15 Years of MTSS/RTI: Lessons
Learned from Research &
Practice
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The Realities of Instruction

- The average second grade student spends about
 1.5 hours per day of academic engaged time
- Classes with stronger academic outcomes
 - Allocate more academic time
 - Promote higher rates of academic engagement
- About half of the school day engaged in nonacademic or noninstructional activities
- With little variation across classrooms, children spent about 16 min of every hour waiting

https://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/EJ1100409.pdf: Rosenshine, B. V. (1981). How Time is Spent in Elementary Classrooms. *Journal of Classroom Interaction*, 17(1), 16-25.



Some Children Require Surgically Precise Instruction to Meet Grade-Level Milestones

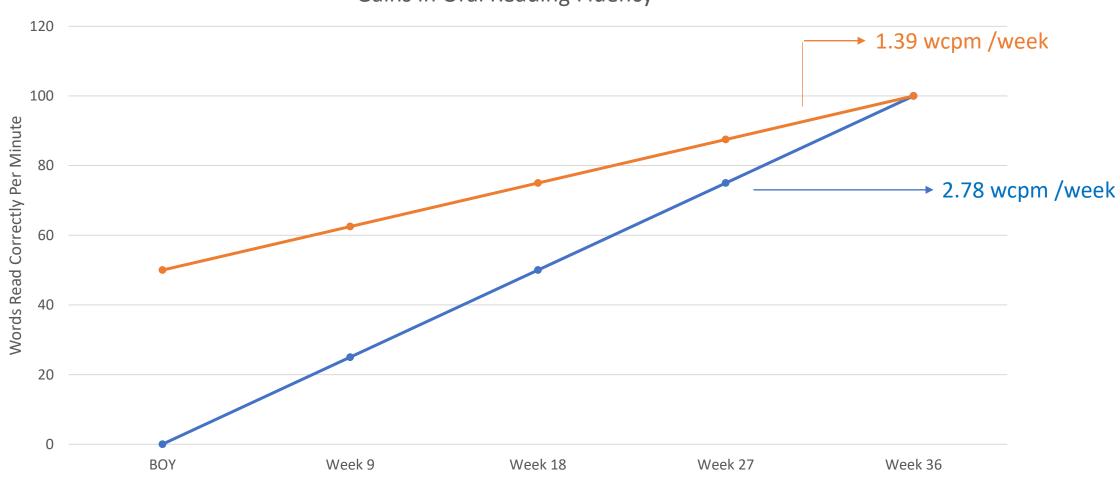


Trajectories are changed with Quality of Instruction

Instruction Proof

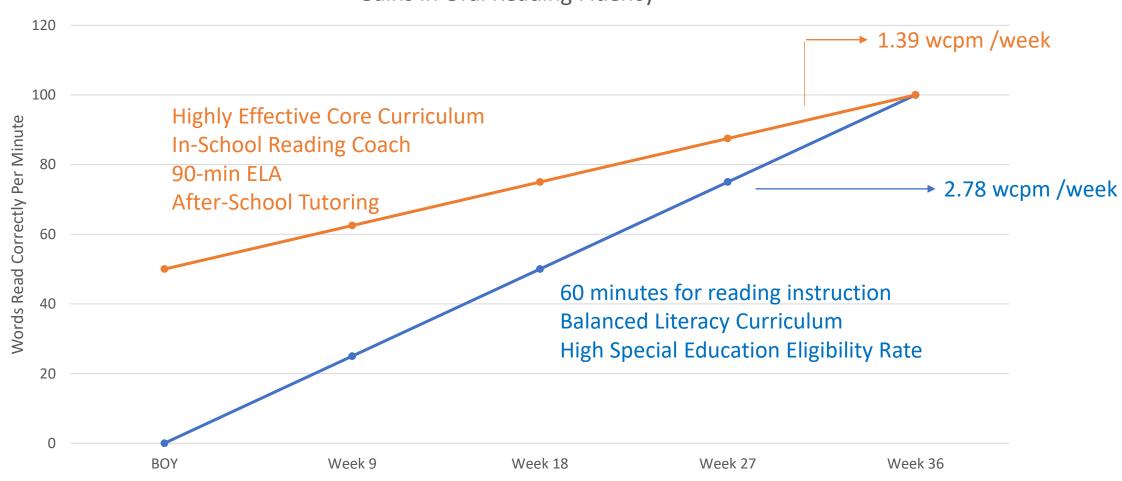
Children Arrive with Different Skill Proficiencies





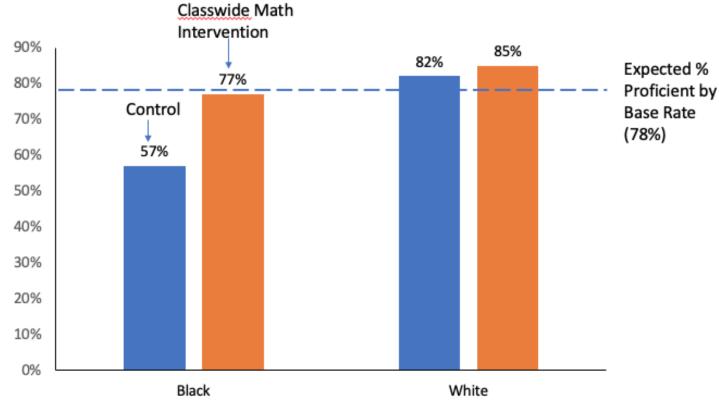
Schools Differ in the Quality of their Instructional Offerings

Gains in Oral Reading Fluency



Closing Opportunity Gaps Means Delivering More Effective Instruction Where It's Needed

Percent Proficient by Race in Control & Intervention Groups



VanDerHeyden, A. M. & Codding, R. (2015). Practical effects of classwide mathematics intervention. *School Psychology Review*, 44, 169-190. doi: http://dx.doi.org/10.17105/spr-13-0087.1

How Can We Do More with Less?

