



Newsela Educator Success Guide: Admin Edition

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Welcome to the Newsela Educator Success Guide: Admin Edition! Whether you're an admin, coach, or other leader, this comprehensive resource provides a one-stop shop to successfully set up and integrate Newsela ELA, Newsela Social Studies, and Newsela Writing in your schools and districts!

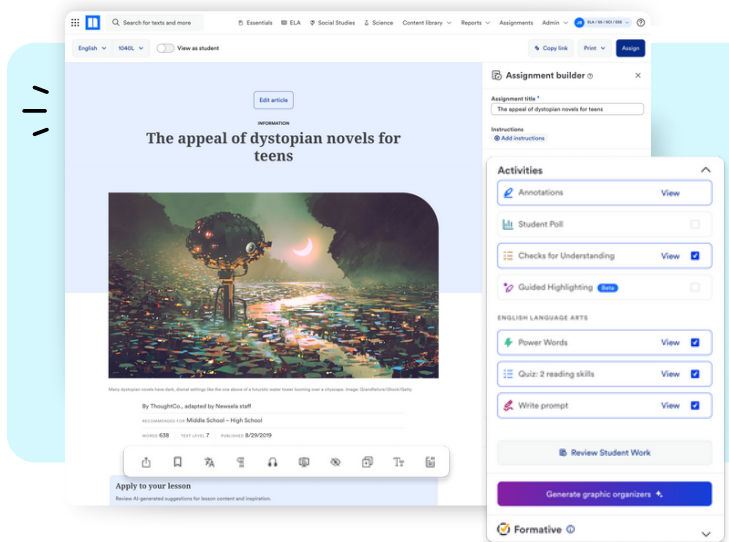
Welcome to Newsela

This guide offers step-by-step instructions, best practices, and essential tips to ensure a smooth implementation process. Whether you're looking to streamline access, maximize engagement, or enhance instructional impact, you'll find the tools and insights necessary to make the most of Newsela's subject products offerings.

What is Newsela?

Overview of the platform

Newsela's subject products are **purpose-built to inspire teachers, unlock student motivation, and drive long-lasting learning outcomes**. From building student knowledge and skills in core subject areas to supporting daily instruction and assessment, Newsela helps your teachers engage, support, and grow every learner:



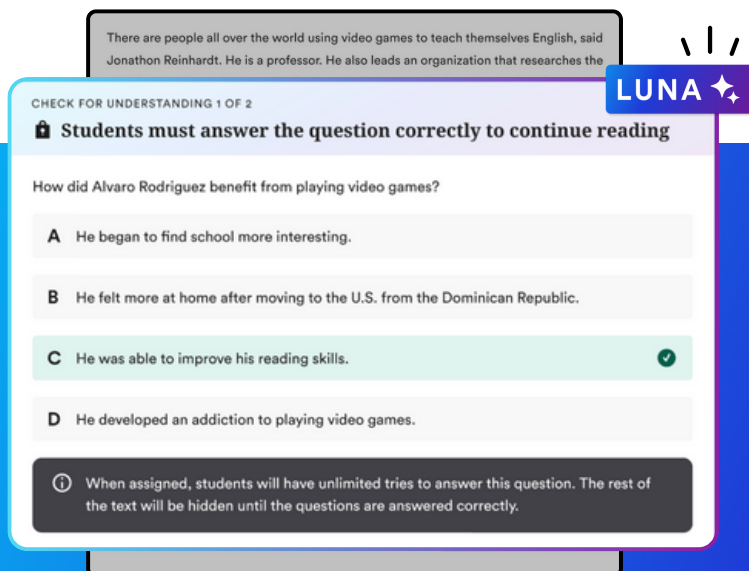
- Differentiated, authentic content** includes 18,000+ engaging texts and videos that align with curricular and state standards and provide access to topics for students with diverse interests and skill levels.
- Integrated instructional tools** save teachers time and support student outcomes through a variety of lesson planning and assignment options, using research-based practices.
- Formative assessments and reporting** provide real-time insights into student progress that drive instruction forward.

Introducing Luna

This school year, we're excited to introduce Luna—an AI-powered assistant across Newsela and Formative. Luna supports teachers in planning a lesson, designing activities, creating graphic organizers, differentiating text, and so much more.

Luna's goal is to help teachers save time while also supporting student outcomes with specific, research-based practices. Your teachers have access to AI-powered tools that streamline lesson planning—including article planning supports and guided prompts—while also driving student learning, with features like auto-generated comprehension questions and tiered vocabulary definitions.

[Explore our scaffolds](#) to see the AI-powered features that Luna supports.



Teachers see **Luna** whenever they spot the ✨ on buttons in our products!



[Introducing Luna, Your New AI-powered Assistant](#)



[Our philosophy on AI tools](#)



Newsela Products Featured in this Guide



newsela ELA drives meaningful literacy outcomes with content-rich instruction. Teachers can build background knowledge on any topic with relevant, real-world texts and videos curated to support ELA instruction.

Powerful fiction and nonfiction content combined with AI-powered scaffolds and activities and real-time reporting insights, enable teachers to support literacy skills practice without sacrificing engagement.



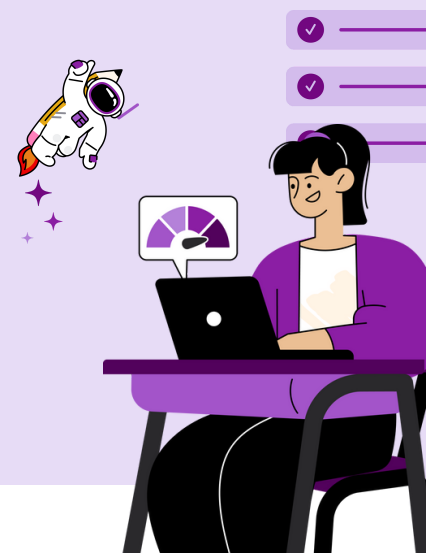
newsela Social Studies inspires students with diverse content that connects history with current events, and promotes scaffolded, inquiry-based learning—all in one place.

Create an inquiry-driven experience that places your students at the forefront using curated text sets for digital citizenship, media literacy, and C3 inquiry skills while tailoring instruction to the needs of your unique classroom and community. Content promotion, curriculum complements, and state-specific editions build literacy skills by helping students make sense of the world through texts, discussions, and critical thinking.



newsela Writing is your teachers' AI-powered assistant to help students become better writers. Used alongside Newsela premium products, Newsela Writing assignments make it easy to deliver standards-aligned writing practice by providing AI-powered, real-time feedback that gives students in-the-moment guidance while saving teachers time.

The instant rubric scoring streamlines grading with no manual effort, allowing teachers to use reporting to surface key performance trends and next steps.



