

International Reading Association 1999

Adolescent Literacy: A Position Statement

Principles for supporting adolescents' literacy growth:

1. Access to a wide variety of reading material that they can and want to read.
2. Instruction that builds both the skills and desire to read increasingly complex materials.
3. Assessment that shows them their strengths as well as their needs and that guides their teachers to design instruction that will best help them grow as readers.
4. Expert teachers who model and provide explicit instruction in reading comprehension and study strategies across the curriculum.
5. Reading specialists who assist individual students having difficulty learning how to read.
6. Teachers who understand the complexities of individual adolescent readers, respect their differences, and respond to their characteristics.
7. Homes, communities, and a nation that support their efforts to achieve advanced levels of literacy and provide the support necessary for them to succeed.