



Vol. 1 No.10

Thursday, October 25, 2007

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**What's New?****Special Education**

*Extensive Reading Interventions in Grades K-3: From Research to Practice* has just been released by the Center on Instruction. This report discusses, in a Response to Intervention (RTI) model, young students at risk for reading problems or learning disabilities who may require extensive interventions. Current research is insufficient to provide clear guidance about the duration or intensity of interventions that individual students might require. However, schools can deepen their understanding of the characteristics of interventions necessary to prevent early reading difficulties by becoming acquainted with the available research, particularly findings on the average effects of interventions of varying lengths. This report summarizes available data on the effects of extensive reading interventions (those comprising at least 100 instructional sessions) and related implications for practice. It is available for downloading at <http://www.centeroninstruction.org/files/Extensive%20Reading%20Interventions%2010-9-07%20.pdf>.

The Special Education Strand also held a WebEx on October 24th to provide an opportunity for authors Dr. Sharon Vaughn and Dr. Jeanne Wanzek to present findings from this report and discuss the implications for those working with or in state departments of education and local education agencies on reading-related issues for primary-grade students at risk for reading difficulties and learning disabilities. The PowerPoint presentation from the meeting is available at <http://www.centeroninstruction.org/pdevents.cfm#16>. An archived file of the WebEx is available at <https://rmcres.webex.com/rmcres/ldr.php?AT=pb&SP=MC&rID=8603017&rKey=3E421CC665485FD3>.

The Special Education Strand also held a WebEx on September 14, 2007, for Regional Comprehensive Center staff, to discuss *A Synthesis of Empirical Research on Teaching Mathematics to Low-Achieving Students*. Dr. Scott Baker and Dr. Russell Gersten, two of the authors, discussed their synthesis and provided an update on research in the area of math interventions since its 2002 publication. The PowerPoint presentation from the meeting is available for download at <http://www.centeroninstruction.org/files/PPT%20for%20webinar.ppt>. An archived file of the WebEx is available at <https://rmcres.webex.com/rmcres/ldr.php?AT=pb&SP=MC&rID=8424957&rKey=6C7D29FD87B74B13>.

## Math

*Encouraging Girls in Mathematics and Science* practice guide from the National Center for Education Research, Institute of Education Sciences, is now available at the Center on Instruction website. This guide is designed to formulate specific and coherent evidence-based recommendations that educators can use to encourage girls in the fields of math and science. It includes specific recommendations and the quality of evidence that supports those recommendations. It can be downloaded at <http://www.centeroninstruction.org/files/Encouraging%20Girls.pdf>.

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The Center on Instruction is one of five content centers to support the regional comprehensive centers in providing technical assistance to SEAs and districts/schools in need of improvement. The goal of COI is to supply much of the research-based information, products, guidance, analyses, and knowledge on instruction in reading, mathematics, science, special education, and English language learning that Regional Comprehensive Centers use when working with States.

Please send any suggestions or comments regarding our E-Newsletter to [info@centeroninstruction.org](mailto:info@centeroninstruction.org). We would love to hear from you!

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