

OUR AUTHORS

LOUISA c. MOATS



Lead author Louisa C. Moats, Ed.D., is a nationally recognized authority on how children learn to read and why some fail to learn. Widely acclaimed as a researcher, speaker, consultant, and trainer, Moats has developed the landmark professional development program *LETRS* for teachers and reading specialists.

Moats began her professional career as a neuropsychology technician and teacher of students with learning disabilities. She earned her bachelor's degree at Wellesley College, her master's degree at Peabody College of Vanderbilt University, and her doctorate in reading and human development at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. She has been licensed to teach in three states.

Moats has served as an adjunct professor of psychiatry at Dartmouth Medical School and a clinical associate professor of pediatrics at the University of Texas, Houston. She spent 15 years in private practice as a licensed psychologist in Vermont, specializing in evaluation and consultation with individuals of all ages who experienced difficulty with reading, spelling, writing, and oral language. After advising the California Reading Initiative for one year, Moats spent four years as site director of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) Early Interventions Project in Washington, D.C., which included daily work with inner-city teachers and children. Conducted through the University of Texas at Houston, this longitudinal, large-scale project investigated the causes and remedies for reading failure in high-poverty urban schools.

In addition to *LETRS* her authored and coauthored books include *Speech to Print*, *Straight Talk About Reading*, and *Basic Facts About Dyslexia*. Instructional materials include *Spellography* and *Primary Spelling by Pattern*. She also has published numerous peer-reviewed journal articles, chapters, and policy papers, including the American Federation of Teachers' "Teaching Reading IS Rocket Science," the Learning First Alliance's "Every Child Reading: A Professional Development Guide," and Reading First's "Blueprint for Professional Development."