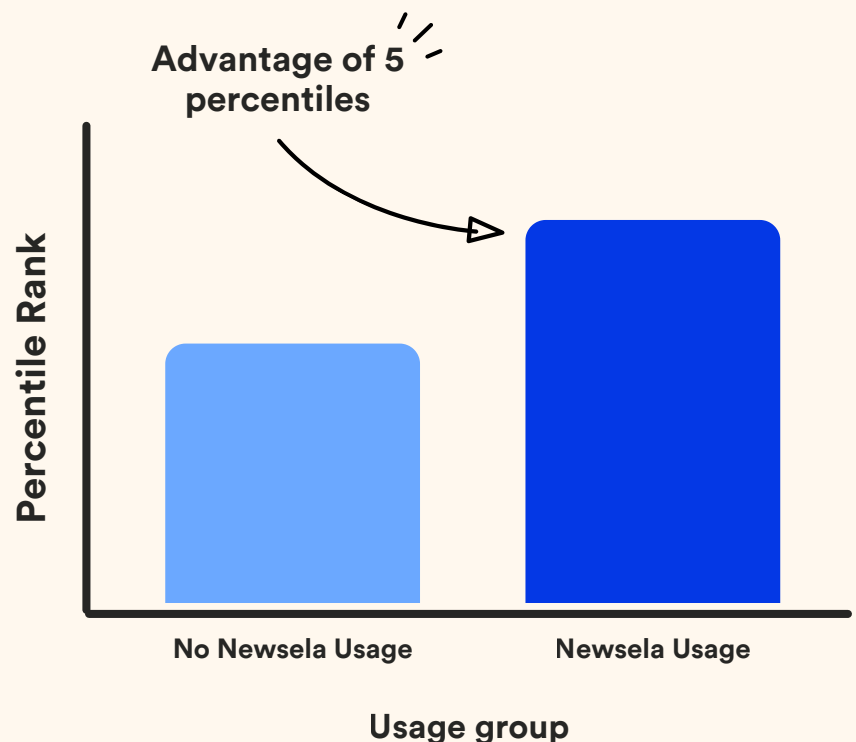
Why Newsela Works

Proven Results That Meet Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Criteria

For the best learning outcomes with Newsela's subject products, **your teachers should assign Newsela texts and quizzes two times per week**. This consistent use has been shown to improve scores on standardized ELA and Social Studies assessments by about **5 percentile points for elementary and secondary students nationwide**.

These results are equivalent to **4 additional months of literacy growth in ELA** and **10 additional months of social studies instruction**. Newsela's effectiveness is supported by multiple well-designed studies that meet the "Tier 2 - Moderate" [research standards of the Every Student Succeeds Act \(ESSA\)](#).

Using this guide can help you achieve similar results by applying best practices from research and the latest learning science. For more information about these research findings and the benefits of Newsela's programs, refer to our [Efficacy Studies Overview](#).

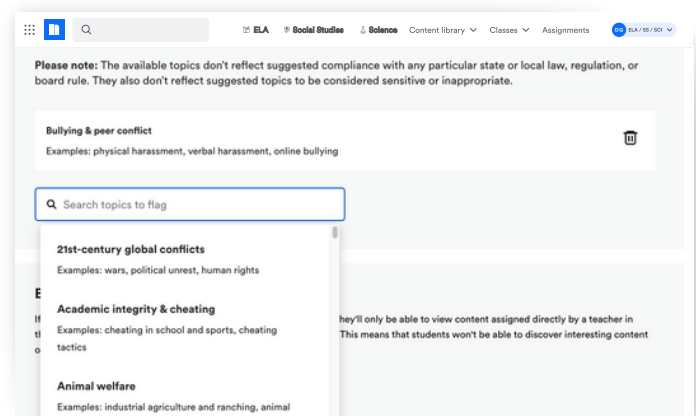
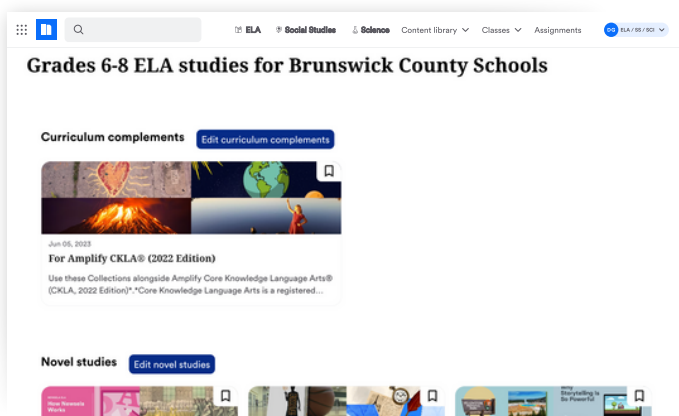


Standards and Curriculum Alignment

Newsela's subject products provide **content aligned with learning standards in all 50 states**, advanced search capabilities, and integrated assessment tools. These robust features and collections enable your teachers to efficiently integrate relevant and appropriate materials into existing curriculum frameworks.

These resources are designed to map to most major core programs—including Savvas, Great Minds, EL Education, Amplify, HMH, and McGraw-Hill—making it easy to integrate Newsela into teacher instruction. In addition, Newsela partners with hundreds of trusted content providers to provide engaging, high-interest content that brings the world into the classroom.

Our content settings tool allows you to [promote content](#) and curate materials aligned with school/district priorities, like **science of reading** or **inquiry-based instruction**.



Also, you can [manage the visibility](#) of instructional content within the product to ensure that teachers and students have access to texts and videos that align with state guidelines and instructional goals.



[Set Up Your District's Content Promotion Page](#)



[How to Elevate Your Admin Experience](#)



[Newsela & the Science of Reading](#)

Effortless Scaffolding and Differentiation

Grow every learner with powerful scaffolding and differentiation tools built on the latest science of reading and learning science research. Pair them with engaging content for effective whole-class, small-group, or individualized instruction to create a differentiated, accessible classroom.

Newsela's subject products offer tools that allow you to easily adapt texts at five reading levels, translate texts into dozens of languages, and listen to texts and activities in Listen Mode. Interactive features like Power Words, annotations, and AI-powered instructional supports like Checks for Understanding and Guided Highlighting complement these scaffolds and are all designed to deepen every student's comprehension and engagement.

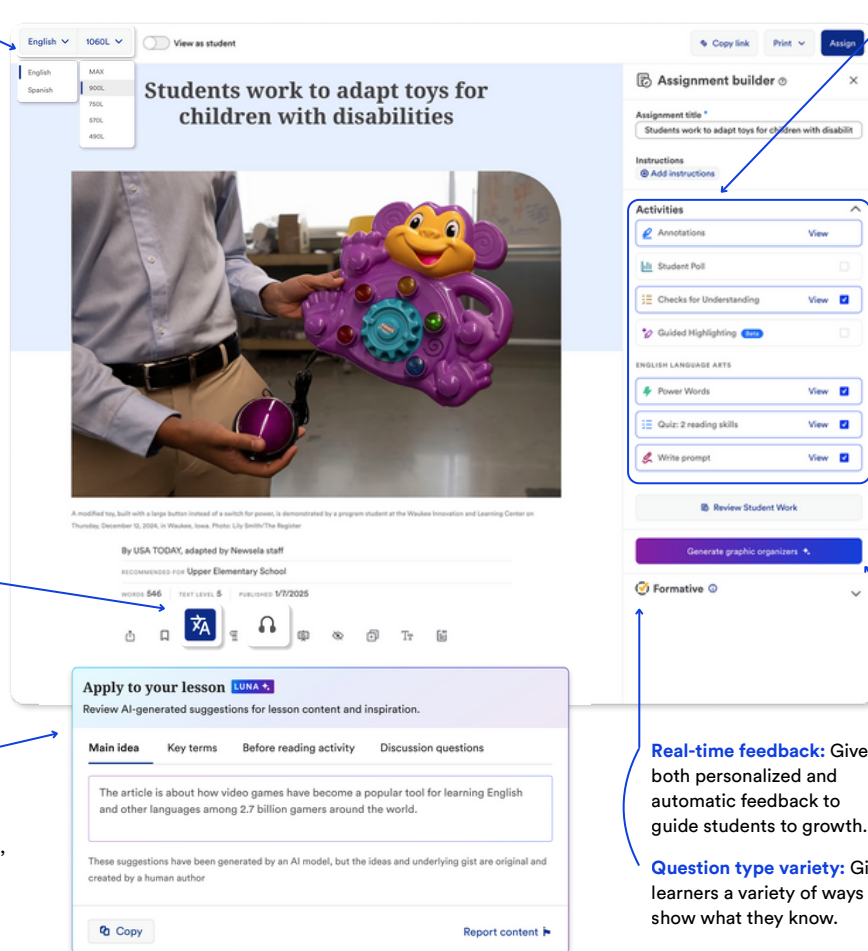
Spanish content: Provide human translated, full length articles to Spanish-speaking multilingual learners (MLLs), Spanish language learners, and bilingual education classrooms.

