

Information on reading experts who rate reading textbooks in conjunction with our evaluations of programs using **Standard 2: Early Reading:**

Dr. Marcia Davidson

Dr. Davidson is the Global Director of Reading and Writing Instruction for Room to Read, an organization with reading intervention programs in nine countries in Asia and Africa. She is a nationally certified school psychologist and worked in public schools for 15 years, serving children and families from preschool through age 21. She was a faculty member in both elementary education and special education departments at the university level, teaching courses in reading methods and assessment for 12 years. More recently, Dr. Davidson began to focus on reading programs in poor countries. She designed an early reading intervention and provided technical assistance in the implementation of the Liberia USAID/World Bank EGRA Plus early grade reading project, and worked as a Senior Technical Advisor in the scaling up of this project for 1 ½ years during a residency in Liberia working for RTI International. In her current role, she works with her country teams on reading program design in local languages, classroom program implementation, classroom support, community engagement and partnerships, assessment and program impact. She has published studies in reading and reading assessment; current research interests include evaluating the impact of reading interventions in local languages, continuous assessment approaches, and effective teacher professional development in poor countries.

Dr. Davidson earned her BA in elementary education from Webster University, her MS in community-school psychology from Central Florida University and her PhD in special education from the University of Washington.

Dr. Deborah Glaser

Dr. Glaser is an educational consultant and professional development provider with expertise in reading assessment and a vast knowledge of instructional methods derived from trusted research. During Dr. Glaser's many varied years in education she experienced both elementary and middle school classrooms, learning disability instruction, and served as Director of Education of the Lee Pesky Learning Center, in Boise, Idaho, where she oversaw the development of remedial programs for individuals with dyslexia. She has assisted universities with the development of research based reading curricula and established training and consultation programs to support the success of state and national reading initiatives. Deborah was advisor to Idaho's Legislative Reading Committee and a principal author of Idaho's Reading Initiative. Dr. Glaser is a National Trainer of the distinguished teacher curriculum Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling. She consults with national policy institutes regarding quality reading instruction and teacher preparation, and assists schools and districts with the implementation of scientifically based reading programs and strengthening practitioners' collaborative efforts toward improved instruction and student reading abilities. Dr. Glaser is author of *ParaReading: A Training Guide for Tutors* and *LETRS Foundations: An Introduction to Language and Literacy* coauthored with Dr. Louisa Moats. Her most recent publication is *Next STEPS in Literacy Instruction*.

Dr. Glaser received her doctorate in curriculum and instruction with specific focus on reading and school reform from Boise State University.

Dr. Anne Whitney

Dr. Whitney is a clinical professor in the Speech, Language, Hearing Sciences Department at the University of Colorado, Boulder. She has extensive clinical and teaching expertise in language learning disabilities, with particular expertise in dyslexia. She has taught numerous university courses and has

trained graduate students clinically in methods for assessment and intervention of dyslexia and other language learning disabilities. Her background includes working in public school settings from grades K-12, teaching in regular classrooms and special education classes. Dr. Whitney is a certified National Trainer for Louisa Moats' Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling (LETRS) and is a frequent presenter at local, state, and national conferences. Dr. Whitney is coauthor of *Games and Activities for Readers and Spellers*, and the *Instructional Resource Guide for Teachers*. She has also co-authored *A Coach's Guide to Teaching Reading Essentials* with Linda Farrell and Louisa Moats and *SPELL-Links to Reading and Writing-2* with Dr. Jan Wasowicz, Dr. Kenn Apel, and Dr. Julie Masterson. Dr. Whitney serves on several state literacy committees and is a past member of the board of directors of the Rocky Mountain Branch of the International Dyslexia Association.

Dr. Whitney earned her MS in hearing and speech sciences and her MS in communications disorders from Colorado State University; she earned her EdD in special education from the University of Northern Colorado.