- More Accurate Assessment or Determination of Academic Need (Use Classwide Intervention)
- 2. More Effective Instruction
 Delivered with Greater
 Efficiency (Avoid the
 "Instruction du jour")



"in today's context, the measurement technologies ought to become integral parts of instruction designed to make a difference in the lives of children and not just a prediction about their lives."

Maynard Reynolds 1975 (p. 15)

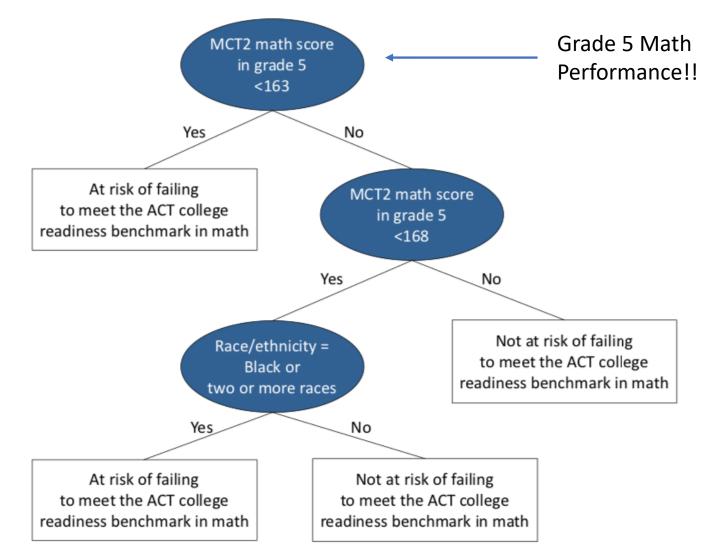
Learning is a Very Predictable Outcome of High-Quality Instruction



Comprehension

Figure 2. Classification and regression tree model decision rules for identifying Mississippi students as at risk of failing to meet the ACT college readiness benchmark in math, based on grade 5 math achievement and race/ethnicity, 2011/12–2016/17

Koon, S., & Davis, M. (2019). Math course sequences in grades 6-11 and math achievement in Mississippi (REL 2019– 007). Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for **Education Evaluation** and Regional Assistance, Regional **Educational Laboratory** Southeast, Retrieved from http://ies.ed.gov/ncee/ edlabs



Lesson 1: Specialized Instruction is a Myth. Intensified Instruction is Real. Let's talk about specialized instruction first.

Teachers Vary in Teaching Efficacy

• "... average gains in learning across classrooms, even classrooms within the same school, are very different. Some teachers year after year produce bigger gains in student learning than other teachers. The magnitude of the differences is truly large, with some teachers producing 1.5 years of gain in acheivement in an academic year while others with equivalent students produce only ½ year of gain. In other words, two students starting at the same level of achievement can know vastly different amounts at the end of a single academic year due solely to the teacher to which they are assigned. If a bad year is compounded by other bad years, it may not be possible for the student to recover."

