Halifax Learning™
Results you can read.™

Empowering Educators. Transforming Classrooms.
Changing Lives. Proudly Canadian.

Close the Reading Gap, District by District



Halifax Learning offers a roadmap for province- and district-wide structured literacy teacher training

Across Canada, schools are grappling with the same reality: too many students are not reading at grade level, and too many teachers were never given the resources to properly help their kids.

> "It is the education system's job to teach every student to read."
>
> – *The Ontario Human Rights Commission, 2022*

Literacy experts and disability advocates have been saying this for years. In 2022, the Ontario Human Rights Commission's Right to Read inquiry backed them up. The report was blunt about the stakes, calling **reading a human right,** not a bonus skill some students develop and others don't.

Reading gaps follow students through their entire education, often into adulthood. Children who fall behind in reading in the early grades rarely catch up on their own. Their ability to succeed in other subjects is stunted. Confidence dims. In fact, *Right to Read* states that "**no skill is more important in the first few years of school than learning to read.**"

And the teachers standing in front of these kids are too often left to close that gap without the formal training to do so. Most programs preparing new educators don't cover the science of reading, leaving our schools ill-equipped to reach struggling readers.

Halifax Learning's Proven Blueprint for Reading

The *Right to Read* inquiry also revealed something else: Structured literacy programs that work — even in classrooms where students are reading at wildly different levels — are already available today. **Halifax Learning was directly identified in the report** for its structured literacy approach.

Halifax Learning's program was built by literacy experts and refined over 25 years of classroom use. It's a proprietary, Made-in-Canada solution designed to show results from the very first lesson.

Why School Districts are Choosing Halifax Learning

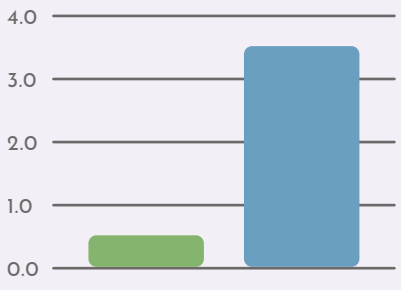
- ✔ 25-year track record of literacy training grounded in the Science of Reading: phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, comprehension, written expression, and oral language
- ✔ Authorized for use through Ontario's province-wide Learning Resource Fund
- ✔ Backed by third-party research and medical professionals, and recognized in the OHRC's *Right to Read* inquiry as a recommended structured literacy program
- ✔ A Made-in-Canada solution, from concept to service delivery
- ✔ #1 in student results in head-to-head comparisons with other interventions
- ✔ It is the least expensive investment with the best student outcomes in the industry
- ✔ Official Reading Intervention Partner of Saunders Book Company, an OECM-approved supplier, which streamlines procurement for Ontario boards
- ✔ Full-scale rollouts in two Canadian provinces and expanding across the country

Results You Can Read

The following measurable gains reflect the average reading progress of students before and after five months in Halifax Learning's program.

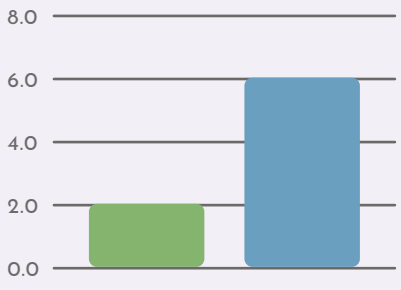
Initial Final

Reading Comprehension: Grade 3



A **3 grade level leap** in reading comprehension for Grade 3s

Decoding Skills: Grade 4



A **4 grade level jump** in word decoding for Grade 4s

Spelling: Grade 6



Increased grade 6 spelling skills by two grade levels

These impressive student results are just part of the picture.
Take a look at even more comprehensive outcomes of our program.

Effective Teacher Training, at Any Scale

The solution is at hand, but how do you deliver it in schools across a district or province?

School boards are increasingly stressed for time and resources, and yet they still need to retrain an entire teaching workforce in structured literacy – without disrupting the school year, overloading teachers, or relying on a single champion to carry the change.

What's required is a proven, resource-friendly, and scalable way to build capacity.

That roadmap already exists. Halifax Learning created it.

