Completion