p. 467, Hanushek, 2011

Risk Over Time is a Red Flag

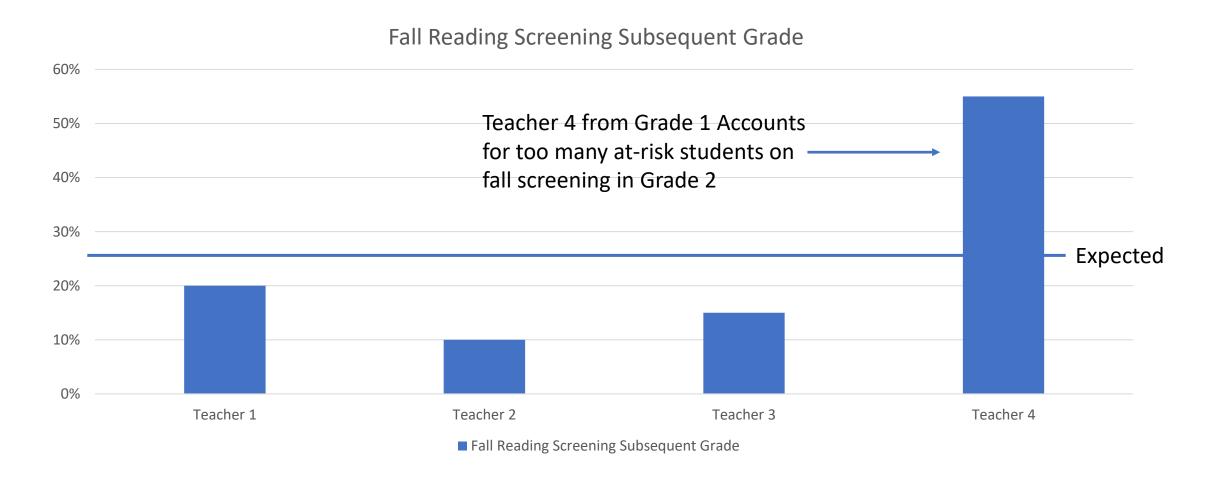
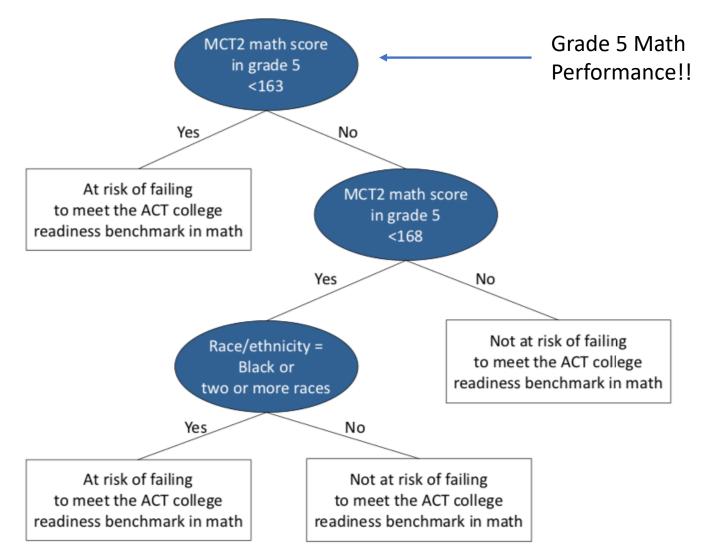
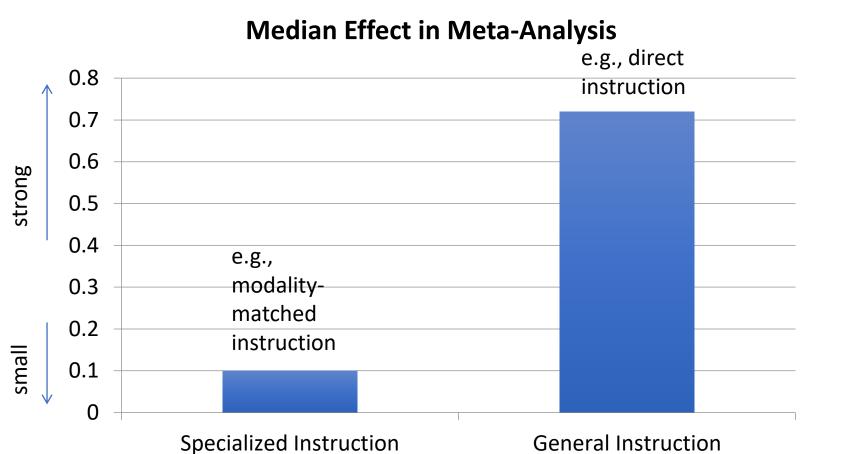


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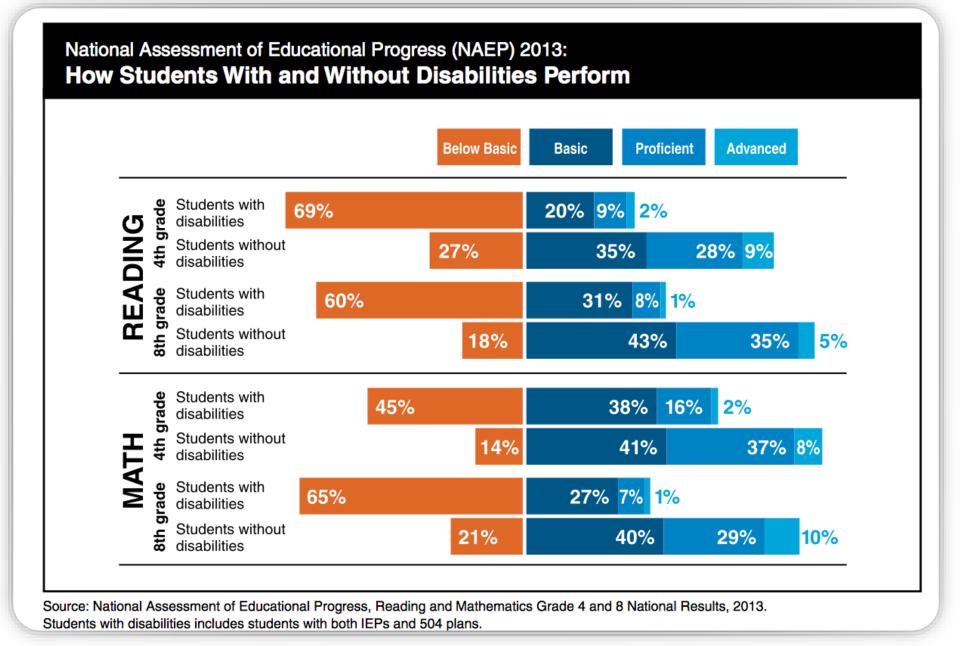


No Effect for "Special" Instruction



Reading comprehension Direct instruction	1.13 0.84
Psycholinguistic training	0.39
Modality instruction Diet Perceptual training	0.15 0.12 0.08