Halifax Learning gives school boards the science-backed roadmap to turn any teacher into a literacy expert, and every student — year after year — into a reader.

Over 25 years, Halifax Learning has trained hundreds of PK through Grade 12 educators, literacy leads, interventionists, and administrators across Canada, the United States, and overseas. That experience has produced a repeatable model for retraining a teaching workforce at scale. It rests on three pillars.

1 Evidence-based training, built for the classroom



Halifax Learning trains educators in the full arc of structured literacy instruction: explicit decoding and encoding, phonological awareness, fluency, comprehension, writing, and how to use student data to guide grouping and intervention.

Training combines self-paced modules with hands-on practice through real-classroom simulations, and printed and digital resources educators can use immediately, not file away after a professional development day.

2 Blended delivery methods that meet teachers where they are



Online learning, in-person training, classroom demonstrations, coaching and mentorship, and video and live lesson modelling work together so that new instruction sticks past the initial rollout.

It's a model that offers flexibility, training teachers when and where it works best for them. Halifax Learning can incorporate group learning opportunities, including those held on designated professional development days, for greater resourcing and scheduling ease.

Targeted micro-courses are also available on demand, covering specific focuses and best practices as they come up in a structured literacy classroom.

3 Local capacity, not permanent dependency



Alongside training every teacher, Halifax Learning coaches and mentors a smaller group of leads until they can sustain and troubleshoot the model independently. Districts end up with their own in-house expertise, not an ongoing reliance on an outside vendor.

THE RESULT: a large number of educators trained quickly, and deep local expertise built for the long term.



"We chose Halifax Learning for its robust educator training, comprehensive resources and well-researched program delivery. Educators gain practical tools to support struggling readers and writers, while students demonstrate stronger sound-spelling knowledge, fluency and confidence — with many advancing two reading grade levels after the first part of the program and four after the second."

– Sabrina Briscoe, Rainbow District School Board, ON
Learn more about the leaps and bounds made in the Rainbow District.

"Halifax Learning has been very proactive in incorporating different mediums of support and feedback, allowing our staff flexibility in accessing what they need for our students."

– Lisa Saunders, Bridgeway Academy, NS

Proof in Practice: Nova Scotia

Nova Scotia at a Glance

- ✔ A multi-year, province-wide plan was launched with Halifax Learning in 2025 to retrain Nova Scotia's teaching workforce
- ✔ Year 1: Over hundreds of educators and mentors trained
- ✔ Elementary literacy support teachers, resource teachers, and literacy leads in urban, rural, and remote communities throughout the province were involved
- ✔ Halifax Learning's structured literacy method is now used in every elementary school serving P-2 students in Nova Scotia
- ✔ In year 2 training will be expanded to middle school teachers
- ✔ Nova Scotia high school teachers are included in future rollout plans

When Nova Scotia set out to strengthen literacy outcomes province-wide, it needed more than a workshop series. It needed a partner who could retrain a large teaching workforce in the science of reading, support classroom implementation, and sustain the change over time.

In 2025, Halifax Learning and the Province of Nova Scotia embarked on a multi-year plan to achieve that goal.



"This partnership reflects a shared commitment to improving early literacy outcomes for Nova Scotia students. [Halifax Learning's] ongoing support has helped strengthen structured literacy implementation and build capacity across the province."

– Jennifer Burke, Ed.D., Director, Curriculum Renewal, Nova Scotia Department of Education and Early Childhood Development

In the partnership's **first year,** Halifax Learning trained **hundreds of elementary school educators and mentors** across the province, in urban centres and remote rural communities alike.

The full program took each participant approximately 25 to 30 hours in total, including self-paced modules hosted on Halifax Learning's online learning platform, Brightspace. Through its proven blended model of online and in-person training and mentoring, Halifax Learning successfully equipped hundreds of teachers with the tools behind the science of reading.

In Year 1, hundreds of educators received:

- ✔ Explicit decoding and encoding instruction
- ✔ Phonological awareness and sound-spelling instruction
- ✔ Tools to improve students' text reading, fluency, comprehension, and writing
- ✔ Insights into progress monitoring and student data use
- ✔ Student grouping and intervention planning
- ✔ Lesson planning, prompting, and scaffolding
- ✔ Classroom-ready materials and demonstration videos
- ✔ Access to ongoing coaching and mentoring

Teachers left the program with practical routines they could use right away, along with the resources and support needed to sustain implementation in real classrooms.

