

Laura Westberg



Laura Westberg is Director of Special Projects/Research at the National Center for Family Literacy. In this capacity, she oversees research and evaluation across the organization for determining the effectiveness of products and services that contribute to the literacy development of young children through adults.

Her responsibilities include project management and supervision, project design, product development, research and evaluation, and proposal and grant writing. In addition to contributing to privately-funded initiatives such as the Toyota Family Literacy Program, Verizon's Thinkfinity, and the Dollar General Literacy Foundation Early Literacy Initiative, Westberg directed the work of the National Early Literacy Panel and coordinated a meta-analysis on parent involvement in children's reading acquisition for the National Institute for Literacy.

Westberg also provided professional development, technical assistance and product development to the Head Start Family Literacy Project and directed a pilot project in the state of Kentucky to assess the impact of training adult educators in scientifically based reading instructional practices and assessment on adult students' literacy achievement. In addition, she recently managed the technical assistance for Expanding the Reach of Scientifically Based Reading Research, a Federal project funded by Title I and Reading First from the U.S. Department of Education, in 19 non-Reading First schools in three states.

She is currently completing a five-state needs assessment for the Appalachia Regional Comprehensive Center that will result in the development of a self-monitoring tool for SEAs to assess compliance with parental involvement requirements of No Child Left Behind.