Source: Kavale & Forness, 1999



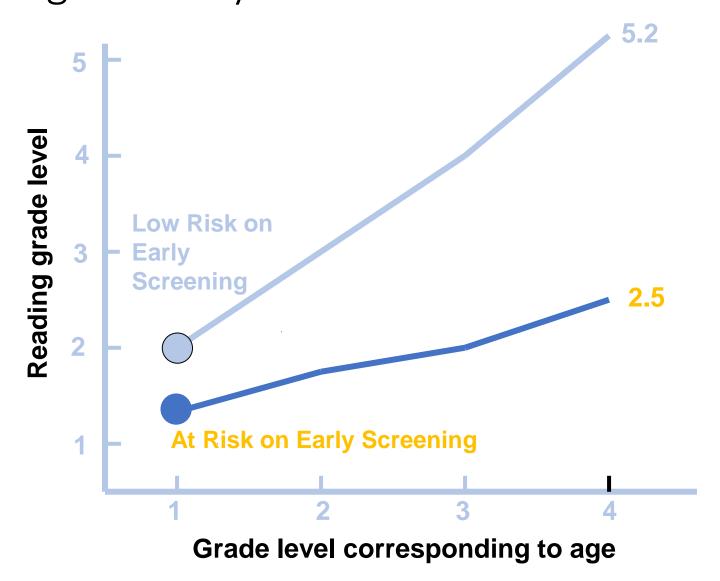
Cortiella, Candace and Horowitz, Sheldon H. *The State of Learning Disabilities: Facts, Trends and Emerging Issues.* New York: National Center for Learning Disabilities, 2014.



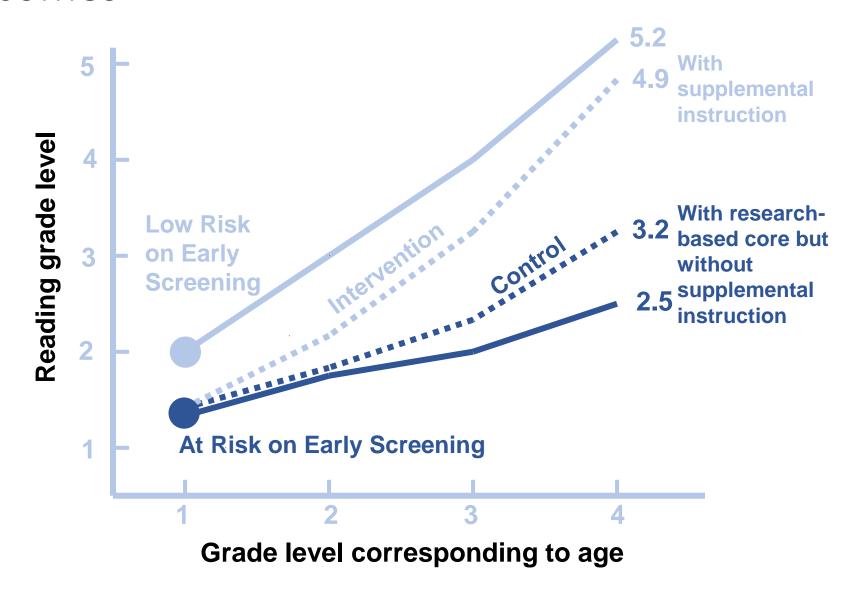
Lesson 2:
Effective
Instruction
Saves Lives

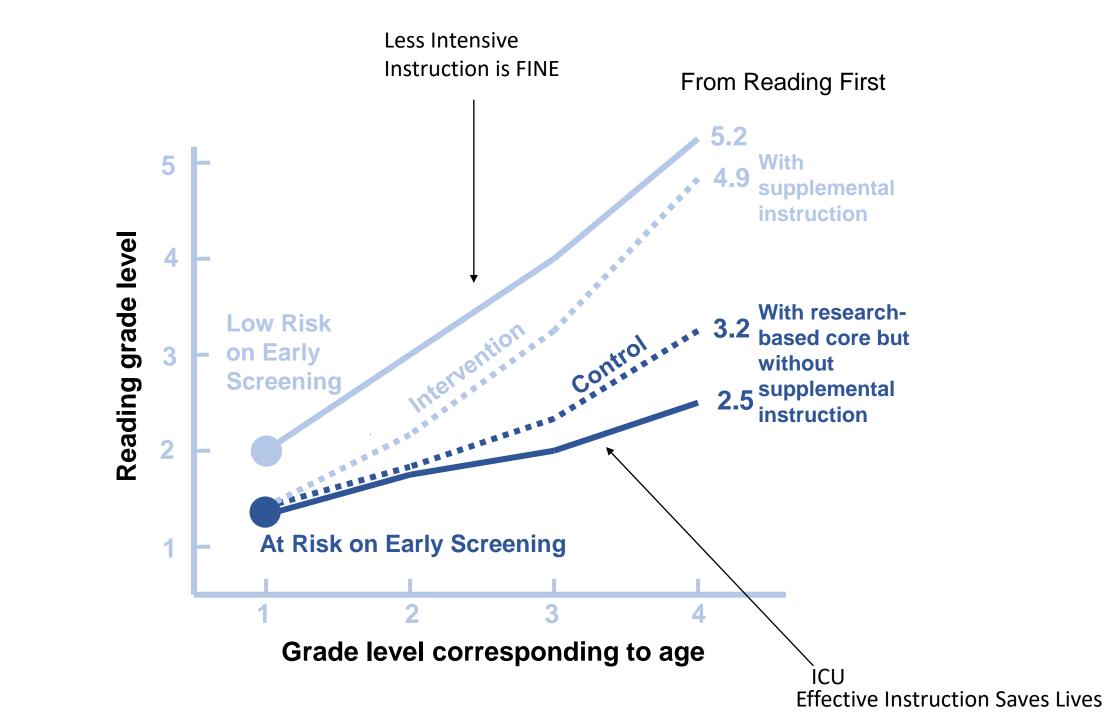
Early Screening Identifies Children At Risk of Reading Difficulty

