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 RECOMMENDED FIRST SESSION
Designing Learning Experiences RECOMMENDED SECOND SESSION
☐ Differentiating Instruction
Navigating Newsela Writing NEW SESSION
Supporting Student Engagement
Professional Learning for Experienced Users
Support educators in strengthening their instructional practices with their Newsela subscriptions.
Building Background Knowledge Newsela for the Social Studies Classroom
California Ethnic Studies Reading Skills Instruction with Newsela
Complementing Your Curriculum Social-Emotional Learning
Cross-Curricular Literacy Supporting Multilingual Learners
☐ Discussing Complex Topics ☐ Using Student Insights to Inform Instruction
Embedding Culturally Responsive Practices Vocabulary Development
Inquiry-Based Learning
LGBTQIA+ Studies
Newsela for the Science Classroom
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

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Session Descriptions and Details



Newsela professional learning opportunities provide administrators, coaches, and educators with a deeper understanding of Newsela features and instructional resources, as well as best practices to build literacy skills and content knowledge. Participants will walk away with the capacity to implement strategies that create meaningful classroom learning. Select a session format that fits your professional learning goals.

Session Focus Icon Key

















Introductory Sessions for New Users





Discovering Newsela Content and Features RECOMMENDED FIRST SESSION

Learn how to discover Newsela content and pair it with instructional features that help drive measurable gains and align to the science of reading.







RECOMMENDED SECOND SESSION

Follow the 4 Ps to design a research-based learning experience proven to accelerate student achievement. Experience the 4 steps: Prepare, Preview, Practice, and Process, with live modeling and independent practice.





Differentiating Instruction

Leverage Newsela's instructional features to automatically adjust content to meet each student's unique learning needs. Plus, learn how to create intentional teacher decisions aligned to the science of reading and the guidelines of UDL





Navigating Newsela Writing

Develop an understanding of how Newsela Writing helps students improve their writing with real-time, rubric-aligned feedback in grades 4-12.





Supporting Student Engagement

Use the learning science behind motivation to create experiences that spark excitement and sustain engagement. Identify insights with Newsela reports that provide evidence of engagement.



Professional Learning for Experienced Users





Building Background Knowledge

Boost your students' language comprehension skills with resources and activities that build background knowledge. Explore tools that help assess knowledge gaps, review strategies that address students' instructional needs, and curate text sets to advance students' understanding of priority topics.





California Ethnic Studies

Learn how the Newsela California Ethnic Studies Collection can support you in incorporating real-world texts, inquiry, and best practices articulated by the CA Model Curriculum into your Ethnic Studies instruction.





Complementing Your Curriculum

Explore the Newsela collection(s) curated specifically to support your curriculum. Leverage curated content and teaching resources to plan learning experiences aligned to your specific instructional priorities.





Cross-Curricular Literacy

Use Newsela to integrate content-area instruction and literacy practices important to your discipline to improve student language comprehension and knowledge acquisition.





Discussing Complex Topics

Learn how to vary discussion structures, foster inquiry, and support students in engaging with one another across a variety of complex topics using Newsela.





Embedding Culturally Responsive Practices

Use the learning science behind motivation to create experiences that spark excitement and sustain engagement. Identify insights with Newsela reports that provide evidence of engagement.





Inquiry-Based Learning

Support diverse learners in making connections between their lives and classroom learning materials with Newsela. Identify approaches to boost engagement and comprehension that help ensure each student has the opportunity to succeed in rigorous learning.







LGBTQIA+ Studies

Discover how the Newsela LGBTQIA+ collection supports students in exploring the history, contributions, identities, and experiences of the LGBTQIA+ community.





Newsela for the Science Classroom

Leverage Newsela Science content and activities to build student background knowledge and provide focused practice in supporting claims with evidence on a range of disciplinary topics and concepts.





