

## **Lighting the Way: From Data to Literacy Transformation**

We need to build strong, strategic readers who can understand, question, and use texts to participate confidently in their world. To achieve this, educators must move beyond collecting data and instead use it purposefully to inform instruction and curriculum design.

This workshop begins with a focused discussion on how participants are currently using data from the Progressive Achievement Test in Reading (PAT-R) within their course outlines. Particular attention is given to the most challenging reading skills across the Middle School Years and how — or whether — these skills are explicitly embedded in teaching programs. Where gaps exist, participants will explore practical strategies to strengthen alignment between assessment insights and classroom practice.

A clear and efficient method for analysing PAT-R data will then be demonstrated. Participants will apply this approach themselves, building confidence in interpreting results and identifying priority skill areas to support targeted instruction.

Drawing on cross-curricular priorities within the Australian Curriculum — particularly English, Civics and Citizenship, and History — participants will engage in small task groups aligned to year-level units. Year 7 groups will examine Aesop's Fables and the Oracle of Delphi, linking narrative analysis with ancient Greek belief systems and discussions of authority and ethical decision-making. Year 8 groups will explore Arthurian Legends and Medieval contexts to examine characterisation, power, and social structures. Year 9 groups will focus on World War I and *When the War Began* by John Marsden, analysing perspective, bias, national identity, and civic responsibility. Year 10 groups will examine World War II through either *The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas* by John Boyne or selected World War II poetry, exploring narrative voice, human rights, and individual responsibility within authoritarian contexts.

Participants will leave with a practical data-analysis protocol, adaptable cross-curricular task models, and a clear framework for deliberately lighting the way for literacy through informed, strategic teaching.