From Reading First



Early Intervention Changes Reading Outcomes From Reading First





What You DO Makes a Difference

Source: Hattie	(2009)
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Teaching	Effect Size
Quality of teaching	0.77
Reciprocal Teaching	0.74
Teacher-Student Relationship	0.72
Providing Feedback	0.72
Teaching student self-verbalization	0.67
Meta-Cognition Strategies	0.67
Direct Instruction	0.59
Mastery Learning	0.57
Average	0.68

Working Conditions	Effect Size
Within-class	0.28
grouping	
Adding \$	0.23
Reducing Class Size	0.21
Ability Grouping	0.11
Multi-Grade/Age	0.04
Classes	
Open v. Traditional	0.01
Classes	
Summer break	-0.09
Retention	016
Average	0.08

Effective Instruction Saves Lives

What is Teaching?

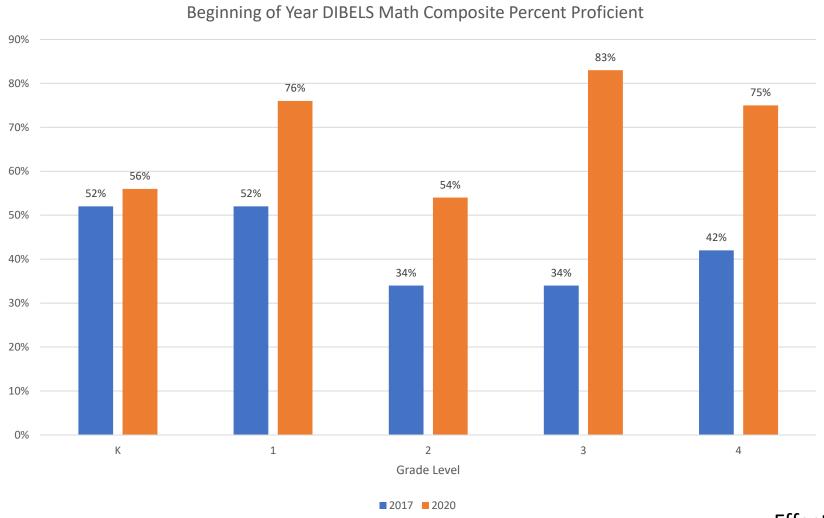
https://www.abainternational.org/aboutus/policies-and-positions/students-rights-toeffective-education,-1990.aspx

Morningside Model of Generative Instruction and Kent Johnson



Effective Instruction Saves Lives

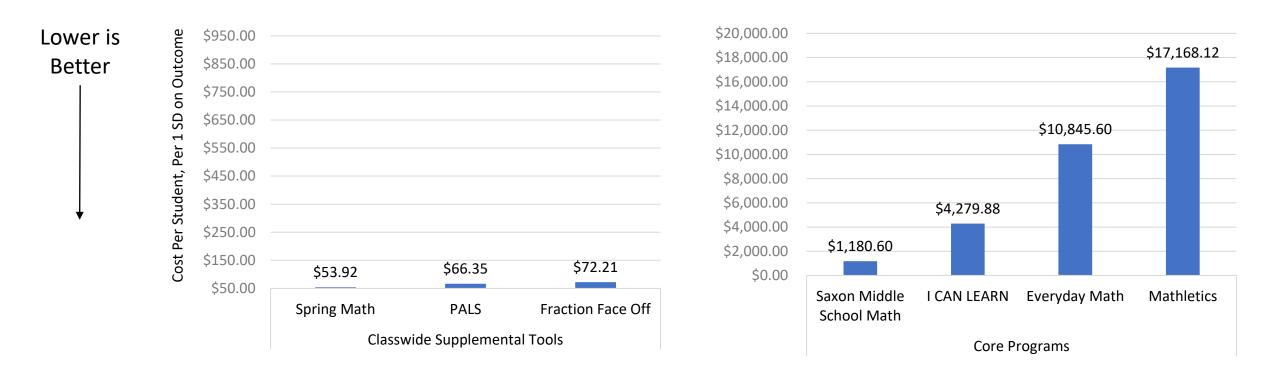
Prevention Effects from Effective Instruction Accumulate!



Look for Intervention w Strong Return on Investment

Cost Per Student, Per 1 SD gain in outcome

Incremental Cost Effectiveness Ratios



"Changing math curricula as an approach for whole-school intervention when large numbers of students do not achieve proficiency is more costly than targeted, preventative math intervention" (Barrett & VanDerHeyden, 2020)

Barrett, C. A., & VanDerHeyden, A. M. (2020). A cost-effectiveness analysis of classwide math intervention. *Journal of School Psychology, 80,* 54-65. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jsp.2020.04.002



Lesson 3: Use Classwide Intervention. Why?

