

# Reading Instruction Techniques Package (25 Hours)



When students struggle with completing homework or doing well on tests, poor reading skills are often blamed. In this package, teachers in all subject areas learn to assess reading skills, plan reading interventions, and identify ways in which they can help students improve reading comprehension and fluency. Tools include reading assessments, guided reading protocols, instructions for leveling a teaching library, reading practice ideas, cognitive skill building activities, and technology tools that can support reading instruction for students in the classroom.

This comprehensive set of online PD courses helps teachers gain confidence and build skills in reading instruction.

**The Reading Instruction Techniques Package includes 5 self-study courses (5 hours each) for a total of 25 hours of professional development.**

- Early Reading Skills
- Guided Reading
- Reading Across the Curriculum
- Tackling Tough Text
- Writing and Dyslexia: Overcoming Challenges

# Early Reading Skills



## Standards:

This course aligns to the INTASC Standards including Learner Development, Learning Environments, Content Knowledge, Application of Content, Assessment, Planning for Instruction and Instructional Strategies.

It also aligns to the McRel Teacher Evaluation Standards including Teacher Leadership, Teachers Know Content, Teachers Facilitate Learning and Teachers Analyze and Reflect.

The development of early literary and reading skills are the foundation for every student's education. Gain a comprehensive understanding of challenges that hold potential readers back, including phonological impairments and reading disorders. Adopt best science-research-based reading strategies to tackle these including use of explicit, systematic, and sequential approaches to reading instruction, developing phonemic awareness, and implementing multisensory intervention strategies.

An incredibly useful tool for teachers looking to unlock their students' reading potential, this course is a must-have for teachers.



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# Early Reading Skills

## Course Outline

### LESSON 1: Language Development

- Stages of reading development
- The role of neuroscience in language development
- Reading wars and speech-language impairments
- Reading disorders and assessment for reading disorders

### LESSON 2: Reading Disorders

- Growth mindset approach and “think-aloud” strategy
- Zone of proximal development (ZPD)
- Gradual release of responsibility
- Fostering early literacy at home and play & literacy

### LESSON 3: Supporting Early Literacy Skills

- Purposeful conversations and vocabulary
- Academic vocabulary and narratives
- Phonological words and syllable awareness
- Rhyming, onset, rime, and phonemic awareness

### LESSON 4: Phonics

- Letter-sound relations and keyword for each letter
- Word building and decoding words
- Letter tiles and elkonin boxes
- Sound-spelling patterns and encoding (spelling)



5 Hours  
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# Guided Reading



## Standards:

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Guided reading is an instructional approach that creates independent readers and thinkers through strategies that can ensure success, such as selecting appropriate text, reflecting, recapping, self-monitoring, analyzing the text, involving parents, and more.

In this course, teachers will learn how to implement a guided reading program, adapting it to the needs of various kinds of learners and across different subjects, such as math, science and history.

Teachers are provided with resources and activities to engage students, as well as tips and management strategies to best use space, resources, materials, and technology in a manner that students are propelled to greater proficiency.



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# Guided Reading

## Course Outline

### LESSON 1: An Overview

- Integrating guided reading into the classroom curriculum
- The pros and cons of traditional vs guided reading groups
- The foundational principles of guided reading
- Impact of guided reading, and its implementation across grades

### LESSON 2: Procedure

- Implement a guided reading program to match individual student needs
- Manzo's 9 Steps to improve reading comprehension
- Strategies to provide differentiated instruction
- Stages of reading and assessing student levels by specific characteristics

### LESSON 3: Strategies

- Implementing guided reading by integrating strategies
- Tips for implementing age-appropriate strategies to match student age and intellect
- The scope and implementation of guided reading for ELLs (English Language Learners), CCNs (Complex Communication Needs) and students with special needs
- Understanding the application of guided reading across curriculum
- The challenges faced during guided reading

### LESSON 4: Resources and Organization

- Practical tips for effective implementation of the Guided Reading Program
- Managing student behavior
- Learning the key to staying organized
- Assessing the reading level of students
- Using technology effectively for guided reading groups



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# Reading Across the Curriculum



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Reading is an essential component of learning. Often, when students struggle with a specific subject matter it is because of poor reading instruction and underdeveloped reading skills.

