

RMTC-DHH Visual Phonics

Facilitator: Krista Phelps-Elliott

Facilitator information:

Krista Phelps-Elliott is a teacher of the deaf and hard of hearing, K to 5 at Altamonte Elementary in Seminole County. She has worked with elementary aged deaf children for the past 35 years in Seminole County. Krista has been using Visual Phonics since 2004 and has enjoyed much success with her students, enabling them to use phonics which benefitted them academically. She has been a Visual Phonics trainer since 2005, training teachers, interpreters and parents around the state of Florida and at the Tennessee School for the Deaf to use Visual Phonics with their students. Krista received her B.A. in Deaf Education and Intellectual Disabilities from Flagler College. Krista was Seminole County Teacher of the Year in 1990.

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Required Materials:

High speed internet, FaceTime or Skype (webcam and program to converse with the instructor via the internet)

Description: In this workshop, participants will learn the 52 sounds of the English language and how to represent them visually via hand movements and symbols. This training will provide methods for implementing the use of Visual Phonics in the classroom as well as progress monitoring tools for tracking student progress in learning phonemic awareness, phonics and sounding out words. Visual Phonics is not a program to buy, but a strategy to use in the classroom.

Goals:

Upon completion of this module, participants will demonstrate the 52 Visual Phonics handshapes and symbols representing the 52 sounds of the English language. As a result of the training participants will be able to expose their students to the Visual Phonics handshapes and symbols and use the Visual Phonics during phonics and reading class activities.

Participants will need to prove to the instructor that they know the Visual Phonics symbols and handshapes in order to pass this class. Weekly videos of participants forming the handshapes and using them to decode words will be necessary. If the participant is having difficulty with the handshapes and/or not forming them correctly, the participant will need to make a FaceTime or Skype appointment for extra assistance.

Technology considerations:

To succeed in this course, students will need to effectively and efficiently use a personal computer for word processing, viewing PowerPoint presentations, and watching instructional videos. Classes are housed on the Go React website which allows participants to watch instructional videos and make video homework. Participants need to be sure to download and follow along with instructional Power Points when following along with the instructional videos.

Course objectives:

1. Participants will demonstrate the 52 sounds, handshapes and symbols associated with the sounds of the English language.
2. Participants will be able to decode spoken or written words to demonstrate the use of Visual Phonics handshapes and symbols.

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Certificate of Completion

To earn a certificate of completion for this course, which will be equal to 15 hours of professional development, participants must complete ALL required assignments, readings, and discussions. To get the most benefit from this short module, assignments need to be completed on time. If there are special circumstances I need to be aware of, please let me know before an assignment is missed.

OUTLINE of the Modules:

WEEK 1: Introduction to Visual Phonics: 17 minute video, make an introductory video of yourself, sign and upload ICLI Profile Sheet and ICLI Disclosure Form to the Go React Website.

WEEK 2: Vowels... Introduction to phonology and phonological awareness, introduction to Visual Phonics symbols and handshapes for vowels presented in a 45 minute video. Follow along with instructional video with the Power Point for session 2 that will be provided. Learn and taken notes for the individual hand shapes using the "Vowel Description" PDF. Homework is a video of yourself producing each hand shape/vowel sound as well as completing the vowel practice worksheet.

WEEK 3: Consonants...Discussion of how to introduce Visual Phonics to students, introduction to Visual Phonics symbols and handshapes for consonants as well as a review of vowels in a 58 minute video. Homework consists of making a performance video of yourself producing the consonant and the vowel handshapes with the correct sounds of each letter along with a consonant review worksheet.

WEEK 4: Digraphs...Introduction of Visual Phonics symbols and handshapes for digraphs, other steps to teaching students including some assessment information via a 36 minute instructional video. Homework also consists of completing a digraph worksheet as well as making a video producing the hand shapes and sounds of each vowel, consonant and digraph/diphthong.

WEEK 5: Blending...Discussion of rules for blending individual Visual Phonics handshapes into words in a 36 minute instructional video. Homework consist of making a video blending sounds in a "Phonogram Speed Drill" and blending a list of words together, as well as completing a symbol practice worksheet, determining the words represents symbols.

WEEK 6: Putting it All Together..Mastery and use of written Visual Phonics symbols, center activities that would be benefited by the use of Visual Phonics. Watch a 36 minute video to learn how to put it it all together as well as how to actually write the symbols. Homework is to make a video of your self producing the vowels, constants and digraphs/diphthongs as well as to write the written symbols that spell out words on a worksheet.