Leveling: Set the text to be at grade- or desired-reading level.

Listen mode: Listen to any Newsela article at all reading levels.

AI-powered text translator: Enable an AI-powered, in-paragraph scaffold for multilingual learners to access grade-level content in 42+ languages.

Teacher tools: Surface AI-generated lesson content suggestions including before-reading activities, key takeaways, and more on every article.



Annotations: Highlight ideas, ask questions, provide context, and differentiate for each level of an assigned text. Teachers can create annotations for students and students can annotate their own texts.

Checks for Understanding: Embed low stakes, AI-generated comprehension questions throughout the text to encourage close reading.

Guided Highlighting: Let students identify parts of the text that align to a reading skill with AI-generated prompts. (Newsela ELA only)

Power Words: Practice in-context vocabulary with student-friendly definitions. (Newsela ELA only)

AI-powered graphic organizers: Save teacher time and deepen student comprehension with ready-to-use customizable resources generated from our vetted articles.

Real-time feedback: Give both personalized and automatic feedback to guide students to growth.

Question type variety: Give learners a variety of ways to show what they know.

For a detailed review of the research underpinning these features, see our comprehensive [Learning Science Foundations Compendium](#).

Aligning Leveled Texts with the Science of Reading

Teachers can differentiate texts while making informed decisions about which text levels to assign in different classroom scenarios. The right text level depends on the student and learning goal.

Sample Instructional Goal	Independent/Small Group	Teacher-Led/Whole Class
Practice grade-level reading standards	- Lock students to <i>grade level text</i> - Provide digital scaffolds if needed, early in the year (CFUs, annotations)	- Work with <i>grade level text</i> - Scaffold as needed
Build background knowledge	- Let striving readers work with <i>simpler texts</i> or <i>achievement level text</i> - Encourage students to complete a quiz & write prompt to consolidate their learning	- Work with <i>grade level text</i> - Scaffold as needed
Practice reading fluency	- Let striving readers work with <i>simpler texts</i> - Fill instructional minutes with frequent opportunities to read	- Practice choral reading or echo reading - Select a level <i>slightly simpler</i> than the average achievement level for the class to practice expressive, fluent reading

Lexile® *

Newsela recommended Lexil... ^

Newsela recommended Lexile Level®

Grade 8	1110 - 1180 L
Grade 7	1011 - 1109 L
Grade 6	921 - 1010 L
Grade 4	621 - 780 L
Grade 2	300 - 500 L

Newsela recommended Lexile Level® — The default assignment level based on each student's grade level, quiz results, other interactions, and NWEA data if available

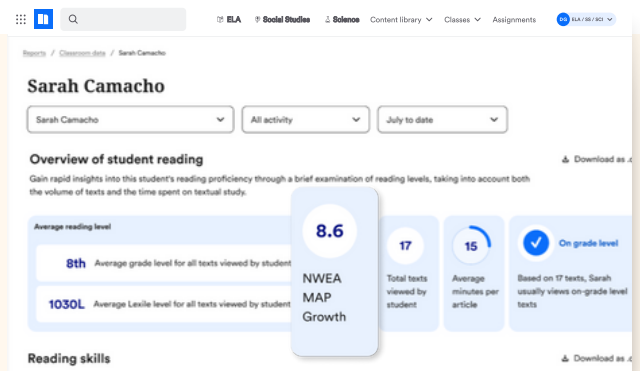
Grade/Lexile Level — Five grade levels teachers can select from to assign and override the default Newsela recommended Lexile Level®



[Our Approach to Leveling](#)

Provide Instant Article Level Recommendations with NWEA MAP Data

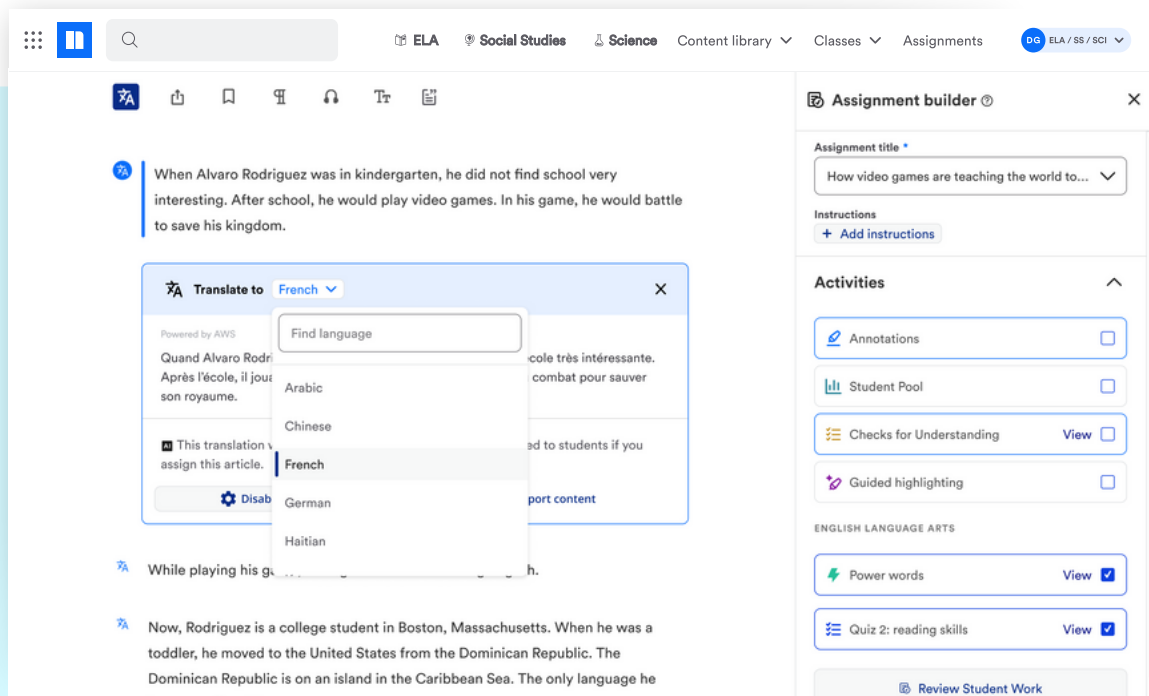
Newsela automatically sets and updates student reading levels, so they can read appropriately challenging texts!



Scaffolding and Differentiation: Supporting Multilingual Learners

With Newsela's subject products, educators support students of all English proficiency levels with diverse and differentiated content and activities. These scaffolds and supports enable students to connect deeply with texts, find greater meaning in the current curriculum, and gain a deeper understanding of their world.

