Natalie Hale

1421 N Catalina St • Los Angeles, CA 90027 • PH (408) 438-3268 • E-Mail: info@specialreads.com • **www.specialreads.com**

Reading Workshops

Terms

Reading Workshops in the USA:

For workshop engagements in the US, Natalie Hale requires hotel and transportation (airfare and ground) to be covered by the organization, along with a *per diem* of $40 for meals unless otherwise provided. She will make air arrangements and later invoice the organization for reimbursement. Speaker fees depend on the plans of the hiring organization and generally go as follows: for a full day within the US or Canada, the fee is $1,200 USD; a full day plus half day workshop is $1,600; for two full days the fee is $2,000. A full day consists of a morning session of 3 hours (with an optional additional hour for DS Parenting topic) and two hands-on afternoon breakout sessions of 90 minutes each, with or without a break in between. For a morning workshop only, within the US, the fee is $1,000.

International Workshops:

For international workshops, the fee is $1,400 USD for a full day, along with airfare and hotel. As with workshops in the US, a full day consists of a morning session of 3 hours with an attendee break (with an optional additional hour for DS Parenting topic) and two hands-on afternoon breakout sessions of 90 minutes each, with or without a break in between.

Conference Speaker:

In the case of a large conference hiring many speakers, Natalie requires airfare, ground transportation, and hotel; the fee is negotiable, depending on the nature of the conference and the budget details of the organization.

Keynote Speaker:

In the case of being hired as a keynote speaker only, Natalie's fee is $800, along with airfare, lodging, and a per diem of $40 unless meals are otherwise provided.

Bio

Natalie Hale is an award-winning author, an innovative educator, parent of an adult son with Down syndrome (Jonathan, 34), and for over 20 years, a national and international speaker on the topic of teaching reading to learners with Down syndrome, autism, and other developmental delays. Her workshops have crossed borders, taking her to speak in India, Bulgaria, and Canada.

In 2000, she founded the publishing company, *Special Reads for Special Needs,* to provide parents and educators with reading books and materials specifically designed for learners with developmental delays.

Spanish translations of her core program are now available on her website, www.specialreads.com.

Her published books with Woodbine House are:

- *Whole Child Reading: A Quick-Start Guide to Teaching Learners with Down Syndrome, Autism, and Other Developmental Delays.*
- Her book *Down Syndrome Parenting 101: Must-Have Advice for Making Your Life Easier,* was the Winner of Best Special Needs Parenting Book 2012 About.com Reader's Choice Award, and her book
- *Managing My Money: Banking and Budgeting Basics* was a finalist in the USA "Best Books 2011" Awards.

She is also the author of the book, *Oh, Brother! Growing Up With A Special Needs Sibling,* published by the American Psychological Association.

Natalie currently lives in Los Angeles and tutors reading through the Down Syndrome Association of Los Angeles. She continues to teach parents and educators across the country and across borders through workshops and through her Facebook page, *Down Syndrome Reading with Natalie Hale*.

Workshop Abstract

Title: "Whole Child Reading"

Giving tools that are immediately applicable by attendees, Natalie leads the audience through an effective plan to teach reading to learners of any age with Down syndrome or other developmental delays. Information given is relative not only to Down syndrome, but to other diagnoses as well, e.g.: ASD, PDD-NOS, etc. With the goal of reading success achieved through "*Going in through the heart and teaching to the brain,*" She covers in detail the most effective methods, materials, and motivation guidelines. Topics covered include current best practice, the optimal order of learning to read, sight word learning, phonemic awareness, teaching nonverbal children, teaching older non-readers, errorless testing techniques, how to engage motivation, the Fast Flash method, comprehension tips, and hands-on coaching for creating personal books and modifying trade books.

Main Presentation Goals

- To provide a clear, step-by-step plan for teaching reading to individuals with Down syndrome and other developmental delays, regardless of age or secondary diagnoses.
- To provide information of such a present, accessible nature that attendees can immediately put into practice what they have learned in the workshop.
- To give attendees a deeper understanding of how individuals with developmental delays learn, including knowledge of learning weakness and strengths, and the most effective strategies for working with those challenges.
- To communicate the importance of first engaging the learner's interest and willingness through high-interest material, followed by the essential techniques of designing brain-friendly formats and materials.
- To help parents understand effective ways to communicate their child's reading needs and current levels to educators.
- To help both educators and parents to understand that "it's never too late to learn to read," and to give attendees the enthusiasm, know-how, and tools to make this happen.

