AAC languagelab®

The Literacy Bill of Rights

Literacy Bill of Rights

All persons, regardless of the extent of severity of their disabilities, have a basic right to use print. Beyond this general right, there are certain literacy rights that should be assured for all person. These basic rights are:

Opportunity



The right to an opportunity to learn to read and write. Opportunity involves engagement in active participation tasks peformed with high success.

Accessible Text





The right accessible, clear, meaningful, culturally and linguistically appropriate texts at all times. texts, broadly defined, range from picture books to newspapers to novel, cereal boxes, and electronic documents.

Interaction



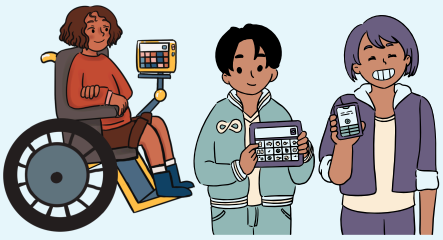
The right to interact with others, while reading, writing, or listening to a text. Interaction involves questions, comments, discussions, and other communications about or related to texts.

Life Choices



The right to life choices made available though reading and writing competencies. Life choices include, but are not limited to employment and employment changes, independence, community participation, and self-advocacy.

Lifelong Education



The right to lifelong educational opportunities incorporating literacy instruction and use. Literacy educational opportunities, regardless of when they are provided, have potential to provide power that cannot be taken away.

Literacy Bill of Rights (From Yoder, D.E., Erickson, K.A., and Koppenhaver, D.A. (1997). A Literacy Bill of Rights, Chapel Hill University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Center for Literacy and Disabilities Studies).

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Knowledgeable Teachers and Service Providers



The right to have teachers and other service providers who are knowledgeable about literacy instruction methods and principles. Methods include but are not limited to instruction, assessment, and technologies required to make literacy accessible to individual with disabilities. Principles include but are not limited to the beliefs that literacy is learned across places and time and not person is too disabled to benefit from literacy learning opportunities

Print Models



The right to live and learn in environments that provide varied models of print use. Models are demonstrations of purposeful print use such as reading a recipe, paying bills, sharing a joke, or writing a letter..

Literacy Learners

The right to live and learn in environments that maintain the expectations and attitudes that all individual are literacy learners.









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