Early feedback from participants confirmed they experienced:

- ✔ Greater knowledge and confidence
- ✔ More consistent instruction across tiers
- ✔ Better use of student data to guide teaching
- ✔ Most importantly: meaningful growth in their students' literacy skills

Halifax Learning's structured literacy method is **now used in every elementary school serving P-2 students in Nova Scotia.** The rollout continues to middle school teachers in Year 2 with plans to include high school educators later in the rollout.

> "After taking Halifax Learning's training program, I finally have the tools I need to help my students. I can fully understand their barriers to reading and help them overcome them."
>
> *– Middle school teacher, NS*

This Model Travels

Nova Scotia offers the clearest proof point of capacity building, but it is not the only one. The Province of New Brunswick is now embarking on the same province-wide training model with Halifax Learning. Select districts in Ontario have also been scaling their teacher training accordingly.

Where needed, Halifax Learning is also providing specialized support for teachers of students who have a wide range of exceptionalities, from Down syndrome to autism spectrum disorder to various learning disabilities.

> "It's not only a remedial reading program for students; it is a complete training program on the science of reading that all teachers should have to train on to be teachers of reading."
>
> *– Teacher, Rainbow District School Board, ON*

> "This training is providing me with the foundational information and teaching practices that I have been missing."
>
> *– Elementary school teacher, NS*

> "The training was presented in a relaxed manner with no pressure. I really felt safe to participate and successful in my learning. I felt like the presenters were confident and well-versed. They could answer any question. This is a program I will use immediately in my teaching. I can't wait to see the results!"
>
> *– Elementary school teacher, NS*

> "I'm completely blown away by this program; it has gone above and beyond what I anticipated. I'm thrilled to see student gaps being filled as we progress through Phase A. I can't wait to evaluate the results once we complete each of the three phases. The students are engaged, more confident, and are beginning to see themselves as readers!"
>
> *– April-Dawn Lanteigne, Sunbury West School, Fredericton Junction, NB*

> "I was so surprised by the thoroughness and thoughtfulness that went into this training. During the four days of remote learning, I was very engaged and interested. The facilitators were readily available after training to answer questions and provide support when needed."
>
> *– Durham District School Board – Indigenous Services, ON*

Bringing the Solution to Your District and Beyond

Halifax Learning's model is designed to scale up or down: a single school, a district, a regional consortium, or a full provincial rollout. Our services include:

Assessment: reviewing a district's current literacy instruction, staffing, and student data to scope the rollout

Design: adapting the training model and timeline to the district's calendar, curriculum, and existing resources

Delivery: blended training for all teachers, with coaching and mentoring for regional or school-based leads

Sustain: ongoing support so the district's own leads, mentors, and coaches can carry the model forward independently

Halifax Learning flexes to fit your district, not the other way around. Individuals or entire teams can train together, in a mix of synchronous and asynchronous learning to suit their schedules and capacities, at any point in the year.

With as little as 25 hours of Halifax Learning training, a teacher can be equipped to make a monumental difference in the lives of their students.

Ongoing coaching and mentoring are baked into Halifax Learning's services so that educators can always find support.



Tap Into Extra Funding

Halifax Learning's teacher training is authorized under Ontario's province-wide Learning Resource Fund, approved by the Ministry of Education in 2026. That means all districts in Ontario can access existing provincial funding, rather than starting a new budget conversation from scratch. All Canadians province's Ministries of Education are committed to enhancing literacy education. Check into your provincial funding options.

Interested in this opportunity?
Reach out to us at training@halifaxlearning.com.

Let's Get Started

Your schools don't need another one-off workshop. They need a proven way to train every teacher, support every classroom, and get every student reading, on a timeline built around your district and your educators.

Halifax Learning has already done this at a provincial scale. **Let's talk about doing it for yours.**



Contact training@halifaxlearning.com to start the conversation, whether you're ready to scope a pilot or just want to see what's possible.