This AI-powered, in-paragraph text translator supports dozens of languages to provide multilingual learners with a scaffold for point in time access to grade-level vocabulary, grammar, and ideas.



[9 MLL Best Practices to Support Students](#)



[Newsela Sample MLL Theme Unit](#)



[Supporting Multilingual Learners with Newsela](#)

Scaffolding and Differentiation: Supporting Students with Disabilities

Newsela's subject products support special education students through multiple features, such as accessible content at multiple reading levels, text-to-speech functionality, scaffolded activities, vocabulary tools, a variety of content types, and more.

These supports help meet the diverse literacy needs of every student and ensure a more inclusive learning experience.

Accessibility features

Our commitment to making instruction accessible for every student

When using Newsela, students can:

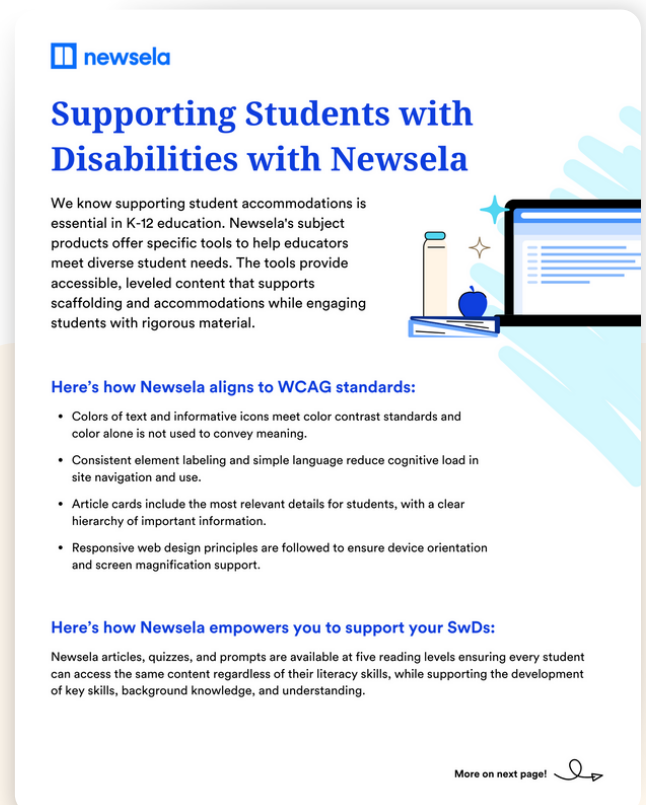
- fully navigate Newsela using a keyboard
- access the information on Newsela with updated colors to meet color contrast standards
- see alternative text on every image, including all article photos, illustrations, graphs, and charts
- understand the information on the site with consistent elements and simple language
- use assistive technology to access content on Newsela with screen reader-friendly labels
- access Listen mode to hear any text, quiz question, and answer at multiple speeds

A Student Experience That's Fully Compliant with WCAG

This certification ensures significant supports for students with disabilities as they navigate Newsela.



[Newsela Tier 2 ELA Lab/WIN Time Lessons](#)
["I Am Malala" by Malala Yousafzai](#)



Supporting Students with Disabilities with Newsela

We know supporting student accommodations is essential in K-12 education. Newsela's subject products offer specific tools to help educators meet diverse student needs. The tools provide accessible, leveled content that supports scaffolding and accommodations while engaging students with rigorous material.

Here's how Newsela aligns to WCAG standards:

- Colors of text and informative icons meet color contrast standards and color alone is not used to convey meaning.
- Consistent element labeling and simple language reduce cognitive load in site navigation and use.
- Article cards include the most relevant details for students, with a clear hierarchy of important information.
- Responsive web design principles are followed to ensure device orientation and screen magnification support.

Here's how Newsela empowers you to support your SwDs:

Newsela articles, quizzes, and prompts are available at five reading levels ensuring every student can access the same content regardless of their literacy skills, while supporting the development of key skills, background knowledge, and understanding.

More on next page! 



[How to Support Students with Disabilities with Newsela](#)

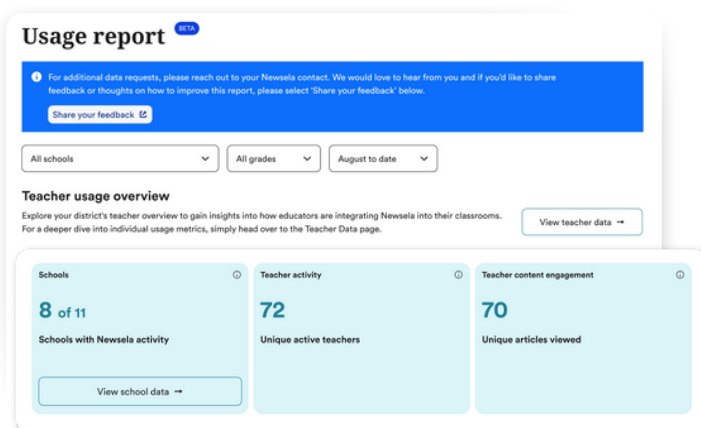


Measuring Impact with Newsela Data Insights

Administrator Reporting

Newsela provides administrators with robust reporting tools to monitor overall platform usage and student progress at the school and district levels.

This includes a **Usage report**, as well as **School and teacher data drill-down pages** that detail usage across schools in a district and teachers within a school.

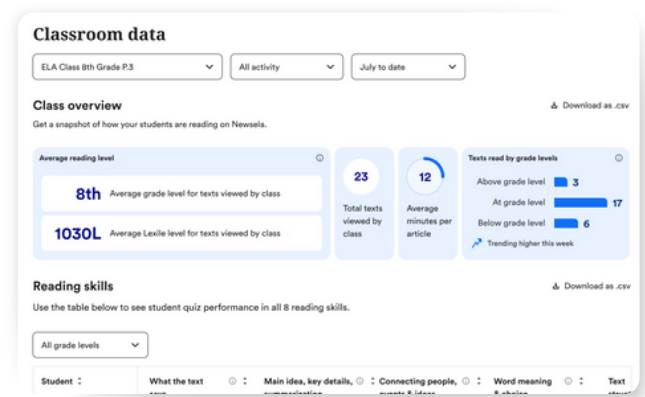


[Review this data](#) to understand Newsela adoption rates, identify successful implementation strategies, pinpoint areas needing additional teacher support or professional development, and ultimately make informed decisions to optimize Newsela's impact on learning outcomes across your schools.

Teacher Reporting

Newsela provides your teachers with valuable data and reporting at the assignment and classroom level.

These reports help them monitor their class snapshot, reading activity, and reading skills growth (for Newsela ELA), enabling data-driven instructional decisions.



Getting Started: Account Set Up & Basics

Ready to transform learning at your school or district? Getting started with Newsela unlocks a powerful platform proven to drive school-wide learning growth and engagement.

Getting Started Checklist

☐ Step 1: Confirm Your Integration With IT

Confirm with your IT department **how your teachers and students should log into Newsela** and how the platform integrates with your LMS or portal. [Login options include:](#)

- [Username and password](#)
- [Clever](#)
- [Microsoft](#)
- [Classlink](#)
- [Google](#)
- [Canvas](#)
- [Schoology](#)

☐ Step 2: Email Teachers to Get Started

Share the good news with your teachers: They can access Newsela!

