

**University of Florida Literacy Institute (UFLI)
Alachua County Reads (ACR)**

September 2026 Update

The University of Florida Literacy Institute (UFLI) supports teacher and reader development through evidence-based literacy instruction. *UFLI Foundations*, an explicit and systematic foundational reading program, is implemented across Alachua County Public Schools (ACPS) in grades K-2 as Tier 1 core instruction.

With funding from the Children’s Trust of Alachua County (CTAC), in partnership with the Center for Nonprofit Excellence (CNE), UFLI is collaborating with the Alachua County Reads (ACR) Project from July through December 2026. In partnership with ACPS district leadership, UFLI is providing targeted support to four elementary schools (Lake Forest, Metcalfe, Rawlings, and Williams) to strengthen implementation of *UFLI Foundations* and build sustainable literacy systems. The project began the 2026-2027 school year with professional learning for teachers, literacy specialists, school leaders, and district leaders. Project participants will receive ongoing *UFLI Foundations* professional development (PD), coaching, school-based support, school-level implementation team partnership meetings, and additional professional learning resources.

Building on a longstanding partnership among UFLI, ACPS, and community partners, this project reflects a shared commitment to strengthening educator capacity, school systems, and student literacy outcomes. Meaningful change takes time and requires sustained support, collaboration, and consistent implementation. Through this continued investment, the ACR Project is laying the foundation for lasting improvements and helping more students become proficient and confident readers.

UFLI Fall 2026 Key Activities: Progress & Updates

Activity	Update as of Sep. 18, 2026
Survey target schools to identify current needs	Following the beginning of the year UFLI Foundations Initial Implementation Training opportunities, ACR Project Kick-Off and Information Session (Sep. 16), and initial school-level partnership meetings (Sep. 21), educators at the target schools will receive a Qualtrics survey to identify current needs, priorities, and areas for support. Survey findings will help inform and tailor subsequent professional learning and partnership activities.
Plan a fall schedule for professional development for teachers, literacy coaches, school leaders, and district leaders	Collaborated closely with the ACPS district leadership team through ongoing meetings, planning conversations, and communication to develop and coordinate the fall professional development schedule for teachers, literacy coaches, school leaders, and district leaders. This professional development plan was shared with all educators and leaders at the ACR Project Kick-Off and Information Session on September 16. See below for schedule.

Develop content for a fall series of in-person and asynchronous PD activities and resources	Initial content has been developed for the fall series of in-person and asynchronous professional development activities and resources. Content will continue to be refined and adjusted based on needs identified through implementation team meetings, school visits, and educator survey feedback to ensure that professional learning is responsive to school and educator priorities/needs.
Develop protocols and instruments for evaluating progress	The internal UFLI ACR team meets weekly to organize project activities, coordinate implementation, and assess progress toward project goals.

Alachua County Reads (ACR) Fall 2026 UFLI Foundations Professional Development and Implementation Support				
	School & District Leaders	Literacy Specialists	K-2 Teachers	All Educators
September	Leader ACR Info Session School Implementation Team Partnership Meeting School Visit & Support #1	Literacy Specialist PD School Implementation Team Partnership Meeting School Visit & Support #1	Enrolling in Canvas (Asynchronous Professional Learning Opportunities & Resources) School Visit & Support #1 (observations)	UFLI Foundations Implementation Training ACR Project Kick-Off & Information Session Initial Support Survey
October	School Implementation Team Partnership Meeting School Visit & Support #2	School Implementation Team Partnership Meeting UFLI PD Session UFLI Coaching Cycles School Visit & Support #2	UFLI PD Session UFLI Coaching Cycles begin School Visit & Support #2 (observations)	Ongoing UFLI PD Asynchronous Professional Learning Opportunities and Resources (through project-specific Canvas)
November	School Implementation Team Partnership Meeting School Visit & Support #3	School Implementation Team Partnership Meeting UFLI PD Session School Visit & Support #3	UFLI PD Session UFLI Coaching Cycles continue School Visit & Support #3 (observations)	
December	School Implementation Team Partnership Meeting	School Implementation Team Partnership Meeting UFLI PD Session	UFLI PD Session	