***Reading in Virginia* Article Guide**

Use this guide as a resource for planning your *Reading in Virginia* article. Remember that all article manuscripts should follow APA 7 formatting (free resources for this format are embedded below). Upon completion of your manuscript, please submit via email to joan.rhodes@vslatoday.org.

| **Introduction:** *Hook your reader! What will you be writing about? Why is it important/relevant in today’s schools? What are a few key pieces of research that support the importance of this topic?* *TIP: End your introduction with a “road map” thesis statement for the reader. What will you be presenting in your article and in what order?*  |
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| **Literature/supporting research:** *In 2-3 paragraphs, describe the research that supports your topic, with a focus on more recent, peer-reviewed studies. What are the key takeaways? How do they affect stakeholders (e.g., students, teachers, administrators)? What does the research say is most effective for literacy development on your selected topic?**TIP: Use APA 7 headers to organize your writing for the reader and ensure a logical flow. See the* [*Purdue Online Writing Lab*](https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/apa_style/apa_formatting_and_style_guide/general_format.html) *(OWL) for a free overview of APA 7 formatting and style guides.**TIP: To find literature/supporting research, be sure to consult research databases. If you do not have access to databases, consider exploring:** *Google Scholar* [*https://scholar.google.com*](https://scholar.google.com)
* *ERIC (tick the boxes for peer-reviewed and full-text available)* [*https://eric.ed.gov/?journals*](https://eric.ed.gov/?journals)
* *Research Gate* [*https://www.researchgate.net*](https://www.researchgate.net)
* *ILA journals such as* The Reading Teacher, Journal of Adolescent and Adult Literacy*, or* Reading Research Quarterly*. Many school libraries receive journal issues for teacher reference.*
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| **Activity Idea/strategy/tip:** *This is the body of your manuscript. Include a practical, hands-on way to put the research you present into practice. What would it look like in a classroom or group setting?\* Draw from your experiences to describe the steps to complete the activity with students/teachers.*OR**Research Methods:** *This is the body of your manuscript.* *Include your positionality statement (Who are you as a researcher? What is your background/expertise/skillset that brought you to this research?). Consider including the setting, participants, data collection, data analysis, trustworthiness/validity, and findings.* |
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| **Implications/outcomes:** *What implications does this piece of literacy research have for students, teachers, and other stakeholders? What outcomes can be expected if this topic is implemented (e.g., What successes would students be able to experience because of this literacy approach? What would teachers expect to see in their classrooms?)* |
| **Conclusion:** *In about a paragraph, refer to your earlier “road map” thesis statement and be sure that you’ve addressed each of the points you intended to address for your reader. Then, summarize the key takeaways from your article. What do you want your readers to remember?* |
| **References**: *Include a reference list of any citations or literature you noted above to support your topic. Be sure to use* [*APA 7 reference*](https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/apa_style/apa_formatting_and_style_guide/reference_list_basic_rules.html) *formatting.* |

**\*Note:** If you have student work samples to illustrate your activity, please remove names/identifying information and obtain permission from the student/parent to share.

*Permission from publishers may also be required if you are using an image, table, etc. from another source.*