Email your teachers with [Getting Set Up Communication Kits](#) to **share the correct integrated login method for their accounts**. Encourage them to complete the onboarding checklist within the product.

Reinforce these emails by communicating the information in person at your in-service meetings.

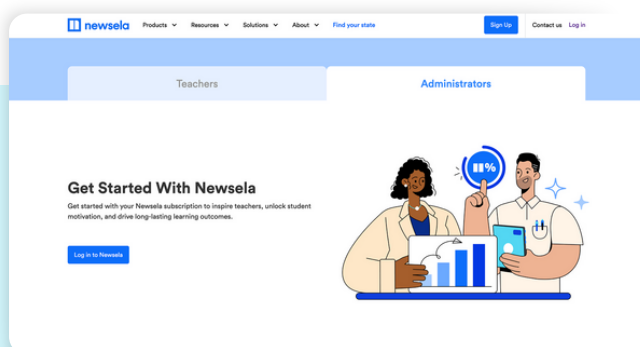
☐ Step 3: Promote Resources

[Content promotion](#) lets you **spotlight preferred resources, topics, courses**, and more. Customize the teacher experience to **show these handpicked resources on their Newsela homepage** so they spend less time searching for the right resources and more time preparing for instruction.

☐ Step 4: Monitor Adoption and Use

Monitor teacher and student usage and progress with the [Usage report](#). The information in this report can tell you **which schools and classrooms actively use their subscription** and create assignments. It also **provides student insights** into how many write prompts are completed and quizzes are submitted.

Your teachers have their own set of login instructions in the **Educator Success Guide, Teacher Edition**. Check out that guide to see the full range of support at their fingertips!

[View the Teacher Guide](#)

[Getting Started:
Admin Hub](#)

Implementation Use Cases

Effective implementation helps educators turn research-based instructional materials into meaningful learning experiences that drive reading growth, explore multiple perspectives, and build lasting knowledge. The use cases below highlight common approaches that support one or more of these outcomes to maximize the impact of Newsela ELA, Newsela Social Studies, & Newsela Writing.

Newsela ELA

This chart outlines five ways districts and schools use Newsela ELA to support science of reading implementation—through purposeful planning, building literacy skills, and enabling close reading. [Check out some teacher-facing resources here \(page 17\).](#)



Target Priority Skills or Themes in Instructional Planning

Meet instructional goals: Equip teachers with the tools to search, find, and introduce content on a specific skill, theme, or instructional need in whole-class settings.



Support Student Practice and Skill Development

Meet instructional goals: Give students the opportunity to build key literacy skills and support differentiated instruction for striving readers.



Support Independent Reading

Meet instructional goals: Foster reading stamina and motivation through student choice.



Deliver Curated Resources for Student-Led Projects

Meet instructional goals: Promote deeper learning through student-led inquiry, critical thinking, and authentic expression aligned to core instruction.



Enable Close Reading Experiences Across Content Areas

Meet instructional goals: Build student depth of understanding and critical thinking across content areas through deep textual analysis.



Read the [overview booklet](#) and see how Newsela ELA enables content-rich instruction to drive literacy outcomes.

Students who read and take quizzes 2x per week see **4 additional months** of literacy skill growth by the end of the school year.



Newsela Social Studies

This chart outlines four primary ways districts and schools commonly use Newsela Social Studies to build content knowledge, foster historical thinking, and drive student inquiry to increase student achievement on social studies assessments without sacrificing engagement.

[Check out some teacher-facing resources here \(page 21\).](#)



Target Key Historical Concepts and Themes in Instructional Planning

Meet instructional goals: Build engagement by bringing historical concepts to life and supporting core social studies instruction.



Support Independent Practice Aligned to Standards

Meet instructional goals: Build essential civic knowledge and develop students' abilities to analyze sources, recognize bias, and apply critical thinking.



Embed Inquiry and Civic Engagement in Instruction

Meet instructional goals: Promote inquiry-based learning and civic engagement through structured questioning, primary source analysis, and real-world application



Prioritize Deepening Historical Knowledge and Critical Thinking

Meet instructional goals: Connect primary sources with current events and hands-on learning to make historical thinking meaningful, relevant, and student-driven.

Students who used Newsela Social Studies weekly showed the equivalent of an **additional year of instruction** on their state social studies exam.



Read the [overview booklet](#) to see how this solution nurtures inquiry-minded learners.



Read [4 Ways to Make Social Studies Relevant](#) for tips to drive district outcomes.

Newsela Writing

How can you get teachers across subject areas to incorporate more meaningful writing practice into instruction?

Newsela Writing strengthens evidence-based writing across your school or district by promoting repeated practice across disciplines to reinforce learning, critical thinking, and communication. It's the cross-curricular writing assistant that helps students in grades 3-12 become confident writers.

[Check out some teacher-facing resources here \(page 24\).](#)



Prioritize Skills-Based Writing Assignments

Meet instructional goals: Reinforce argumentative, explanatory, or informational writing aligned to standards.



Integrate Reading + Writing

Meet instructional goals: Combine close reading with evidence-based writing in one seamless lesson.



Practice Cross-Curricular Writing

Meet instructional goals: Support writing in science and social studies using content-area texts.



Support Writing for Test Readiness

Meet instructional goals: Prepare students with prompts that mirror state assessment formats.



Watch the [overview video](#) to dive into how this solution nurtures confident writers.



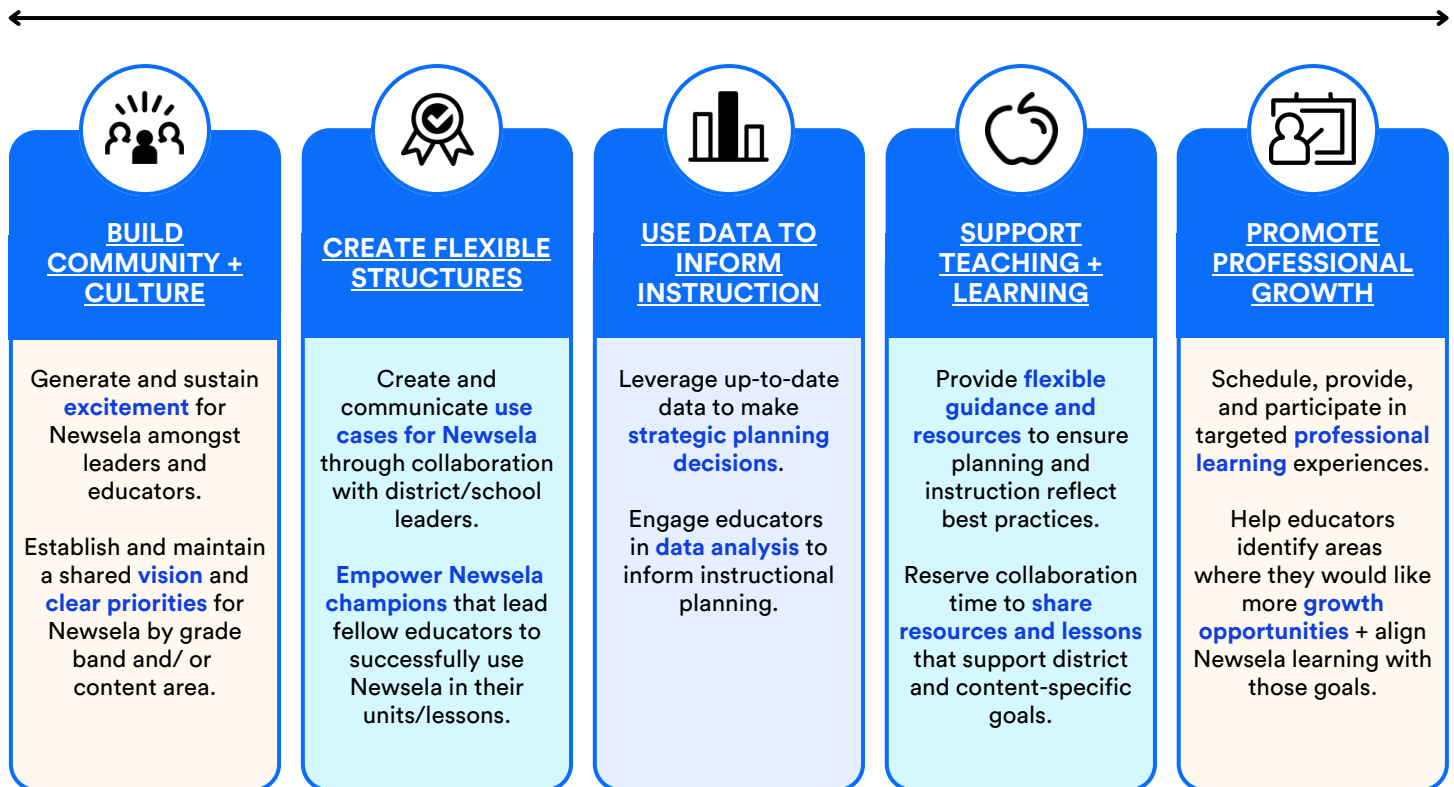
Read the [Admin Writing Guide](#) for tips on making writing a district priority.

