Course Description:
The National Reading Panel report has identified Phonemic Awareness, the ability to hear and understand how the sounds of spoken language work together to form words, as one of the critical skills for reading success. Children with speech and language disorders are at risk for delayed development of phonemic awareness for the same reasons they have difficulty extracting information from the spoken environment for language processing. Consequently, targeting phonemic awareness is an appropriate and empirically-supported strategy for facilitating speech, language and literacy goals for children with communication disorders. This course will provide an overview of phonemic awareness along with multiple evidence-supported strategies to facilitate phonemic awareness tasks for children with and without accompanying speech and/or language delay.

Course Objectives:
As a result of this course, the participants will be able to:
1. Explain the role of phonemic awareness in literacy development
2. Differentiate phonological and phonemic awareness tasks
3. Identify the characteristics of children’s books that support phonemic awareness
4. Incorporate phonemic awareness tasks into service delivery for children with communication disorders.