Full of research-based reading instruction techniques, this course can be used across all content areas and grade levels to improve student achievement. Teacher learn new ideas for motivating students to read more and improve reading comprehension.

This course provides tools, exercises, and additional resources that you can use to practice new skills. Dive into the world of reading instruction and get geared up to make your students proficient readers.



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# Reading Across the Curriculum

## Course Outline

### LESSON 1: Research

- The importance and nature of the 'reading' skill
- Language development in the early years
- Implications of different levels of daily language exposure
- How the brain processes what we already know and have experienced to develop reading skills

### LESSON 2: Reading Assessments

- Diversity of students' reading abilities
- The purpose of reading assessments and components
- Common reading assessments and their usage
- Cloze and CARL to measure reading performance

### LESSON 3: Basic Reading Strategies

- Basic reading strategies and accessing results
- Essential elements and traditional lesson formats
- Pre-reading, the reading process, and post-reading
- Effective ways to extend the life of the text beyond the lesson

### LESSON 4: Reading Across Content Areas

- Scaffolding a common textbook to support varying reading levels using four steps
- Using different books on a common topic or learning objective to meet differing needs
- Question-Answer Relationships (QARS)
- Effectively approaching different structures of texts



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# Tackling Tough Text



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Reading and comprehension are essential skills required for academic growth and professional excellence in all fields.

Students may come across vocabulary, phrases, and writing styles that they find difficult to read. As students progress to higher grades, they are exposed to non-fiction reading material that is of a higher level of difficulty across all subjects. How can you help your students read and comprehend tough text, developing them into strong readers?

This course includes practical strategies on tackling tough text, with a focus on the Reading Comprehension Checklist. This checklist integrates research-based reading strategies across all subject areas.



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# Tackling Tough Text

## Course Outline

### LESSON 1: Comprehension

- The importance of building students' self-efficacy to ensure learning
- The need for appropriate background knowledge and reading strategies
- Strategies for teaching reading comprehension
- Go beyond traditional teaching models toward participatory literary practices
- The Reading Comprehension Checklist

### LESSON 2: The Checklist

- The roadmap to activate students' background knowledge
- Understanding essential steps while working with the checklist, to ensure an internalization of the reading comprehension process
- The value of pre-reading in making stronger readers, and the four steps involved

### LESSON 3: Working with Questions

- Understanding how to label and analyze questions that accompany the text

### LESSON 4a: Time to Read

- Beginning the final part of the checklist; the actual reading of the text
- The process of identifying and underlining five key words in the text
- The recommended sequence of answering questions
- The importance of emphasizing students' self-confidence

### LESSON 4b: Evaluating the Checklist

- The practical aspects and benefits of using the checklist in the classroom
- Using the evaluation in the checklist to identify areas where students need more help
- Understanding the need for tough text levels and the significance of the checklist



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# Writing and Dyslexia: Overcoming Challenges



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Reading and writing are crucial aspects of student learning and critical life skills. Teaching students to read and write can be layered and challenging, especially since individual learners require teachers to adapt a range of teaching methodologies and approaches.

This course explores how writing challenges in the classroom may show up, including learning conditions (such as dyslexia, dysgraphia, and dyspraxia) that may make it difficult for children to read and write, and a variety of teaching and evaluation strategies that can help all children — regardless of their level — to become competent readers and writers. An incredibly useful resource for teachers everywhere, this course is an invaluable tool for mastery of the art, craft, and science of writing.



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# Writing and Dyslexia: Overcoming Challenges

## Course Outline

### Lesson 1: Writing Challenges

- The importance of writing
- Dyslexia, dysgraphia, dyspraxia: symptoms and diagnosis
- Decoding and encoding challenges
- Handwriting and other writing challenges

### Lesson 2: Transcription Challenges

- Spelling
- Morphology
- Phonics
- Keyboarding

### Lesson 3: Cognitive Functions in Writing

- Writing challenges
- Memory, attention, and concentration
- Sequencing, planning, and organization
- Strategies to improve writing

### Lesson 4: Sharpening Writing Skills

- Pre-writing
- Initial draft
- Revising
- Assessment



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