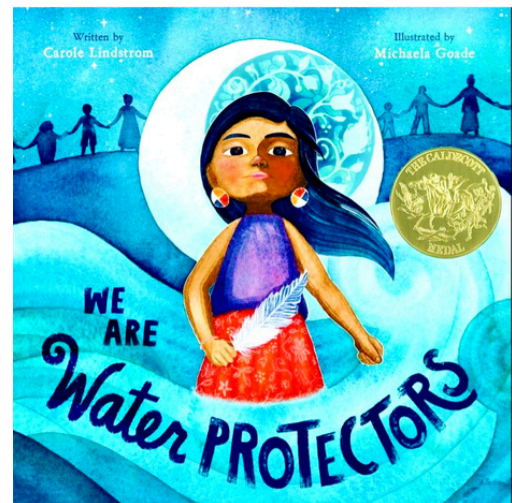
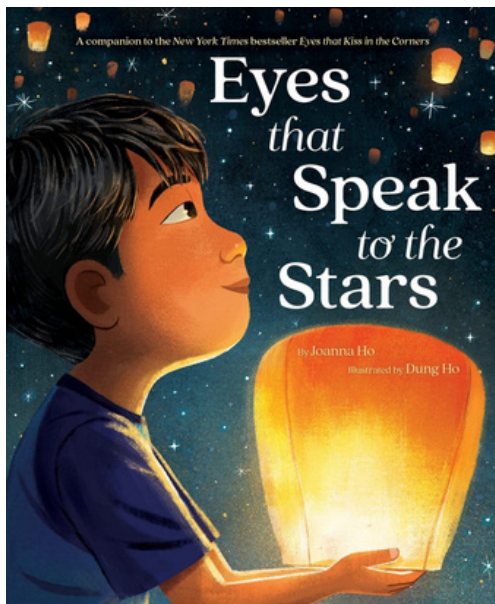
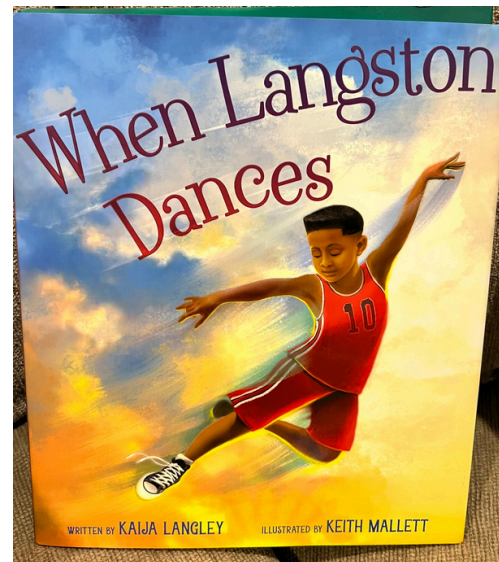


Find Book Joy

The right book at the right time can change a child's life.

Professional Learning Offerings - Fall 2026



Carolyn Polchinski, Ed.D., Founder
Program Director
Find Book Joy
www.FindBookJoy.org



Dr. Carolyn Polchinski

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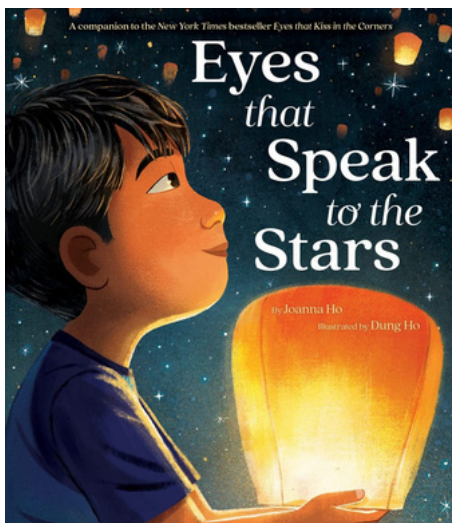
Professional Learning Offerings - Fall 2026

Join Carolyn Polchinski, Ed.D., a trusted scholar in book access research and practice and Lead Book Joy Ambassador and Founder of the **Find Book Joy** program to learn about how equitable access to book ownership, choice in book selection, and authentic representation of diversity in children's books can shape reader identity development in young readers.

Informed by doctoral research, each session explores how these primary factors increase motivation to read and expand reading engagement. Children's narratives gathered with parental permission from recipients in the **Find Book Joy** program provide field-based evidence that extends the research conversation by centering children's perspectives and experiences.

Designed and customized for book access partners and organizations, these **virtual** or **in-person** professional learning sessions translate current scholarly research and field-based book joy experiences into practical strategies that promote and advance equitable access opportunities.

FindBookJoy@Gmail.com



Find Book Joy

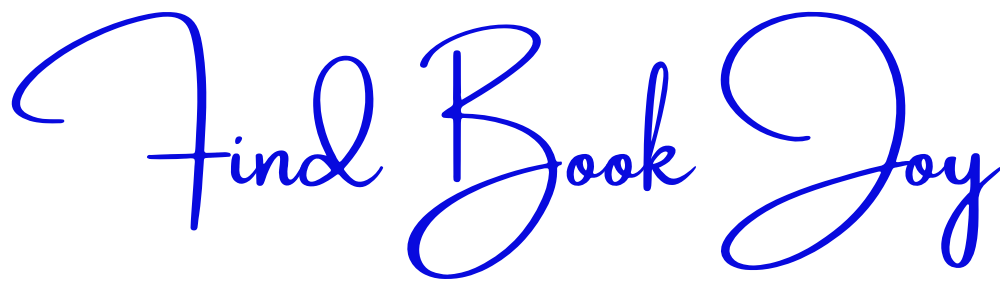
A Child-Centered Approach to Reader Identity Development

Children develop secure reader identities and learn to see themselves as readers when they have access to book ownership, meaningful choice in what they read, and individualized reading experiences that honor their interests, lived experiences, and perspectives.

Our *Child-Centered Approach to Reader Identity Development* professional learning session examines what becomes possible when access to books and choice in book selection expand children's book joy experiences and increase their motivation to read.

Framed by the understanding that ***the right book at the right time can change a child's life***, this session highlights how centering children's individuality in their reading experiences and providing no-cost opportunities for choice in book selection create joyful reading encounters and expand children's reading engagement.

Informed by doctoral research and personal narratives gathered as data from young book recipients in the ***Find Book Joy*** program, this session explores meaningful ways that educators, families, and community partners can foster reader identity development in children by recognizing and valuing their perspectives, centering their voices, and providing abundant opportunities to build meaningful connections with story characters, their friends, and one another.



The Pride and Promise of Book Ownership

Expanded access to books and choice in book selection foster pride in book ownership and empower children to build personalized home book collections that transform how they see themselves as readers.

Choice in book selection helps children develop their individuality as readers as they explore genres, develop preferences, and define their reader identities. Proximity of placement of having books in the home provides access to infinite reading opportunities. Research suggests that book ownership creates fertile opportunities for individualized reading encounters that improves reading engagement.

This professional learning session explores how book ownership promotes agency, autonomy, independence, confidence, book joy experiences, and motivation to read in young readers.

Drawing from doctoral research and the **Find Book Joy** model, this exploration will examine how choosing books to **keep** creates meaningful book joy experiences, increases individualized reading encounters, and shapes how children see themselves as readers.

Through joyful **child-centered practices** that place trust and choice in children's hands, participants will consider how increased access to book ownership can open doors to reading achievement.

Find Book Joy

Sample Slides from Professional Learning Sessions:

