



# Rochester Reads



**1,2,3,4 who wants to learn  
some more!**

***Buy a book. Bring a beverage.***

4 FREE book study opportunities to refresh, motivate, and inspire educators, parents, and students this year. Participate in as many opportunities as you choose.

Join (virtually) the Rochester Area Literacy Council members for the following FREE book study opportunities...

## **Forged by Reading**

**Host: Maria Katsetos**

**October  
(2 meetings)**

**Dates: 10/5 & 10/25**

**Time: 4:30-5:30**

**Register here:**

**<https://www.nysreading.org/event-4484813>**

"In *Forged by Reading: The Power of a Literate Life*, Kylee Beers and Bob Probst reflect on the role of reading in a democratic society. It is a book that helps us all—teachers, administrators, parents, and policy makers—to understand not only what it means to be an independent reader and writer, but also why creating independent readers and writers is critical to the health of our nation and the world. Literacy is about power and privilege—the power to rethink visions of ourselves and to reshape our visions of what society might be. This is critical because the history of literacy has largely been about the suppression of that power and privilege.

This book is about creating readers who think, who live an empowered life, who live a self-determined life shaped by evidence and reason, vision and imagination.

*Forged by Reading*, a culmination of Beers and Probst's life's research and teaching, grapples with many of the questions we should each be asking about literacy. It discusses pressing topics such as inclusive libraries, student identity, and anti-racism, and strategies that will help students think deeply about text. But at its heart, it is a call to action, one that reminds us, "To stay silent about wrong acts is to speak loudly. Instead, with love and encouragement, with sincerity and strength, with hope and humility, we must offer a voice that seeks a truer version of who we have been in this nation and sings a song of who it is we might become." You, too, will want to stand with strength, hope, and humility after reading *Forged by Reading*, a book that invites each of us to shape ourselves and our world."

Link:

<https://shop.scholastic.com/teachers-ecommerce/teacher/books/forged-by-reading-9781338670905.html>

## Shifting the Balance: Six Shifts

Hosts: Liz Fossum & Kristin Geroux

October-December  
(3 meetings)

Dates: Tuesdays:  
10/5, 11/2, and 12/7  
Time: 7:30-8:30PM

Register here:  
<https://www.nysreading.org/event-4490279>



From phonological processing to brain research to orthographic mapping to self-teaching hypothesis, *Shifting the Balance* cuts through the rhetoric (and the sciencey science) to offer readers a practical guide to decision-making about beginning reading instruction. The authors honor the balanced literacy perspective while highlighting common practices to reconsider and revise—all through a lens of what’s best for the students sitting in front of us.

By pinpointing gaps and overlaps—as well as common misunderstandings and missed opportunities between the competing lines of thought—Jan and Kari offer busy educators direction and clarification for integrating science and balance into their daily instruction, while keeping meaningful experiences with text a priority. Across six shifts, each chapter

- identifies a common instructional practice to reconsider
- explores various misunderstandings that establish and keep that practice in play
- shares scientific research to support its reconsideration
- proposes an instructional shift to apply a new perspective, and
- details several high-leverage instructional routines to support implementation of that shift.

[The Six Shifts](#)

[Dr. Jan Burkins](#)

## Equipped for Reading Success

Hosts: Linda GilletteSmith & Amy DeBlase

November-April  
(6-7 meetings)

Dates: 11/4, 12/2, 1/6, 2/3, 3/3,  
4/7

Time: 6:30PM-7:30 PM

Register here:  
<https://www.nysreading.org/event-4492251>

Equipped for Reading Success by Dr. David Kilpatrick is a comprehensive, step-by-step program for developing phonemic awareness and fluent word recognition. We will discuss the research and strategies to promote phonemic awareness for kindergarten through fifth grade students using the resource available in the book. While the book is geared towards K-5, struggling readers in middle and high school may demonstrate gaps in this area as well. The strategies and program take only a 5-10 minutes a day but provide great results!

This is a book for parents and teachers who want to learn how to assist with the foundational phonemic awareness base for early reading. The first part explains what needs to be done. The second part provides the “how to do it”. The third part provides needed Training Exercises that are easy to use (One-minute activities). Finally, the last part provides Appendices and Resources.

**Dr. Kilpatrick will be our featured guest speaker April 2022.**

[Link to purchase the book.](#)

## **Stamped for Kids**

**Host: Laura Griffone**

**May  
(1 meeting)**

**Date: 5/18**

**Time: 5:00-6:00 PM**

**Register here:**

**<https://www.nysreading.org/event-4490285>**

Stamped for Kids is an adaptation by Sonja Cherry-Paul of the best seller by Jason Reynolds and Ibram X. Kendi.

This book is about the history of race in America and moves into the current events that surround race in our country.

This book study will take place over two one-hour sessions. The first session will cover the years 1415 to 1945. The second session will look at the 1940s to present time.

We will examine the possible uses of this book in the classroom and the impact it will have on our children.