

Breakout #2
Lessons Learned from First-Year Implementation:
Success from the Start

If you or your district are word study newbies, this break out is for you! Discover lessons learned, stumbling blocks to avoid, and organizational takeaways from districts who have traveled similar paths. The conversation focuses on one suburban district's recent adoption of WTW so that participants can understand how to implement the curriculum. Our discussion focuses on the following:

- *What did they learn about setting up a program?*
- *What worked? What didn't work?*
- *What lessons can we learn from their successes and challenges?*

Essential Takeaways

- Teachers need a basic understanding of linguistics to effectively implement WTW.
- Students need a reliable weekly routine.
- We must carve out instructional time for word hunts, which connect word study to authentic text.
- Teacher language must be open-ended and student-centered.
- Teachers need to figure out the details and logistics to make the most of their instruction.