- It takes 15-20 min per day.
- It's curriculum neutral and supplements.
- All students show benefits.
- It makes future risk decisions more accurate

Use Class-wide Intervention

Classwide Intervention

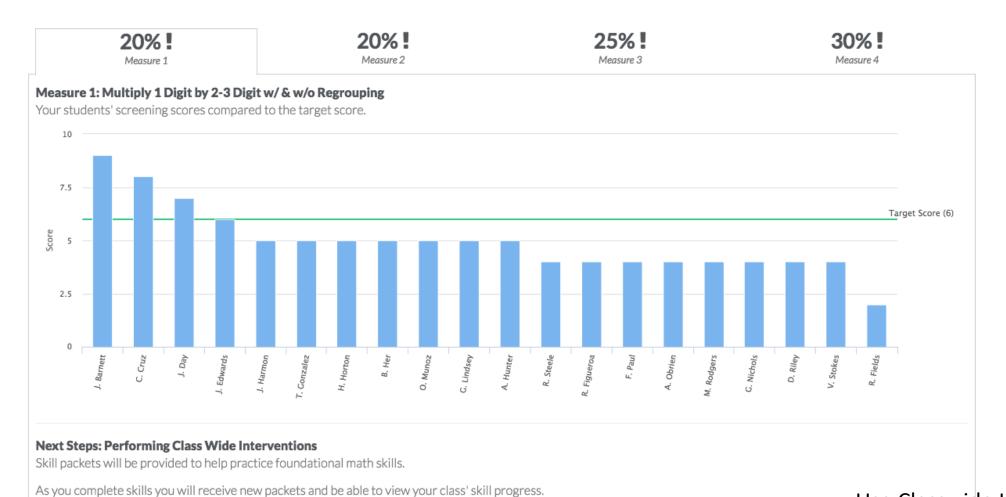
Screening

Student

Classroom Performance

80% of your class appears to be at risk and in need of intervention to benefit from grade-level instruction.

We call this a classwide problem and recommend a classwide intervention.



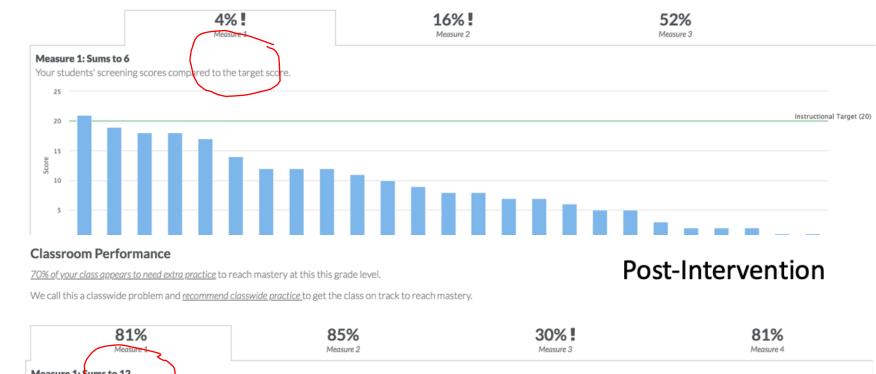
High-Yield Action: Use Class-wide Intervention

Classroom Performance

Pre-Intervention

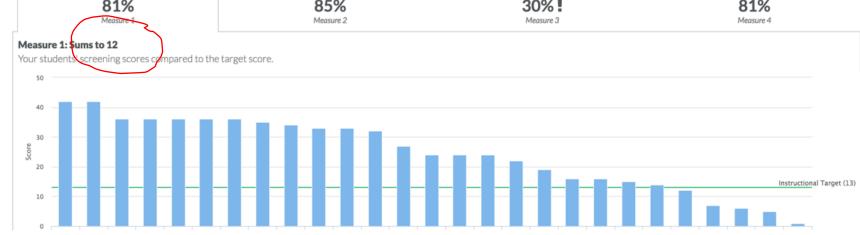
96% of your class appears to need extra practice to reach mastery at this this grade level.

We call this a classwide problem and recommend classwide practice to get the class on track to reach mastery.





Pre



Classwide Intervention Works (when used well)



http://www.intensiveintervention.org/chart/instructional-intervention-tools (NCII)

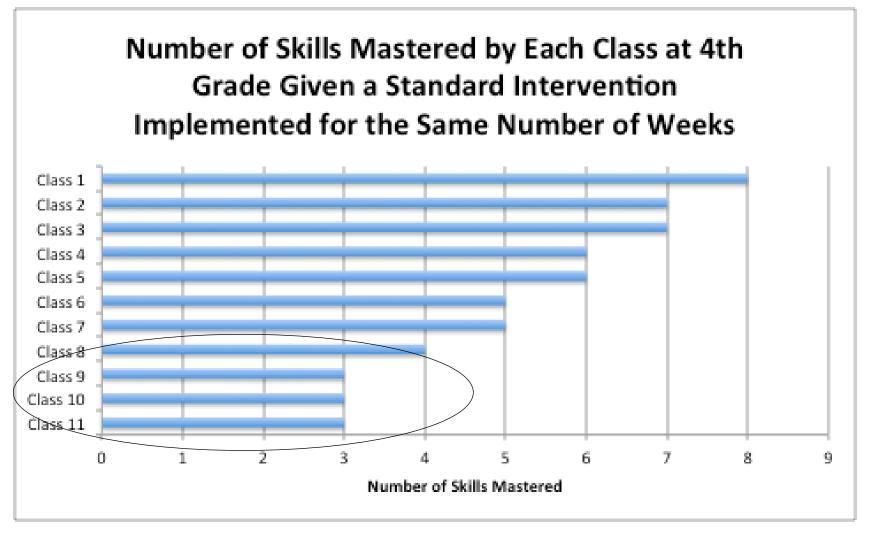
Group Design

McLaughlin,

Algina, & Snyder (2012)

Spring Math

Look for Lagging Classes— and Respond



When Managed, Classwide Intervention Works!

