

THINKING THROUGH NEW LITERACIES FOR PRIMARY AND EARLY YEARS

Edited by: **Eileen Honan**

Written by: **Jayne Metcalfe, Debbie Simpson, Ian Todd, Mike Toyn**

Thinking Through New Literacies for Primary and Early Years explores a wide range of new literacies and considers how they can be incorporated into English and Literacy teaching in primary schools. It responds to the new *Australian Curriculum: English*, the General Capabilities of Literacy and ICT, and the forthcoming new *Australian Curriculum: Digital Technologies*.

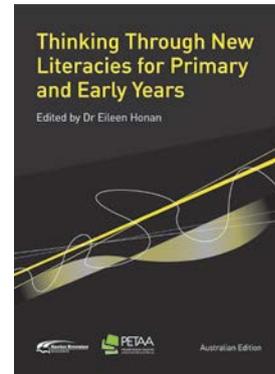
Thinking Through New Literacies For Primary And Early Years explores new literacies in relation to teaching and learning in primary schools. New literacies as a concept have grown in academic standing since the late 1990s following the work of the New London Group (1996). However, there has been little work that is explicitly focused on the teaching of new literacies in primary schools despite the ever-widening range of literacies that children encounter in their lives. Indeed, much of the emphasis on literacy in schools is closely linked to 'traditional' literacy and its relationship with standardised testing.

This book considers a wide spectrum of new literacies and the role that they play in children's development, learning and lives. Each chapter is focused on a different literacy or aspect of such and offers a discussion of how the literacy can be best defined as well as thoughtful consideration of its impact on teaching and learning. It is not meant to be a guide to a collection of activities that are proven to work in the classroom. Rather, it is meant to help develop a deep understanding of new literacies in order to provide reflective practitioners with the tools needed to provide well-reasoned teaching and learning activities that will develop children's literacy in a wide sense of the word.

The team of authors who have written this book share many years of experience in teaching in primary schools, including as curriculum leaders, coordinators and school principals. All now work in higher education as teacher educators and share a passion for the use of ICT in teaching and learning. It is this passion for the flexible approaches that ICT can offer which provided the catalyst to write this book and you will find many references to the close relationship that technology and new literacies share.

Who is this book for?

This book is for both pre-service and in-service teachers working or preparing to work in primary schools.



Contents (Abbreviated Overview)

Introduction

1. What's new about new literacies? Debbie Simpson
2. Technological interventions in early literacy. Jayne Metcalfe
3. Verbal literacy. Ian Todd
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7. Lost in cyberspace? Children and social media. Jayne Metcalfe and Debbie Simpson
8. New literacies and inclusion. Debbie Simpson and Mike Toyn
9. Copyright for educators. National Copyright Unit

References

About the authors

About the editor

Dr Eileen Honan is Senior Lecturer in English and Literacy Education in the School of Education at the University of Queensland. She has worked as a primary school teacher, teacher educator, consultant, academic and researcher in Australia and Papua New Guinea. Her research interests include the connections between teachers' practices and curriculum and the interactions between home and school literacy practices particularly in relation to digital literacies. She continues to search for research methods that can contribute to the development of professional and collegial relations between practising teachers and academic researchers.

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