The increasing specialisation of literacy development

Intermediate literacy skills are developed as students learn more sophisticated practices in reading and writing, such as metacognition, problem solving, and the ability to infer the author's purpose.

DISCIPLINARY LITERACY

Literacy skills specialised to history, science, mathematics, literature, or other subject matter. Disciplinary literacy skills are associated with particular subject areas. They are the specialised skills students need for reading and writing texts in specific disciplines.

INTERMEDIATE LITERACY

Literacy skills common to many tasks, including generic comprehension strategies, common word meanings, and basic fluency.

BASIC LITERACY

Literacy skills such as decoding and knowledge of high-frequency words that underlie virtually all reading tasks.

Basic literacy skills underpin all reading, writing, and oral language tasks. They are the essential skills students need for independent and fluent reading and writing.

Adapted from Shanahan & Shanahan (2008)