

Bow Valley College ESL Literacy Readers

Bow Valley College's collection of forty theme-based readers support ESL literacy instructors to create comprehensive, theme-based lessons for adult ESL literacy learners. The themes were carefully chosen and are both of high interest to learners, and more importantly, relevant to their lives. Every effort was made to ensure the stories would authentically represent learners themselves as well as events and issues that a typical learner may experience.

N.B.: This collection of forty beloved theme-based readers for beginning levels of ESL literacy was discontinued in late 2024 and is no longer available on the Bow Valley College website. However, a contact in the sector has kindly shared the entire collection of readers (PDF version only) for posting here on the Achēv LCTS Online Resources page.

Useful tip: the formatting and layout enables each book to be printed out as a hard-copy booklet.

The ESL Literacy Readers are organized into seven levels, suitable for learners at different stages of literacy development. The text, structure, and vocabulary increase in difficulty at the higher levels. At the lower levels, the learner is supported with large photographs and simple sentences. Higher-level stories are written in paragraphs with more complex language and ideas.

There is also a related instructional video from Bow Valley College, [Using Books in the ESL Literacy Classroom](#), about using books with literacy learners.

