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SIG (School Improvement Grants) Resources

SIG Webinar Series. The Center on Instruction is conducting a series of webinars designed to provide key principles, action steps, and useful resources that support the initial Action Planning steps identified in the **Handbook on Effective Implementation of School Improvement Grants**, which was developed by the five regional content centers. In the first webinar, Debby Houston Miller, Saro Mohammed, and Emily Zyko provided resources and examples for aligning instruction, implementing RTI in a SIG environment, and choosing technology wisely. In the second webinar, Russell Gersten addressed the use of data to improve instruction, while Christy Murray discussed the use of differentiated instruction. The archived WebEx files for both of these webinars are available at <http://centeroninstruction.org/pdevents.cfm>, along with the PowerPoint presentations used during the webinars with extensive speaker notes which can be used as a professional development tool for SEAs, districts, and schools. Also available for download are the list of resources and references to provide further assistance in implementing the SIG initiative.

Reading Resource***Improving Reading Comprehension in Kindergarten through 3rd Grade.***

This guide presents a set of evidence-based practices that teachers and other educators can use to successfully teach reading comprehension to young readers. The expert panel review indicates that students who read with understanding at an early age gain access to a broader range of texts, knowledge, and educational opportunities, making early reader comprehension instruction particularly critical. The guide also describes the evidence that supports the practices and gives examples of how they can be implemented in the classroom. The practice guide can be downloaded from the COI website, http://centeroninstruction.org/resources.cfm?category=reading&subcategory=materials&grade_start=0&grade_end=3#308.

Reading and Math Resource

The State of State Standards--and the Common Core--in 2010. This report from the Fordham Institute compares ELA and Math standards of each of the 50 states and the District of Columbia to the Common Core Standards. The study found that in three jurisdictions (California, District of Columbia, and Indiana) the ELA standards are superior to the Common Core Standards, while 11 states are either comparable or "too close to call" in both ELA and Math. The full report is available for download from the COI website, <http://centeroninstruction.org/resources.cfm?>

[category=reading&subcategory=materials&grade_start=0&grade_end=12#309](#).

Reading and RTI Resource

Doing What Works Website: Response to Intervention in Primary Grade Reading. This is one of four sections within the recently added Data-Driven Improvement area on the Doing What Works website. The section is divided into four sub-sections: Universal Screening, Progress Monitoring and Differentiation, Systematic Skill Instruction, and Response to Intervention. Each sub-section contains a practice summary along with practical help in three tabs: Learn What Works (video interviews with nationally known research experts, key concepts, research evidence, and related links), See What Works (slideshows with audio of successful schools that have implemented RTI), and Doing What Works (three ideas of action and three tools to aid in implementing the ideas for action). For more information, go to http://dww.ed.gov/topic/?T_ID=27.

RTI Resource

New elementary school and district tools used in various RTI models have been posted to the Center on Instruction's Response to Intervention Classification Tool and Resource Locator (RTI CTRL), a self-assessment tool for states to determine their level of RTI implementation and find resources that are relevant to their needs. These tools were collected during school site visits conducted in 2007 for the project described in COI's report *Implementing Response to Intervention: Practices and Perspectives from Five Schools - Frequently Asked Questions*.

Additional information, including a self-assessment, state tools, related links, an RTI resource filter, and resources pertaining to RTI developed by COI can also be found within the [RTI CTRL](#) site.

RTI and Math Resource

Doing What Works Website: Response to Intervention in Elementary-Middle Math. This newly added section of the Doing What Works (DWW) website includes recommended practices for RTI-math in elementary and middle school: Screening and Monitoring, Foundations of Arithmetic, Intentional Teaching, and RTI Implementation. Each sub-section contains a practice summary along with practice help: Learn What Works (video interviews with nationally known research experts), See What Works (slideshows with audio of successful schools that have implemented RTI), and Do What Works (ideas for action and tools and templates). For more information, go to http://dww.ed.gov/topic/?T_ID=28.

Math Resource

Developing Effective Fractions Instruction for Kindergarten through 8th Grade. This practice guide presents five recommendations for educators to improve students' understanding of fractions. It provides strategies to help younger children understand fraction concepts and older students understand the meaning of fractions and the computations involved. It also presents ways to build on students' existing strategies to solve problems involving ratios, rates, and proportions. The guide can be accessed from the COI website at http://centeroninstruction.org/resources.cfm?category=math&subcategory=materials&grade_start=0&grade_end=8#313.

The Center on Instruction is one of five content centers that 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 COI-info@rmces.com. We would love to hear from you! If you've received this newsletter in error, or if you wish to unsubscribe, please email us at COI-info@rmces.com and write "unsubscribe" in the subject line.

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