Administrator/Coach Implementation Guidance & Resources

District and school administrators, coaches, and other instructional leaders are all essential to the success of any program.

Five Pillars for Success Overview

Focusing on these pillars for success will empower you to maximize the impact of Newsela and lead a successful, sustainable implementation.



These **five pillars for success** serve as a non-linear framework designed to maximize Newsela's impact. Think of them as foundational areas for planning and continuous improvement, rather than a rigid sequence. You'll find yourself revisiting and strengthening different pillars throughout the year, and this guide is here to provide the guidance and support you need to do just that.



[A Year of Professional Learning
Timeline Recommendations](#)



Pillar 1: Build Community + Culture

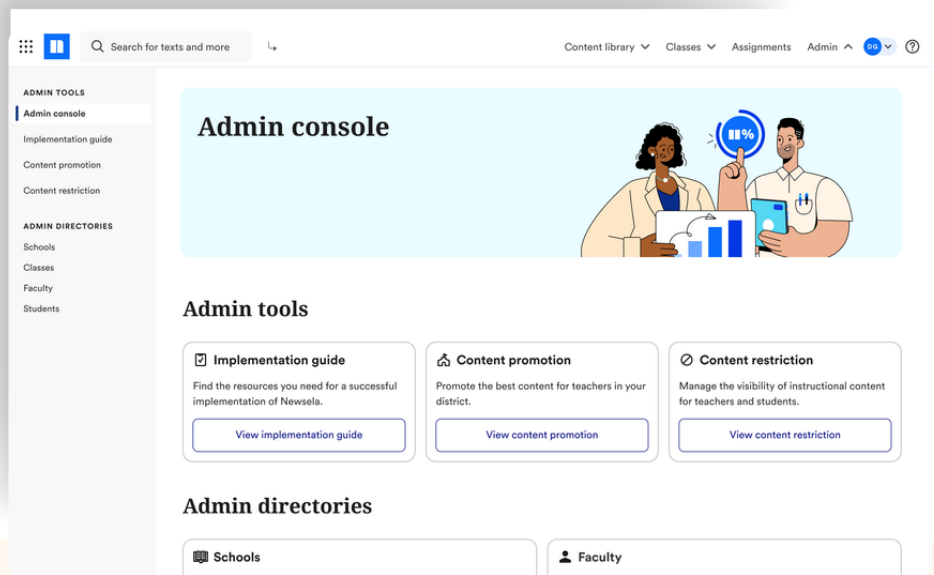
Build a Newsela culture and community that aligns with your unique vision and priorities. By fully engaging with the Newsela onboarding process and leveraging the Admin console tools, you'll inspire excitement and drive consistent usage throughout the year that leads to student outcomes.

Admin Console

Whether you're rolling out Newsela for the first time or supporting ongoing implementation, our [Admin console](#) is designed to help you easily create the ideal Newsela experience that reflects your district's unique vision. You'll find everything you need to set up, manage, and maximize Newsela for your school or district to drive real impact for educators and students.

Admin tools ensure effective implementation, align Newsela to your curricular priorities, and provide meaningful data.

[Content Promotion](#) is one of these tools, helping you enhance your teachers' Newsela experience by spotlighting preferred curricular-aligned content and features.



Learn more about Admin Tools



[Admin Quick Start](#)



[Content Promotion](#)



[Content Restriction](#)



[Newselaverse](#)

Onboarding

Our onboarding pathway is segmented into three essential phases, each designed to ensure your team's successful integration and confident platform utilization. This visual overview highlights the progression from initial setup to ongoing engagement and expansion.

Phase 1: Set Up & Kickoff Days 1-30

This initial phase is all about setting up and preparing Newsela for your district. Our goal is to establish foundational access and initiate engagement.

Kick Off:

- **Kick-off Call & Planning:** Participate in the kickoff call to review the Educator Success Guide and define your district's Newsela rollout plan.
- **Admin Training & Follow-up:** Receive essential admin training and schedule your adoption call to discuss ongoing support

Set Up:

- **Account Provisioning:** Ensure your Newsela account is fully set up.
- **Customer Success Handoff:** Look for an introductory email from our Customer Success and Onboarding team.
- **Integration Info Collection:** Provide necessary details for any system integrations.

Phase 2: Adopt, Engage, & Refine Days 31-60

This phase focuses on ensuring successful teacher activation and initial usage. We'll align on your specific goals, finalize implementation steps, and begin measuring early progress.

Adopt & Engage:

- **Adoption Call:** Participate in a 45-minute adoption call with your Customer Success Manager (CSM) to review progress and refine strategies.
- **Review Admin Training:** Access and review asynchronous, available resources to deepen your understanding.
- **Teacher Activation:** Collaborate with Newsela to [send initial and follow-up activation emails](#) to teachers.

Review & Refine:

- **Monitor & Act on Metrics:** [Review activation metrics](#) to identify and address any barriers, ensuring intended teachers are actively using the platform.
- **Celebrate Milestones:** Recognize and celebrate early achievements, such as reaching a 20% teacher activation rate, to build momentum.

Phase 3: Continuous Growth: 90 Days and Beyond

This final phase focuses on maximizing your investment in Newsela, driving continuous engagement, and realizing its full value throughout your district.

Continuous Growth:

- **Sustain Engagement:** Leverage Newsela's resources to encourage consistent teacher and student usage, fostering continuous growth in literacy and engagement within the Admin + Leader Pillars for Success
- **Address Activation Gaps:** Partner with your Customer Success Manager (CSM) to deploy targeted strategies that address any teacher activation gaps and drive deeper adoption across your schools.
- **Monitor Progress & Celebrate Milestones:** Regularly review district-wide usage and learning insights, celebrating key milestones and successes as your Newsela implementation matures.



