



2025 LIT TX CONFERENCE BREAKOUT SESSION SCHEDULE

DAY 1: TUESDAY, AUGUST 5, 2025

BREAKOUT #1 ★ 9:20 AM – 10:50 AM ★ 1.5 HOURS (90 MIN)

Demystifying AI	<i>Bhavani Kola</i>	SPRING LAKE A
Standards in Action: Cultivating a Language & Content Focus for English Learners	<i>Saenz, Ramos, Medina</i>	SPRING LAKE B
Transforming Outcomes: Strategies for Program Excellence	<i>Dr. Glenda Rose</i>	SPRING LAKE C
Book & Budget: Financial Book Clubs from Prisons to Classrooms & More	<i>Jacqueline Aguilera</i>	VERAMENDI A
Building a Reflective Teaching Practice	<i>Keighty Ward</i>	VERAMENDI B
Confidence in Every Sound: Pronunciation Strategies for Adult ELLs	<i>Karin Bates</i>	VERAMENDI C

BREAKOUT #2 ★ 11:00 AM – 12:15 PM ★ 1.25 HOURS (75 MIN)

AI Unleashed: Adventures for Literacy, Learning, and Life	<i>Bhavani Kola</i>	SPRING LAKE A
Plain Language 101	<i>Sarah Glazer</i>	SPRING LAKE B
How to Make Stone Soup: Creating a Literacy Program Without Any Ingredients	<i>Heidi Frazier</i>	SPRING LAKE C
Success Stories: How ESL Students Achieve Their Goals with Community Support	<i>Matthew Johnston</i>	VERAMENDI A
Welcoming Emergent Literacy Learners to Your Program	<i>Keighty Ward</i>	VERAMENDI B
Understanding Executive Function and Its Impact on Reading	<i>Madeline Jones</i>	VERAMENDI C
Adult Educators' Experiences Promoting Numeracy for Family Learning	<i>Larrotta, Adversario</i>	VERAMENDI D
Group Chat IRL: How do You Build a Program of Excellence?	<i>Lester Meriwether</i>	EXHIBITOR HALL

BREAKOUT #3 ★ 1:45 PM – 3:00 PM ★ 1.25 HOURS (75 MIN)

From Prompts to Possibilities: Unleashing AI for Literacy and Learning	<i>Bhavani Kola</i>	SPRING LAKE A
Creating Accessible Content for Our Neurodiverse World	<i>Sarah Glazer</i>	SPRING LAKE B
Unlocking Potential: Effectively Teaching Adults with Low Literacy	<i>Lara Speights</i>	SPRING LAKE C
Nature's Classroom: Embracing Curiosity & Learning from the World Around Us	<i>Karla Rodriguez</i>	VERAMENDI A
Opening Doors to Workplace Readiness: Empowering ESL Learners with Ventures	<i>Katie Welch</i>	VERAMENDI B
Staying the Course: Proven Strategies to Boost Adult Learner Persistence	<i>Irene Ramos</i>	VERAMENDI C
Teaching for Deeper Learning	<i>Chris Miller</i>	VERAMENDI D

BREAKOUT #4 ★ 3:10 PM – 4:10 PM ★ 1 HOUR (60 MIN)

From Chalkboards to Chatbots: AI Tools for Adult Literacy Educators	<i>Saenz, Ramos, Medina</i>	SPRING LAKE A
Make it Fun and Lifelong! Best Practices for Beginner ESL Speaking Classes	<i>HeeJae Chung</i>	SPRING LAKE B
Digital Navigation: Lessons Learned & Future Impact	<i>Liz Bohon</i>	SPRING LAKE C
Ellii + Ventures: Enhancing Adult ESL to Boost Learner Persistence	<i>Wendy Klatt</i>	VERAMENDI A
Fact or Fiction? Helping Students Navigate AI	<i>Rina Renteria</i>	VERAMENDI B
Health Literacy and Its Importance: Promoting Better Health Outcomes	<i>Heather McKnight</i>	VERAMENDI C
Unlock FREE Resources for AEL Tutors & Volunteers: Discover How TCALL Can Support You!	<i>Paula Bauer</i>	VERAMENDI D



