

# Course Document

MedBridge

*Language, Literacy and the SLP*

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## Course Description:

The recent emphasis on supporting literacy has created a set of new challenges for speech-language pathologists who work with children. Given that language problems are both a cause and a consequence of reading problems, SLPs are uniquely qualified to design and implement intervention that supports development in both domains. However, it is not uncommon for SLPs to have had no specific preparation related to literacy, creating a sense of uncertainty regarding their role in the development of written language. This course will explore the relationships between language and literacy, identifying the specific knowledge and skills that speech-language pathologists bring to the development of literacy. An overview of the skills identified as critical to reading success, and examples of how these related to language learning, will also be provided as a guide for SLPs who wish to support both oral and written language development.

## Course objectives:

1. Summarize the key elements of the current knowledge base related to language and literacy development
2. Identify the knowledge and skills that SLPs bring to literacy development.
3. Link oral and written language on the parameters of form, content, and use.
4. Review the findings of the National Reading Panel and link them to characteristics of children with communication disorders.
5. Differentiate the role of the SLP and classroom teachers and/or reading specialists to literacy development.