	Absolute Risk Reduction	Number Needed to Treat
All Students	15%	7
Students receiving F/R Lunch	18%	6
Students receiving Special Education Services	39%	3
Low-Performing Students	44%	2

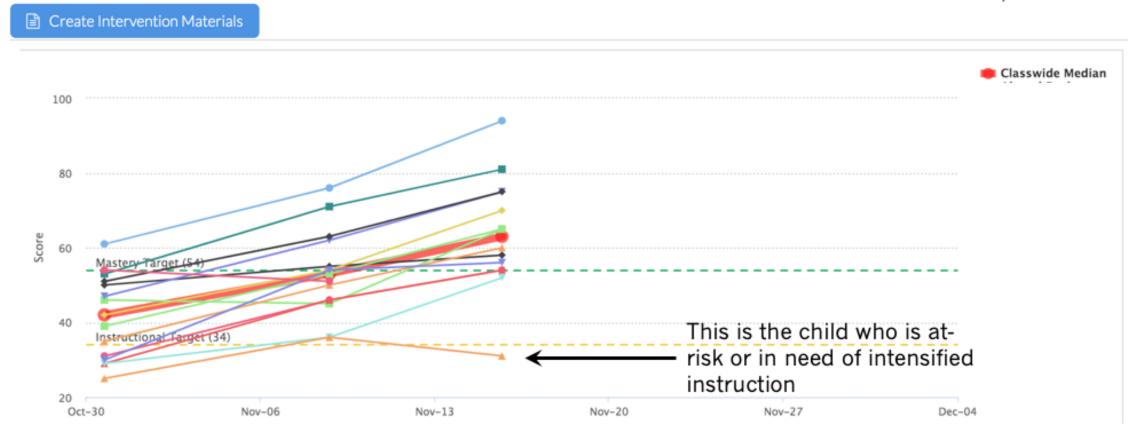
Source: VanDerHeyden, McLaughlin, Algina, & Snyder, 2012; VanDerHeyden & Codding, 2015

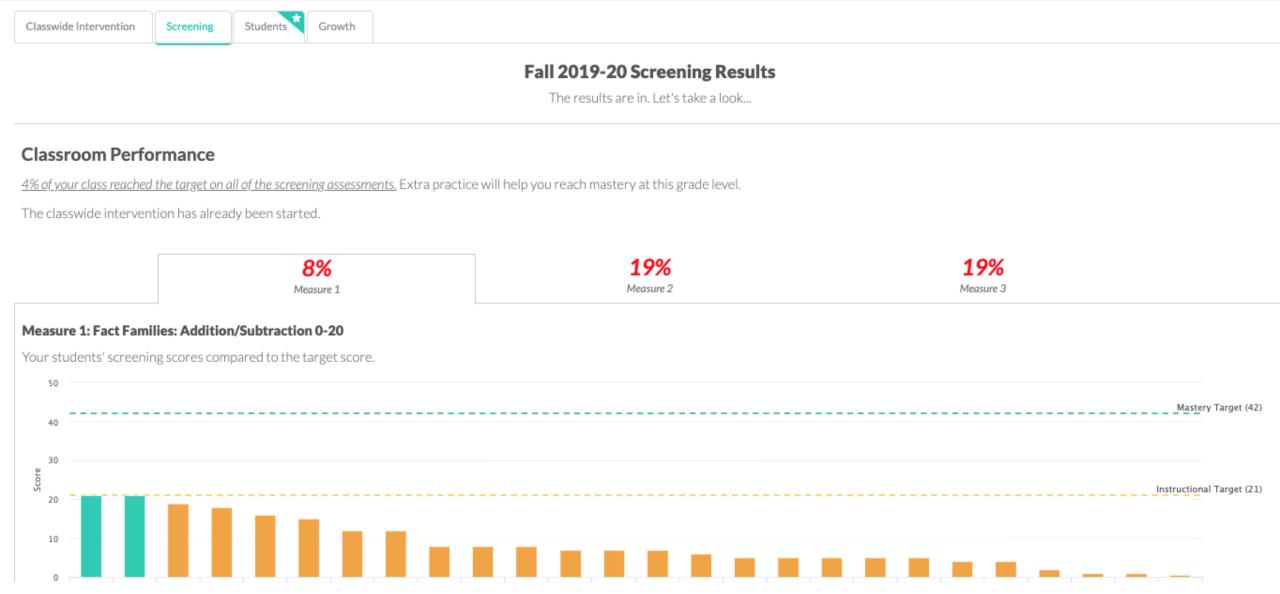
Use Classwide Intervention as Gate in Screening

