Improving reading through science

The Florida Center for Reading Research (FCRR) is an interdisciplinary research center at Florida State University (FSU) that investigates all aspects of reading and reading-related skills across the lifespan. Through rigorous and robust research, innovation, and engagement, FCRR advances the science of reading to improve learning and achievement from birth through adulthood.

**RESEARCH**

FCRR takes an interdisciplinary and translational approach to research, facilitating collaborations at the local, national, and international level to produce original rigorous and relevant research that addresses partners’ pressing educational needs. We also provide formal and informal interdisciplinary research and training opportunities for doctoral students, post-baccalaureate students, postdocs, and core, affiliate, and specialized faculty.

**INNOVATION**

FCRR partners with organizations internal and external to FSU to create unique and creative dissemination tools and activities for projects and initiatives that align with our purpose, mission, and vision. We also conduct workshops and trainings to increase our researchers’ capacity to communicate scientific evidence effectively to diverse stakeholder groups.

**OUTREACH**

Taking a place-based, collective impact approach, FCRR creates, supports, and sustains research-practice partnerships to support reading achievement, school readiness, and school success among vulnerable children and youth. We connect our partners to research- and evidence-based practices, programs, and resources; champion their programs, activities, and initiatives; and collaborate to help them learn, tell their story, and act to improve outcomes for children, families, schools, and communities.

**OUR WORK**

Evidence of FCRR’s impact can be found in the wide variety of contracts, grants, and projects in our portfolio. Below is a brief survey of our work. More examples may be found at [fcrr.org/projects](http://fcrr.org/projects).

**Florida Learning Disabilities Research Center (FLDRC)**
Funded by the National Institute of Health, FLDRC is designed to broaden the scientific and practical understanding of learning disabilities.

**Project Wordy**
This study seeks to help teachers better serve children with dyslexia and other learning differences by providing them with advanced word reading and decoding strategies.

**RAPID Assessment**
Created by FCRR’s Quantitative Methodology and Innovation unit in partnership with Lexia, this award-winning literacy screener uses technology to seamlessly connect data to instruction in a practical and actionable way.

**READ UP**
This partnership with Leon County Schools consists of several initiatives. #AtHomeWithFCRR, developed with support from Walmart.org and the Florida Grade Level Reading Campaign, promotes reading development through family-created videos, while the study PLEASE READ seeks to determine if learning loss can be mitigated through an at-home summer reading program.

**Regional Educational Laboratory (REL) Southeast**
Supported by the Institute of Education Sciences, REL Southeast works in partnership with practitioners to conduct applied research and trainings to support a more evidence-based education system.

**Student Center Activities (SCA)**
Funded by the Florida Department of Education and designed for use in pre-kindergarten through fifth grade, FCRR’s SCAs support students’ development across the five domains of reading: phonics, phonemic awareness, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension.

**DR. NICOLE PATTON TERRY**

FCRR Director Dr. Nicole Patton Terry is the Olive & Manuel Bordas Professor of Education in the School of Teacher Education at FSU. A former special education teacher, Dr. Terry’s research, innovation, and engagement activities concern young learners who are vulnerable to experiencing poor language and literacy achievement in school, in particular, African American children, children growing up in poverty, and children with disabilities. Dr. Terry’s research has been supported by various organizations, including the Spencer Foundation, the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, the Institute of Education Sciences, and the Annie E. Casey Foundation.