



Nancy Young, Ed.D.

Please Read FIRST We must effectively serve ALL children. The words and features in my Ladder of Reading & Writing have been carefully chosen to recognize the wide range of ease in literacy acquisition, and to show that the provision of explicit instruction and implicit learning opportunities must always consider WHO needs WHAT and WHY.

Absolutely, we needed to get rid of “teaching” guessing”, but I am increasingly concerned about the “overcorrections” and “over-teaching” happening in the field. Teachers are increasingly being restricted to using only “approved” programs and materials. Many teachers are being required to teach all children in their classroom the same way, using a scripted program. Such restriction does not align to the science of wide range of ease in skill acquisition because learner needs vary (due to an interplay of genetic and environmental factors). Our teachers need access to appropriate materials that enable them to provide needs-based programming to effectively meet the wide range of literacy learning needs in classrooms.

This means that the field must recognize the continuum of ease in learning to read (as represented by my *Ladder of Reading & Writing*) at the beginning of pre-service training and as part of ongoing PD for teachers. I advocate that all those in other roles and/or decision-making capacities impacting the acquisition of literacy skills in schools become aware of the continuum of ease in learning to read, and I believe that parents/caregivers deserve to know about the range of ease in skill mastery. I am convinced that the swings and “wars” would stop if all the parties better understood WHO needs WHAT and WHY.

I want to be sure my *Ladder of Reading & Writing*© is used in ways that help move the field forward to better understand and more effectively serve the wide range of needs. If that is your goal, please fill out this form and **when you email the form to me please provide (in your email) a short summary of how you plan to weave the needs-based messages of my *Ladder of Reading & Writing* into your website.**

**TERMS OF USE (revised June, 2026) for inclusion of
Dr. Nancy Young’s THE LADDER OF READING & WRITING© (2026) on a WEBSITE**

INSTRUCTIONS: Thank you for your interest in Nancy Young’s Ladder of Reading & Writing© intellectual property. Please fill in the terms of use and send this document to Nancy via email.

I _____ (your name) request permission to use Nancy Young’s *Ladder of Reading & Writing* infographic on the following website _____

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I have done the following:

I have read Nancy's blog post about the **2026** update to her infographic <https://www.nancyyoung.ca/blog>

I have signed up for Nancy's newsletter, to receive updates about her work <https://nancyyoung.ca/> (Necessary to find out about any future updates to Nancy's *Ladder of Reading & Writing*)

I agree to:

Import the **2026** *Ladder of Reading & Writing*© (download from Nancy's website)

Include all credits and all information on the Ladder (**the infographic will not be altered in any way**)

Include the words "Used with Nancy's permission" below or alongside her infographic

Include for my audience the link for Nancy's Home Page, www.nancyyoung.ca

Link the image of the infographic to this page on Nancy's website <https://nancyyoung.ca/the-ladder-of-reading-writing/> (The **image must connect to this link** and not to the PDF of the infographic itself)

Recommend to viewers of my website that they read Nancy's blog post about the **2026** update to her infographic

If the PDF seems blurry on your slide, try downloading the infographic in "PNG format".

Email completed form (and any questions or comments) to Nancy at nyoung@nancyyoung.ca.

It may take a few days for Nancy to get back to you.

Thank you for your interest in my work!