



READ FOR AFRICA's

Ph o n o-G r a p h i x™ Certification Course

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Lynn Clarkson

Accreditation Number: RFA PGR CORR 2021/14

This is to certify that **Lynn Clarkson** has completed Read for Africa Phono-Graphix Certification Course in and has completed a 12-week internship programme and is now a certified **Ph o n o-G r a p h i x™** Reading Therapist.

Phono-Graphix™ is a straightforward reading and spelling method, which was developed by Carmen and Geoffrey Mc Guinness in 1993, at the Read America clinic in Orlando, Florida. It takes the sounds of the English language – and teaches the various sound-pictures (letters) that represent those sounds in careful stages. www.phono-graphix.com.

The internship programme entails assessing a learner using the Phono-Graphix diagnostics tools to establish whether a learner can segment, blend and manipulate phonemes. It also establishes how much of the sound picture code (the letters and letter combinations that represents the sounds of the language) that a learner knows. This knowledge and these skills are assessed in isolation as well as in the context of “real” reading and spelling activities to see how well learners can apply them.

This assessment then guides the process of reading therapy, and at which level the process should begin. Research and experience have indicated that most learners can reach grade level reading within 12 sessions, the internship therefore consists of at least 12 1-hour lessons per week over a 3-month period.

Lynn worked with a learner over a 12-week period ensuring that the learner could blend, segment and manipulate sounds whilst dealing with various levels of complexity within the English language. Concepts that needed to be covered and understood including the fact that letters are pictures of sound, some sound pictures can have more than one letter such as the sh, ch, th etc, and the fact that there is variation and overlap in the code. Variation is where a sound can be represented in several different ways such as the “o-e” sound being shown by an [oe], [oa], [ow], [o-e] or [o] for example. An overlap is when a sound picture such as the [ow] can represent more than one sound – in this case it can be an “o-e” in grow, but an “ow” in brown. These skills and concepts are then consolidated with the introduction of the Phono-Graphix techniques known as mapping, scratch sheet spelling and buddy reading as explained on page two of this letter.

Lynn kept a detailed journal over this 12-week process with her planning and observations of each lesson. She also completed an assignment demonstrating a very good theoretical and practical understanding of the programme

Please contact me if you have any queries about the **Ph o n o-G r a p h i x™** reading method, or the internship programme. We wish **Lynn** much success as an Independent Reading Therapist as she continues to teach reading using the **Ph o n o-G r a p h i x™** Reading and Spelling method.

Jenny Taylor
Phono-Graphix Reading Therapist and Trainer

The Ph o n o - G r a p h i x Reading and Spelling Method

Phono-Graphix™ is a straightforward reading method, which was developed by Carmen and Geoffrey Mc Guinness in 1993, at the Read America clinic in Orlando. It takes the sounds of the English language – and teaches the various sound-pictures (letters) that represent those sounds in careful stages.

Nature of the Code

- letters are pictures of sounds
- a sound picture can be one or more than one letter
- there is variation in the code
- there is overlap in the code

** These are CONCEPTS that a child must understand, experience and know how to manage to be able to read.*

Skills for Using the Code

- segmenting
- blending
- phoneme manipulation

** These are the SKILLS a child has to be able to perform.*

The Code

- the 143 or so sound pictures that represent the sounds of our language

Research on the method.

International Research

Results of the 1996 Orton Annals of Dyslexia study conducted at the Read America clinic by Dr. Mc Guinness of the University of South Florida, showed a remarkable 98% success rate at getting clients to grade level in just 12 sessions. This was the average for all clients, including those with reading related learning disabilities. Go to www.phono-graphix.com

Local (South Africa)

The application of Phono-Graphix has been explored in South Africa with young adult learners as part of a Master Degree in Education at Wits University. A research project was conducted at the Sparrow Skills Centre, where Phono-Graphix was shown to be an effective pre-cursor to the Adult Basic Education and training Level 1 curriculum and other literacy practices.

Important Terms:

Buddy Reading: Buddy reading is a strategy which provides beginner readers with practice with reading words that he/she can read in a meaningful context (real books) where the “buddy” (supervisor, teacher, adult, older child) will read unfamiliar words for a child or will encourage a young reader to read these words independently with their help. A “buddy” would point out target sounds, break longer words up into more manageable chunks. In this way, the student is exposed to text, starts to familiarise him/herself with the spelling of certain words. This technique also helps to improve fluency and boosts a new readers confidence.

Mapping: encourage the student to say each sound as he/she writes the word. This reinforces the sound-to-sound picture (sound to symbol) correspondence.

Scratch Sheet Spelling – a spelling technique where the student tries all the spelling variations of a target sounds on a “scratch sheet” of paper. The more the student reads, the better she/he will be able to recognise the correct sound pictures in words and the more accurate his/her spelling will become.