

Links

1. Report: National Inquiry into the Teaching of Literacy

<http://www.dest.gov.au/nitl/report.htm>

The Committee's report, Teaching Reading, comprises the Report and Recommendations, a Guide to the Report and Recommendations for Parents and Carers, a Literature Review, Submission Summaries hyper-linked to Submissions to the Inquiry and Site Visits. These are available on this site.

2. Professor Margot Prior: Why phonics?

<http://www.abc.net.au/rn/linguafranca/stories/2006/1560803.htm>

Professor Margot Prior on the controversial recommendations of last year's National Inquiry into the Teaching of Literacy.

Margot Prior is professor of psychology at the University of Melbourne, with a special interest in early language and literacy development. She was one of a group of researchers in the field of literacy development who in 2004 raised the alarm about the 20 per cent of school leavers in Australia who are functionally illiterate. As a result, Dr Brendan Nelson, the then federal minister for education, set up a national inquiry into the teaching of literacy, which reported at the end of last year.

Margot Prior talks about the committee's findings on the teaching of reading.

3. Kerry Bissaker - Flinders University South Australia

Kerry Bissaker a Lecturer in Education hit the news headlines recently with her recent research showing a 14 percent decline in primary students spelling scores in the last 15 years. The decline would be more marked in the lower achievers. A link to the paper will be provided soon. Below is a summary, which appeared in 'The Australian'.

'Confident spellers make confident readers and writers!'

<http://www.theaustralian.news.com.au/story/0,20867,19975952-13881,00.html>

'Confident spellers make confident readers and writers!'