Pillar 2: Create Flexible Structures

Strategically define who on your team will use Newsela, when it best integrates into the curriculum, and how it directly aligns with your district's educational priorities to ensure sustainable success. Creating an understanding of use cases and empowering educators to consistently implement Newsela in their classrooms will lead to learning and success.

Implementation Planning Options (When, Who, Why?)

This chart serves as a versatile tool for individual leaders or teams of leaders to strategically plan their Newsela implementation. By selecting options under "When," "Who," and "Why" across whole-class, small-group, and independent work structures, leaders clearly define how Newsela aligns with existing programs, classroom environments, and educational goals.

	Whole-Class Instruction	Small Groups	Independent Work
When?	☐ ELA/literacy block ☐ Social Studies block ☐ Science/STEM block ☐ Intervention block ☐ Other: _____	☐ Center rotations ☐ Small group activity ☐ Tier 2 support ☐ English Learner support ☐ Special Education support	☐ After whole-class instruction ☐ Literacy workshop ☐ Book clubs/Independent reading ☐ Entry or exit ticket ☐ Research/Inquiry/Project-based
Who?	☐ ELA teachers ☐ Social Studies/ Science teachers ☐ Special Education teachers ☐ ELL/MLL teachers ☐ Other: _____	☐ ELA teachers ☐ Social Studies/ Science teachers ☐ Special Education teachers ☐ ELL/MLL teachers ☐ Other: _____	☐ ELA teachers ☐ Social Studies/ Science teachers ☐ Special Education teachers ☐ ELL/MLL teachers ☐ Other: _____
Why?	☐ Introduce a skill or a topic ☐ Complement Core instruction ☐ Deepen knowledge + perspectives ☐ Modeling literacy strategies ☐ Pre-teach vocabulary or concepts	☐ Targeted skills practice ☐ Support vocabulary practice ☐ Increase student collaboration ☐ Target support for ELLs or SwDs ☐ Other: _____	☐ Application of content/skills ☐ Independent close reading ☐ Independent writing ☐ Student-led inquiry or research ☐ Other: _____

[Download your planning chart!](#)

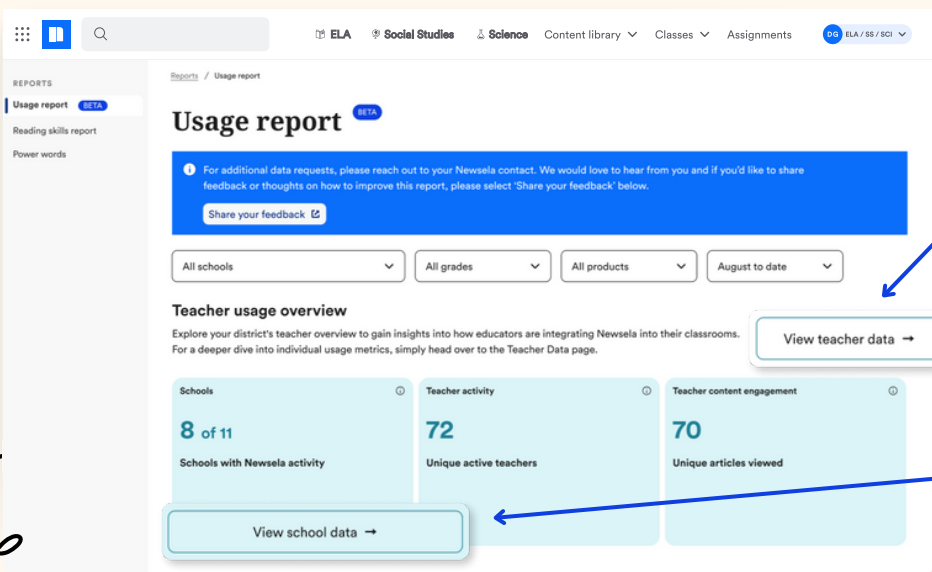
Pillar 3: Use Data To Inform Planning and Instruction

Leverage the administrator Usage report to inform strategic planning, professional learning, and additional teaching and learning support throughout the year.

Admin Usage report

The admin usage report on Newsela is crucial for understanding how the platform is being adopted and utilized across your school or district.

By incorporating this report into your data routines, you gain actionable insights into teacher and student engagement, enabling informed decisions to optimize implementation and maximize Newsela's impact.



Pro Tip: Use this data to inspire targeted engagement ([Newsela Engagement Kits](#)) or inform future professional learning plans by site or department.

Pro Tip: Identify Newsela power users to activate a “Train the Trainer” model with our Newsela Certified Educator course!

Our real-time reporting insights make literacy outcomes a reality for learners.



Students who read and take quizzes 2x per week on Newsela ELA see **4 additional months** of literacy skill growth by the end of the school year.



Students who used Newsela Social Studies weekly showed the equivalent of **an additional year** of instruction on their state social studies exam.



[Newsela Certified Educator Course](#)





Pillar 4: Support Teaching and Learning

Provide flexible guidance and resources to ensure planning and instruction support best practices. Reserve collaboration time to share resources and lessons that support your school or district's vision and priorities.

Maximizing Learning with Newsela: A Strategic Framework

To support teachers in maximizing impact, we recommend using **Newsela's 4 P's (Prepare, Preview, Practice, and Process)**—a flexible, research-based framework designed to help teachers develop engaging Newsela lessons that strategically build knowledge and skills.

1: PREPARE → Set Goals and Engage Students

Teachers can use Newsela's library of 18,000+ texts and multimedia to find content aligned to their core curriculum, instructional goals, and priority standards—supporting data-driven planning and effective lesson delivery.

Resource Spotlight:

- Video: [Admin Content Promotion](#)
- Video: [Finding Content on Newsela](#)
- Template: [Classroom Insights Planner](#)

2: PREVIEW → Implementation Guidance

Before guiding teachers, check out the Resource Spotlight in your [Admin Implementation Planner](#). This helps ensure pre-reading activities—like building background knowledge or sparking motivation—align with your strategic priorities and student learning goals.

Resource Spotlight:

- Support: [Plan with Newsela Lesson Sparks](#)

3: PRACTICE → Deliver Differentiated Instruction

Encourage teachers to design [differentiated learning experiences](#) with tools like annotations, Checks for Understanding, and presentation mode to model and support comprehension. These strategies help create differentiated, engaging instruction aligned to your school's learning goals.

Resource Spotlight:

- Video: [How to use article tools in Newsela](#)

4: PROCESS → Insight for Action

Support teachers in building data-driven routines with Newsela. Quizzes and student activities provide clear, actionable insights that help educators understand learning needs and adjust instruction to maximize outcomes.

Resource Spotlight:

- [Classroom Insights Planner](#)
- [Student Data Reflection + Metacognition](#)

To support teachers in maximizing the impact of the Newsela 4 Ps, essential steps are available in the **Educator Success Guide, Teacher Edition**.



