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READ 638 Seminar in Reading: Issues, Trends & Prog.

Summer 2020

This course was very fast and had a lot of research that was a part of the class. The research was very beneficial because it was focused on our personal interests. The purpose of the class was to build our professional knowledge in the area of reading and writing. We did a lot of research with the BIG 5 pieces of reading: phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension. I looked at Socioeconomic statues (SES) and how it has an impact on students’ ability to learn to read and write. Students that come from a low-SES family struggle with mental and emotional needs not being met at home. Students might come to school hungry, not have resources at home, and students might struggle with their self-esteem and self-worth specifically surrounding success.

My research focused around closing the achievement gap between low and high SES students. As educators, we can’t change how students are brought up but we can focus on in-the-moment and help support them in their reading growth. Low-SES students might not always have the opportunity to read at home with a parent or be read to at all. This course made me really reflect on the fact that we can’t dwell on the past, but focus on the current moment and see what we can improve and do better.

In a perfect world, I wish as educators we wouldn’t have to worry about student’s SES. We will have to deal with this forever and we need to make sure we can do everything we can in our classroom to help students have positive reading and wiring experiences.