Breakout Session Goals

- Breakout 1: To walk attendees through the creation of a personal book for their child/student. The storyboard for the book is completed in the workshop, ready for actual creation on computer later. Attendees learn through listening to audience participation as well.
- Breakout 2: To help attendees modify the trade book they have brought (or been provided with, e.g., "Step Into Reading" books from Random House, available at any "Mart" store) with instructions on completing the book at home on computer. To walk them through exercises in modifying those books for different reading levels and interests.

Workshop Titles:

Main Session: *Whole Child Reading: Teaching Learners with Down Syndrome and Other Developmental Delays*

First Breakout Session: *How to Create Personal Books*

Second Breakout Session: *How to Modify Trade Books*

Optional Session: When requested, Natalie can add an additional one-hour session for parents based on her award-winning book: *Down Syndrome Parenting 101: Must-Have Advice for Making Your Life Easier.*

Workshop Abstract for additional hour of "Down Syndrome Parenting 101" if requested:

In this hour, Natalie will present several PowerPoints, covering behavior, additional diagnoses, communication, use of devices, and education placement options. A final PowerPoint brings the attendees through a moving timeline from birth to independent living. Time for Q & A is provided in the last quarter of the hour.

Workshop Tech Requirements

Natalie will bring her own Mac laptop, as well as cables to connect with whatever system you have. She will require the use of a lapel mike, a podium, a projector and screen, sound connection to her Mac laptop, and two 6' or 8' tables, positioned near the podium. She will use the larger two tables to display the Special Reads reading program.

Attendees will be able to examine the materials during the day and, if desired, order them for later shipping, with no shipping charge. Purchase orders are always accepted.

Audience arrangement: attendees will need writing/working space for the afternoon breakout sessions. Round tables work especially well for the breakouts.

A/V and Equipment Summary:

- Lapel mike
- Projector & Screen
- Podium (no podium mike needed)
- Two 6' or 8' tables
- Sound connection to computer
- Technical support present on site *through the morning*

A. Suggested Schedule for Workshops:

9:00-Noon	"Meet Their Need And They Will Read"
12:00-1:00	Lunch
1:00-2:30	Personal Book Make-and-Take Workshop
2:30-3:45	Modifying Trade Books Workshop
3:45-4:30	Wrap-Up and Opportunity to Peruse Materials

B. Schedule with added session on "Down Syndrome Parenting 101":

9:00-11:45	"Meet Their Need And They Will Read"
11:45-Noon	Break
Noon-12:45	"Down Syndrome Parenting 101" (see notes above under "Workshop Abstract" for DSP 101)
12:45-1:30	Lunch
1:30-3:00	Personal Book Make-and-Take Workshop
3:00-4:00	Modifying Trade Books Workshop
4:00-4:30	Wrap-Up and Opportunity to Purchase Materials

C. Half-Day Schedule for educators:

2 hours:	"Meet Their Need And They Will Read"
15 min.	Break
45-60 min.	Personal Book + Modified Books Workshop

Workshop Supplies Needed for Attendees

When the day includes the two afternoon breakout sessions, which are hands-on, the following materials should be provided by the organization:

- **Workshop 1:** 1 Sheet per attendee of handout titled, "Storyboard Sample"; 4 sheets per attendee of the handout titled, "Storyboard Work Pages". One pencil-with-eraser. (these PDFs will be sent to ahead of time for reproduction). One 3"x3" post-it pack per attendee (this will be used also in Workshop 2.)

- **Workshop 2:** If possible**,** attendees should be notified in advance that they should purchase a NEW early reading book on a movie or other topic their child loves. One 3"x3" post-it pack per attendee and one pencil-with-eraser (both from Workshop 1). Best publisher for these books: Random House "Step Into Reading" series, source: Walmart/Kmart/Target.available at all these stores. If advance notice isn't possible, the organization can provide these Step Into Reading books, 2 books per table, for attendees, who will work on them as a team.

- Workshop 2: **DO NOT BRING**: either a well-known classic book or a book already dear to the child. These are not "modifiable!" You'll find out why.

Handouts

Natalie will provide a PDF of her summarized PowerPoint in advance, as well as other useful handouts. The organization can reproduce hard copies for attendees.

Terms of Payment

A check for fee payment, along with any necessary reimbursements, is due at the conclusion of the day's workshop.