



National Council of
Teachers of English

Position Statements

NCTE and its constituent groups have developed position statements on a variety of education issues vital to the teaching and learning of English language arts.

Position Statements



On Reading, Learning to Read, and Effective Reading Instruction: An Overview of What We Know and How We Know It

Date: May 1, 2004

Category: Reading

Print Statement

by the Commission on Reading of the National Council of Teachers of English

There is an ongoing debate about reading. What is it? How is it learned? How is it most effectively taught? The Commission on Reading of the National Council of Teachers of English has compiled the following overview of what the profession knows about reading, learning to read, and effective reading instruction and referenced some of the large body of research that has given rise to this view. It then outlines policies that promote learning to read.

Reading and the Reading Process

Reading is a complex and purposeful sociocultural, cognitive, and linguistic process in which