DAY 2: WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 6, 2025

BREAKOUT #5 ★ 8:30 AM – 10:00 AM ★ 1.5 HOURS (90 MIN)

Citizenship & Naturalization in 2025: What Adult Educators Need to Know	<i>Luis García-Alvarez</i>	SPRING LAKE A
Successful Partnerships for Student Pathways	<i>Lisa Stewart, MBA, CAE</i>	SPRING LAKE B
Co-designing with Learners	<i>Ward, Glazer</i>	SPRING LAKE C
Digital Access and Resilience for English Language Learners	<i>Dr. Glenda Rose</i>	VERAMENDI A
Enhancing Adult Basic Education through Experiential Learning	<i>Wayne Crandall</i>	VERAMENDI B
Math as a Second Language: Overcoming Anxiety and Building Confidence	<i>Krystal Hills</i>	VERAMENDI C
Walking in Their Shoes: A Simulation to Inspire Literacy Advocacy	<i>Sarah Richardson</i>	VERAMENDI D
Group Chat IRL: Dealing With Stress & Avoiding Burnout	<i>Gina Franke</i>	EXHIBITOR HALL

BREAKOUT #6 ★ 10:10 AM – 11:25 AM ★ 1.25 HOURS (75 MIN)

Advocacy Made Easy: Everyone, Everywhere, Every Day	<i>Irene Ramos</i>	SPRING LAKE A
Recipe for Success: Essential Ingredients for Adult English Language Learning	<i>Karin Bates</i>	SPRING LAKE B
Who Are You Mentoring to Take Your Place? Succession Planning in Real Time	<i>Meriwether, Wilson</i>	SPRING LAKE C
Beyond the GED: Building a Workforce-Ready Pipeline with Essential Education	<i>Jeannie Hale</i>	VERAMENDI A
Let’s Study! Study Skills for Adult Learners	<i>Ann Beeson, M.Ed.</i>	VERAMENDI B
Plaza Comunitaria: Pre-GED Learning Tailored for Hispanic Students	<i>Rosa-Maria Crocker</i>	VERAMENDI C
Prompt Like a Pro!	<i>Rina Renteria</i>	VERAMENDI D
Your Story Starts Here: Intro to Book Creator	<i>Ashly Winkle</i>	SAN MARCOS RIVER

BREAKOUT #7 ★ 1:00 PM – 2:15 PM ★ 1.25 HOURS (75 MIN)

Applying Key Principles of Adult Learning for Effective ESL Instruction	<i>Martin Loa</i>	SPRING LAKE A
Plain Language for the Classroom	<i>Sarah Glazer</i>	SPRING LAKE B
Reading to Learn - Strategies for the Struggling Learner	<i>Chris Miller</i>	SPRING LAKE C
Future-Ready Learning: Enhancing Digital Literacy with Google’s Free Tools	<i>Ryan Lett</i>	VERAMENDI A
How to Get Started with New TABE 13/14 and CLAS-E C & D	<i>Chasity Wright</i>	VERAMENDI B
Mastering Literacy Leadership: Wearing all the Hats for Success	<i>Natasha Duncan</i>	VERAMENDI C
Select the Tech that Supports Your Mission	<i>Teri Walker</i>	VERAMENDI D
Group Chat IRL: Finding and Supporting Volunteers	<i>Nancy Leonhardt</i>	SAN MARCOS RIVER

BREAKOUT #8 ★ 2:30 PM – 3:30 PM ★ 1 HOUR (60 MIN)

Beyond the Textbook: Active Learning	<i>David Coles</i>	SPRING LAKE B
Conversation Classes for Low Literacy English Learners	<i>Gareth Wingfield</i>	SPRING LAKE C
Am I Now Literate? A Literacy Autobiography of an Iranian PhD Student	<i>Mona Askari</i>	VERAMENDI A
Success in Life Online - Digital Literacy for Adult Learners	<i>Janet Kay</i>	VERAMENDI B
AI Tools: 10x Faster Teaching & Learning	<i>Ana Frade</i>	VERAMENDI C

Last updated: August 4, 2025

For more session details, go to literacytexas.org/breakouts. All information subject to change.