



Creating Literacy Opportunities for All

Four Rivers Special Education District

936 W. Michigan Avenue

Jacksonville, IL 62650

January 25, 2023—1:00PM - 3:00PM

Facilitated by: Samantha Conklin

DESCRIPTION

The International Literacy Association asserts that “every child, everywhere, has access to the education, opportunities, and resources needed to read.” But what does that look like for students with complex needs? This training will review tools and strategies that will improve student access to language, books, and writing to increase participation in instructional literacy activities. Participants will walk away with resources that they can immediately implement to support literacy instruction in their classrooms.

OUTCOMES

1. Participants will identify tools and strategies to support language and communication related to literacy experiences for students with complex needs.
2. Participants will identify tools and strategies to support access to books for students with complex needs.
3. Participants will identify tools and strategies to support writing for students with complex needs.

ABOUT THE PRESENTER

Samantha Conklin received a Bachelor's degree in special education focusing in the area Severe Disabilities, and Master's degree in special education focusing in Severe and Mild Disabilities from Purdue University. While completing her graduate coursework she participated in the Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) Personnel Preparation grant, and was a course instructor for undergraduate classes in special education and a teaching assistant for a graduate course in AAC. Her previous experiences include providing reading instruction for students with significant speech and physical impairments and working as an AAC Consultant for Greater Lafayette Special Services, working as an Assistive Technology Consultant for Northern Suburban Special Education District, and teaching in a program for students with autism spectrum disorders through Mid-Valley Special Education Cooperative. Samantha works for UCP-Infinitec as an Assistive Technology Specialist. She collaborates and provides technical assistance to classroom teams to support the integration of assistive technology for students, and provides training on a variety of topics related to assistive technology.



Financial Disclosure: Samantha Conklin is being paid an honorarium for this presentation.

Non-Financial Disclosure: Samantha Conklin has no relevant nonfinancial relationships.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

SLPs, OTs, Special Education Teachers, Paraprofessionals, Social Workers, Psychologist and Administrators



**Illinois
State Board of
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This **FREE** professional development opportunity is offered through an ISBE grant.

Questions? Email Samantha Conklin at sconklin@ucpnet.org