Newsela for the Social Studies Classroom

Examine resources and strategies in Newsela Social Studies that build important background knowledge, offer multiple perspectives on historical figures and events, encourage critical thinking, and foster connections between the past and the present.





Reading Skills Instruction with Newsela

Use Newsela ELA to teach, practice, and assess important reading skills aligned to the science of reading. Then, utilize Newsela reporting data to plan for future skills instruction.





Social-Emotional Learning

Learn how the Newsela Social-Emotional Learning collection supports and empower teachers to incorporate SEL topics and strategies into their core instruction.





Supporting Multilingual Learners

Identify and scaffold resources to support the unique needs of multilingual learners. Promote word recognition and language comprehension with activities that attend to each language domain: reading, writing, speaking, and listening.





Using Student Insights to Inform Instruction

Explore how Newsela and Formative collect and organize student activity into valuable insights in order for teachers to make informed instructional decisions and provide timely, actionable feedback to their students.





Vocabulary Development

Apply research-based strategies that develop students' vocabularies. Provide rich and scaffolded opportunities to engage with academic and domain-specific vocabulary.



Sessions for Administrators and Instructional Leaders





Maximizing Newsela at Your Schools

Explore administrative actions that increase alignment between Newsela use and instructional priorities in the school community. Examine research that illustrates the impact of incorporating Newsela into weekly instruction.





Train the Trainer: Newsela Foundations

Cultivate grassroots expertise in your school or district and prepare your instructional leaders with presentation materials, agendas, and collections of note. Plan to lead internal professional development introducing staff to the resources and functionality of Newsela proven to drive reading and learning achievement.





Train the Trainer: Advancing Instructional Approaches

Deepen your team's understanding of Newsela resources and functionality that are proven to drive literacy gains. Plan your own staff development and focus on research-based strategies that align to the science of reading.





Train the Trainer: Aligning to Subject-Area Priorities

Support your departments by creating standards-aligned lessons and units that support knowledge acquisition and skills development using subject-specific resources. Utilize resources from the session to plan professional development for your department and develop an understanding of how you can support your team.



Formative professional learning equips your teams to implement best practices in formative instruction and assessment.

Build a tailored professional learning plan that align with your goals for implementation and instruction with the session topics below.



Using Formative to drive instruction: Tools and approaches for engaging all students in learning



Transform your existing lesson materials into interactive formatives that capture student insights and adjust instruction accordingly to improve learning outcomes. Explore different content types available within Formative to design interactive lessons and pair them with questions that help you better understand what students need in real-time. Learn how Formative's teacher-paced mode can maximize the impact of your lessons and engage all students in learning.



Ensuring each student achieves with Formative: Focusing on student practice, progress, and feedback



Use Formative to provide students with practice opportunities after teacher-led lessons, gathering valuable data that will help you adjust instruction to meet every learner's needs. Student-paced formatives allow you to design learning activities that collect real-time insights into each student's performance on key skills and standards. Evaluate different content types for their utility in assessing student skill acquisition, review reports that allow you to make instructional decisions based directly on student work, and provide students with immediate feedback that's customized to their learning needs.



Building best practices with Formative:

Collaborate with colleagues and share resources across classrooms



Collaboration tools and shared library resources on Formative empower teachers, departments, and professional learning communities (PLCs) to efficiently and effectively partner together to improve student learning outcomes. Review Formative co-teaching, pre-made resources, and Alenhanced features to ensure the best instructional materials and assessments are used with the most students. Explore how to access, share, and collaborate on Formative common assessments to consistently measure and accurately identify trends in student performance.



Train the trainer:

Overseeing formative assessments at your school

TEACHER FOCUSED

Common assessments in Formative help to establish shared vocabulary and consistent data points for student progress, so teams can effectively develop, modify, and implement the best instructional plans possible. Build an understanding of the structures and expectations that support common formative assessment at the site and district level. Review the administrator reports available to leaders in Formative that enable you to track school usage, standards progression, and student performance across teams, grade levels, subject areas, and more.