The purpose of this rubric is to provide a tool to be used to examine and evaluate reading intervention models in early primary for district implementation.



Intervention Rubric for Literacy in the Early Years





Wisconsin State Reading Association

WSRA Early Intervention Committee www.wsra.org

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Characteristics of Selected Intervention Model	Target	Moving Toward Target	Unacceptable
Certified teachers are trained Effective professional development is designed to increase teacher expertise by deepening theoretical understandings of how children learn to read and write.	Initial training is two semesters	Initial training is one semester	Initial training less than one week
	On-going training with continued study of instructional practices more than four times a year	Continued study of instructional practices with other professionals four times a year	Continued study of instructional practices with other professionals once a year or less
	On-site coaching by peers and mentors three or more times a year	On-site coaching by peers and mentors one time a year	No on-site coaching by peers and mentors
	Teachers believe in their early intervention and in their students' ability to learn to read	Teachers may believe in their early intervention and that some of their students will learn to read	Teachers do not believe that their early intervention will work and accept the belief that not all children will learn to read
Oral language A child's oral language is the foundation of learning to read and write.	Authentic conversations (talking with) to enhance language development	Some conversations to enhance language development	Teacher-initiated questions
	Many opportunities for student discussions and purposeful conversations	Some opportunities for student discussions and purposeful conversations	No opportunities for student discussions and conversations
Reading for meaning Strategies are used to understand, remember, and communicate with others about what has been read.	 Consistently supports instruction that teaches for strategic processing and comprehension 	Sometimes supports instruction that teaches for strategic processing and comprehension	Rarely supports instruction that teaches for strategic processing and comprehension
	Majority of lesson time spent reading stories or informational text with emphasis on understanding	Some of the lesson time spent reading stories or informational text with emphasis on understanding	Little or no lesson time spent reading stories or informational text with emphasis on understanding
Fluent reading Fluent readers read text accurately and with prosody.	Consistently teaches for and expects phrased and fluent reading and rereading of whole texts	Sometimes teaches for and expects phrased and fluent reading and rereading of whole texts	Rarely teaches for and expects phrased and fluent reading and rereading of whole texts (focus is on rapid reading of text)
Writing The reciprocal relationship between reading and writing is understood and used to support literacy learning.	Consistently supports instruction that uses writing to help students learn to respond to reading or their own life experiences	Sometimes supports instruction that uses writing to help students learn to respond to reading or their own life experiences	Supports instruction that views writing as a copying task or as a response to teacher-generated questions
	 Writing instruction includes focus on ideas, organization, conventions, and self-evaluation 	 Writing instruction may include focus on ideas, organization, conventions, and/or self-evaluation 	Writing instruction limits focus to mainly conventions with little regard for ideas, organization or self-evaluation
Working with words The child manipulates words to learn that there is a predictable relationship between phonemes and graphemes. Readers use these relationships to recognize familiar words accurately and automatically and to decode unfamiliar words.	 Consistent selection of appropriate words based on student needs 	 Occasional selection of appropriate words based on student needs 	 Uses a prescribed phonics program that is not based on individual student needs
	Engages student in applying phonological, phonemic, and phonetic strategies for learning words (sound analysis, visual analysis, pattern analysis, analogies, and meaning) while reading whole texts	Engages student in applying phonological, phonemic, and phonetic strategies for learning words (sound analysis, visual analysis, pattern analysis, analogies, and meaning) while reading whole texts	Rarely uses writing to teach and extend phonics and word learning
	Consistently uses writing to teach and extend phonics and word learning	Sometimes uses writing to teach and extend phonics and word learning	Teaches sounds and words in isolation