Pillar 5: Promote Professional Growth

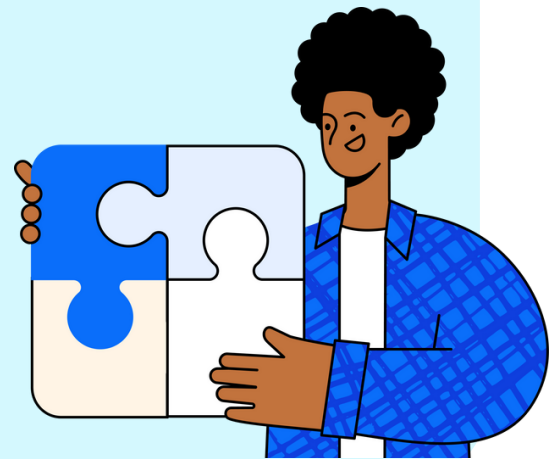
Professional learning is pivotal for unlocking Newsela's full potential and ensuring a truly successful implementation. This strategic investment maximizes your return, leading to enhanced student outcomes and meaningful engagement across every classroom.

Increase implementation to support student learning

- Schools with teachers that attend professional learning have **55% more active teachers** and **71% more active students** than schools with no professional learning.

Rich instructional resources require training

- Teachers indicate a **26% growth in confidence** with Newsela after attending professional learning.
- This confidence rating increases to **50% growth** if the teacher had never used Newsela before the session.



Newsela Professional Learning brings your priorities to life by bridging platform education to pedagogical best practices. Designed to deepen the impact of Newsela at your school or district, sessions engage educators in active, collaborative learning with both tactical and instructional strategies that fit the unique learning goals of your students.



How one district leveraged Newsela Professional Learning to help teachers more effectively differentiate instruction

DISTRICT PROFILE

District: BEAVERTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

Location: PORTLAND, OR

Student Population: 49,000

Instructional challenge: DIFFERENTIATING INSTRUCTION FOR ALL LEARNERS

THE CHALLENGE

The challenge of differentiating instruction for all learners

Like many educators, teachers at Beaverton School District were looking for ways to differentiate their instruction so students could learn and develop at a pace that suited them. However, finding accessible materials for students that were also engaging in a way that boosted learning was challenging. This was particularly true for Beaverton teachers supporting the district's Spanish-speaking English language learners who made up over 10% of the student population. While Beaverton was excited about Newsela's leveled text across grade and subject levels in both Spanish and English, they were still looking for guidance on how to implement the content within teachers' classrooms. A study by the U.S. Department of Education showed that nearly half of teachers felt underprepared to differentiate instruction in their classrooms, and those numbers have only gotten worse in recent months. Kacy Paterson, a Secondary ELA Teacher on Special Assignment at Beaverton, expressed that teachers in her district experience this challenge too. "I think for teachers to have a tool that helps you differentiate across content is essential. It's something that is incredibly important to do, but it's also really hard to do."

Kacy Paterson
SECONDARY ELA TEACHER ON SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT
BEAVERTON SCHOOL DISTRICT



Beaverton School District Success Story



Newsela Professional Learning Catalog

Newsela Professional Learning brings your district's priorities to life by bridging the Newsela platform to priority instructional practices. Discover our range of sessions that meet the varied needs and experience levels of educators in your district.

Introductory Sessions for New Users

Help educators get started and effectively implement their Newsela subscription(s) in their classrooms.

- ☐ Discovering Newsela Content and Features
- ☐ Designing Learning Experiences
- ☐ Differentiating Instruction
- ☐ Navigating Newsela Writing
- ☐ Supporting Student Engagement

Professional Learning for Experienced Users

Support educators in strengthening their instructional practices with their Newsela subscriptions.

- ☐ Building Background Knowledge
- ☐ California Ethnic Studies
- ☐ Complementing Your Curriculum
- ☐ Cross-Curricular Literacy
- ☐ Developing Decoding Skills for Older Readers
- ☐ Embedding Culturally Responsive Practices
- ☐ Inquiry-Based Learning
- ☐ LGBTQIA+ Studies
- ☐ Newsela for the Science Classroom
- ☐ Newsela for the Social Studies Classroom
- ☐ Reading Skills Instruction with Newsela
- ☐ Social-Emotional Learning
- ☐ Supporting Multilingual Learners
- ☐ Using Student Insights to Inform Instruction
- ☐ Vocabulary Development

Sessions for Administrators and Instructional Leaders

Empower your leaders and trainers to support Newsela implementation and align usage to be in service of your goals.

- ☐ Maximizing Newsela at Your Schools
- ☐ Train the Trainer: Newsela Foundations
- ☐ Train the Trainer: Advancing Instructional Approaches
- ☐ Train the Trainer: Aligning to Subject-Area Priorities

Professional Learning Catalog



Additional Learning

Learn from the Experts

- **Lawrence Paska**
 - **About:** Dr. Lawrence Paska is the Executive Director of the National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS), the largest professional association in the country devoted solely to social studies education.
 - [Social Studies: The Unsung Hero of Student Achievement featuring NCSS Executive Director Dr. Lawrence Paska](#) (2024)
- **Jennifer Serravallo**
 - **About:** Jennifer Serravallo is the author of “The Reading Strategies 2.0 + The Writing Strategies 2.0,” speaker and leader of a team of literacy specialists who helps teachers develop skillful, enthusiastic readers and writers by translating research into doable practices that fit today’s classrooms.
 - [Driving Literacy Through Content-Rich Instruction With Literacy Expert Jennifer Serravallo](#) (2024)
 - [Writing Practice Across the Curriculum: Driving Student Achievement in Literacy & Beyond](#) (2025)
- **Natalie Wexler**
 - **About:** Natalie Wexler is an education writer and the author of “Beyond the Science of Reading: Connecting Literacy Instruction to the Science of Learning” (ASCD 2025) and “The Knowledge Gap: The Hidden Cause of America’s Broken Education System—And How to Fix It” (Avery 2019), and co-author, with Judith C. Hochman, of the first and second editions of “The Writing Revolution: A Guide to Advancing Thinking Through Writing in All Subjects and Grades” (Jossey-Bass, 2017 and 2024).
 - [Stop the 8th Grade Slump: Bridging the Gap Between “Learn to Read” and “Read to Learn,” Featuring Natalie Wexler](#) (2024)

Appendix of Resources

Take quick action and implement with ease using the grab-and-go resources linked throughout the guide.

Standards and Curriculum Alignment



[Set Up Your District's Content Promotion Page](#)



[How to Elevate Your Admin Experience](#)



[Newsela & the Science of Reading](#)

Aligning Leveled Texts with the Science of Reading



[Our Approach to Leveling](#)

Scaffolding and Differentiation: Supporting Multilingual Learners



[9 MLL Best Practices to Support Students](#)



[Newsela Sample MLL Theme Unit](#)



[Supporting Multilingual Learners with Newsela](#)

Scaffolding and Differentiation: Supporting Students with Disabilities



[Support Students with Disabilities with Newsela](#)



[Newsela Tier 2 ELA Lab/WIN Lessons "I Am Malala" by Malala Yousafzai](#)

Getting Started Checklist



[Getting Started: Admin Hub](#)

Implementation Use Cases



[Newsela ELA Booklet](#)



[Newsela Social Studies Booklet](#)



[Newsela Writing Overview Video](#)



[4 Ways to Make Social Studies Relevant](#)



[Admin Writing Guide](#)

Guidance & Resources: Build Community + Culture



[Admin Quick Start](#)



[Content Promotion](#)



[Content Restriction](#)



[Newselaverse](#)

Guidance & Resources: Use Data To Inform Planning and Instruction



[Newsela Certified Educator Course](#)

Guidance & Resources: Promote Professional Growth



[Professional Learning Catalog](#)



[A Year of Professional Learning Timeline Recommendations](#)



Newsela Educator Success Guide: Admin Edition