

TIPS FOR MAKING EVIDENCE-BASED LITERACY INSTRUCTION A SCHOOLWIDE PRIORITY

Lead for Literacy Center



1. Understand EBPs

What is an EBP?

An evidence-based practice (EBP) is a strategy, approach, or program that is supported by rigorous research demonstrating its effectiveness.

Why should educators use EBPs?

EBPs are proven by research to improve important outcomes, like student reading achievement. In addition, EBPs are mandated by federal regulation (e.g., ESSA, IDEA). When teachers use EBPs to instruct struggling readers, they are more likely to address student skill deficits and narrow learning gaps.



2. Select EBPs

When selecting an EBP, identify the outcome you want to improve, then look for EBPs with evidence of a positive impact on that outcome.

When making your selection consider:

- (a) Available resources
- (b) Level of evidence for the EBP
- (c) Local needs
- (d) Training required

To locate EBPs, use trustworthy sources that provide objective summaries of research evidence, including the Institute of Education Sciences' What Works Clearinghouse (WWC), IRIS Center, National Center on Intensive Intervention (NCII), and Evidence for ESSA.



3. Implement EBPs with fidelity

Research indicates that one of the most common reasons educators do not get the results they anticipate with an EBP is because they have not properly implemented it.

To implement with fidelity:

- (a) Understand how to implement the EBP as it was designed
- (b) Identify and secure resources necessary for implementation
- (c) Comply with the three components of fidelity: adherence, exposure, and quality of delivery

