



Tip 3: Provide Explicit, Systematic Reading Instruction

In our experiences working in schools, too often we find that reading instruction provided to students with ID is disconnected and disorganized. This is often because teachers are not provided with an appropriate instructional program but are instead pulling resources from various sources, including the Internet. We believe that using one reading program as a base will help teachers deliver instruction in a more systematic way. Additional resources can then be aligned to this program. We strongly recommend that teachers select an evidence-based program that provides explicit models, corrective feedback, scaffolding, reinforcement, and cumulative review as well as a focus on systematic instruction in phonological awareness and phonics skills (Bradford et al., 2006; Browder et al., 2012; Browder et al., 2009; Conners, Rosenquist, Sligh, Atwell, &

Kiser, 2006). See Table 1 for recommendations of appropriate programs that have been demonstrated to be effective in research studies involving students with ID. It is likely that the base program will need some adaptations as teachers work to individualize instruction and that supplemental content may be necessary to meet the instructional and access needs of the student. However, using the base program as a foundation will increase the connectedness and organization of instruction. This is because a structured scope and sequence is key to keeping instruction organized and unified.

Table 1. Resources to Enhance Literacy Instruction

CBM resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IRIS module http://iris.peabody.vanderbilt.edu/module/gpm/cresource/q1/p02/#content • <i>The ABCs of CBM: A Practical Guide to Curriculum-Based Measurement</i>, 2nd ed. (Hosp, Hosp, & Howell, 2016) • Potential measures: http://www.intensiveintervention.org/chart/progress-monitoring
Promising intervention programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Interventions in Reading https://www.mheonline.com/program/view/4/1/2542/SRAEIRLV11/ • Early Literacy Skill Builder http://www.attainmentcompany.com/elsb • Mondo Bookshop Phonics http://www.mondopub.com • Road to Reading http://products.brookespublishing.com/
Reading-related web resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Intensity (A federally funded research project) http://www.projectintensity.com/ • Reading Rockets (resource for teaching reading) http://www.readingrockets.org/ • Reading A-Z (resource for findings texts) https://www.readinga-z.com/ • TextProject (resource for vocabulary instruction) http://textproject.org/
Reading-related text resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Direct Instruction Reading</i>, 5th ed. (Carnine, Silbert, Kame'enui, & Tarver, 2009) • <i>Fundamentals of Literacy Instruction & Assessment, Pre-K-6</i> (Hougen & Smart, 2012) and <i>Fundamentals of Literacy Instruction & Assessment, 6-12</i> (Hougen, 2014) • <i>More Language Arts, Math, and Science for Students with Severe Disabilities</i> (Browder & Spooner, 2014) • <i>Teaching Students with Moderate and Severe Disabilities</i> (Browder & Spooner, 2011)

Note. CBM = curriculum-based measurement.