Characteristics of Selected Intervention Model	Target	Moving Toward Target	Unacceptable
Instructional framework Lessons are designed to capitalize on instructional practices that expand a child's experiences with authentic reading and writing.	 Intervention supplements but does not supplant strong, effective classroom instruction 	 Intervention partially supplements and supplants classroom instruction 	Intervention supplants classroom instruction
	Lessons frequent, regular, and of sufficient duration to make a difference Example: 30 minutes, 5 times a week	Lessons infrequent, irregular, and of insufficient duration to make a difference Example: 30 minutes, 3 times a week	 Lessons infrequent, irregular, and of insufficient duration to make a difference Example: 15-20 minutes, 2-3 times a week
	Teacher-to-pupil ratio is kept small Example: 1:1 or 1:2	Attempts to keep teacher-to-pupil ratio small Example: 1:3 or 1:4	No attempt to keep teacher-to-pupil ratio small Example: greater than 1:4
	Consistently teaches from the child's known strengths	Sometimes teaches from the child's known strengths	Rarely recognizes or teaches from the child's known strengths
	Lessons designed to accelerate learning	Lessons designed to accelerate learning at times	Accelerated learning rarely occurs; focus on remediation
	 Consistently uses multi-dimensional assessment to select students, guide daily instruction, and evaluate student progress 	Sometimes uses multi-dimensional assessment to select students, guide daily instruction, and evaluate student progress	Rarely uses multi-dimensional assessment to select students, guide daily instruction, and evaluate student progress
	Considerable teacher decision making within a well-defined sequence of instructional activities	Some teacher decision making within a sequence of instructional activities	Teachers follow scripted instructions in a rote manner without regard to individual student needs
	Texts consistently selected, introduced, and sequenced to ensure student success	Texts sometimes selected, introduced, and sequenced to ensure student success	Texts are randomly selected and rarely introduced or sequenced to ensure student success
	Majority of lesson time spent with the student reading and writing whole texts at an appropriate instructional level	 Less than ¾ of the lesson time is spent with the student reading and writing texts which may or may not be at an appropriate instructional level 	Lesson time is spent on worksheets, games, art activities, and computer programs
	Consistently teaches for independent problem solving by supporting student-initiated strategic behavior	Sometimes teaches for independent problem solving by supporting student-initiated strategic behavior	Supports instruction that fosters dependency with no independent problem solving by the students
Effectiveness of the intervention Focus of the intervention should be on acceleration, not remediation.	Supports consistent daily reflections by the teacher on student learning: Is the intervention working for THIS child?	Supports occasional teacher reflections on student learning: Is the intervention working for THIS child?	Does not support teacher reflection on student learning
	Supports adjustments in instruction based on reflection to facilitate quick shifts in student learning	Supports some adjustments in instruction with hope that learning shifts will occur	Minimal adjustments to instruction are made

Characteristics of Selected Intervention Model	Target	Moving Toward Target	Unacceptable
Assessment Assessment is an integral part of instruction providing evidence of student learning and informing teaching decisions.	 Consistently uses authentic assessments such as running records, teacher observation, journals, reading responses, and retellings to inform instruction 	Some use of authentic assessments or benchmark kit	Reliance on unit tests and standardized assessments
	 Formative assessments primarily used Ongoing documentation of assessments to reflect student growth 	 Some use of formative and summative assessments Occasional or infrequent documentation of assessments 	 Assessment data not used to inform instruction Limited or no documentation of assessments
Collaboration with classroom teacher Collaboration increases opportunities for child's success in both classroom and intervention settings.	Extensive communication and collaboration between classroom teacher and intervention teacher	Sporadic communication and collaboration between classroom teacher and intervention teacher	Little or no communication and collaboration between classroom teacher and intervention teacher
Home/school connection Parents are an integral part of their child's success in school.	 Extensive communication and collaboration between parents and intervention teacher Parents encouraged to engage in literacy activities in the home setting: materials and activities are provided 	 Sporadic communication and collaboration between parents and intervention teacher Parents encouraged to engage in literacy activities in the home setting: materials may or may not be provided 	 Little or no communication and collaboration between parents and intervention teacher No parent participation expectations
Research of the intervention: Use of rigorous, systematic, and empirical methods Evidence-based interventions are grounded in solid research and support best practice.	 Intervention has a solid theoretical or research foundation Research study is carefully designed to avoid biased findings and unwarranted claims of effectiveness Research clearly delineates how it was conducted and by whom Research makes clear which populations were studied and to whom the findings can be generalized Research provides a full description of the outcome measures Research presents documentation that the observed results were the results of the intervention Research sample is broad Similar data collected by multiple investigators in numerous locations over time Observed results hold up over time Research has been carefully reviewed by unbiased individuals who were not a part of the research study Research findings have been subjected to external scrutiny and verification 	There is no middle ground when it comes to research Protocols have been established	 Intervention has little or no theoretical or research foundation Unwarranted claims of intervention success No evidence of how intervention was researched and by whom Researched population is not noted and/or over generalizations are made concerning who will benefit Outcome measures not noted or are inappropriate Little or no correlation between intervention and results Limited research sample Relies on one or limited studies No longitudinal studies No peer review In-house research only