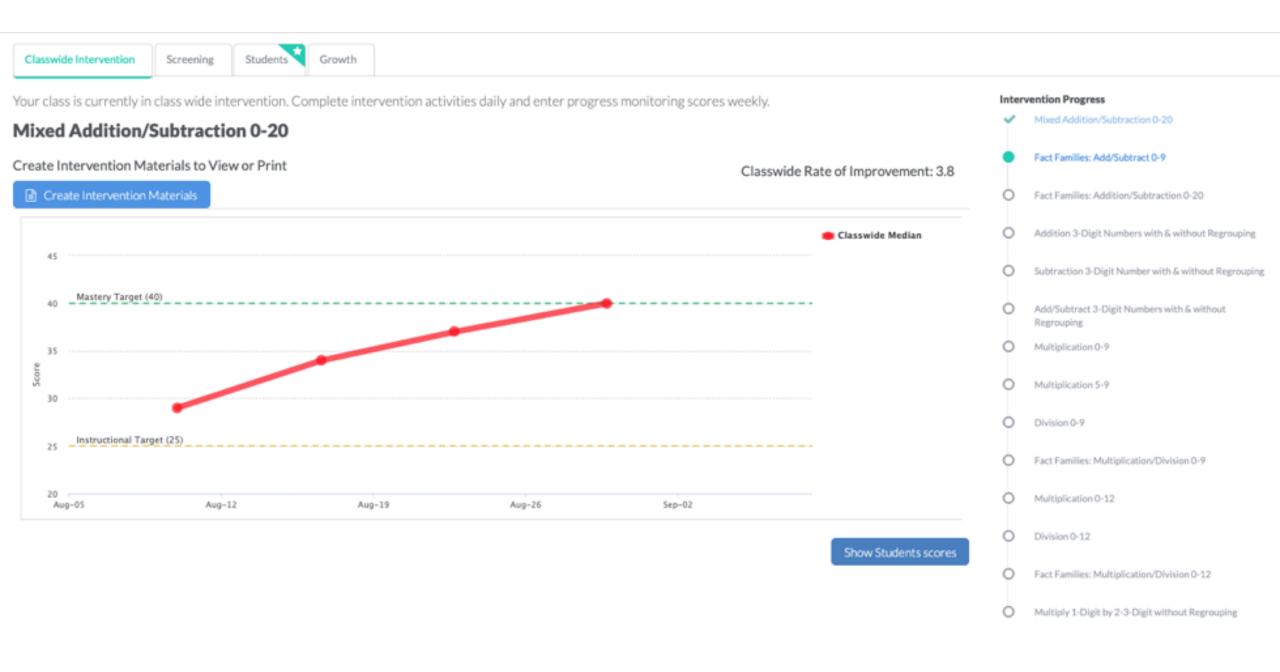
Mixed Addition/Subtraction 0-20

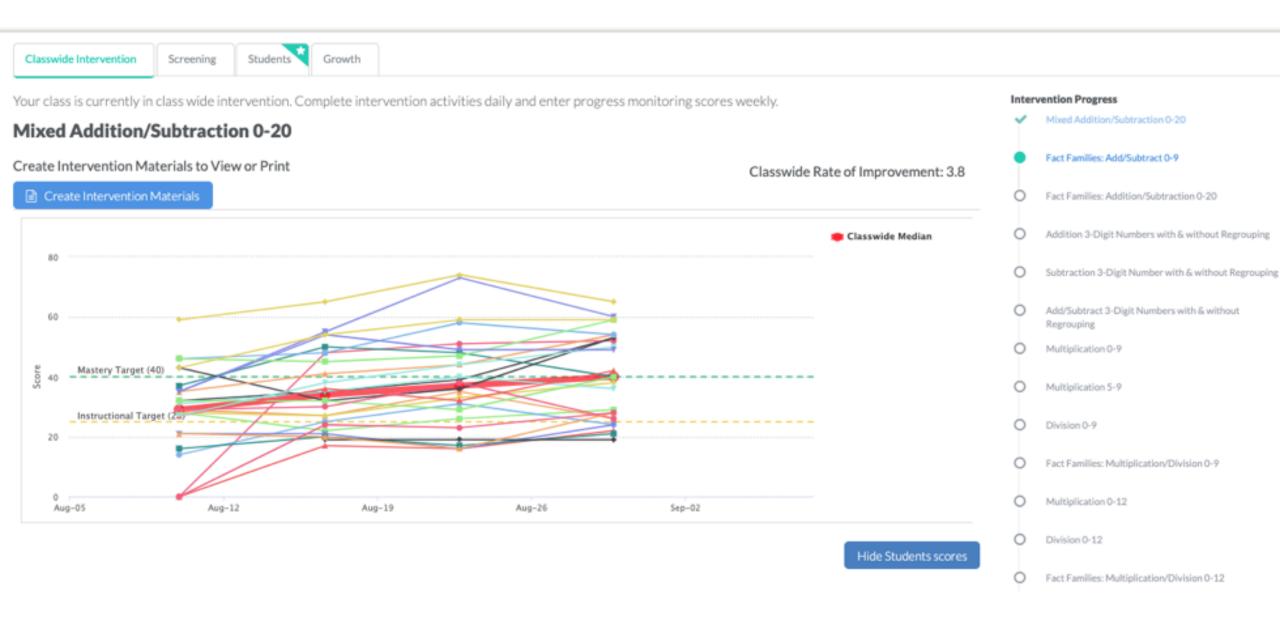
Create Intervention Materials to View or Print

Classwide Rate of Improvement: 9.2











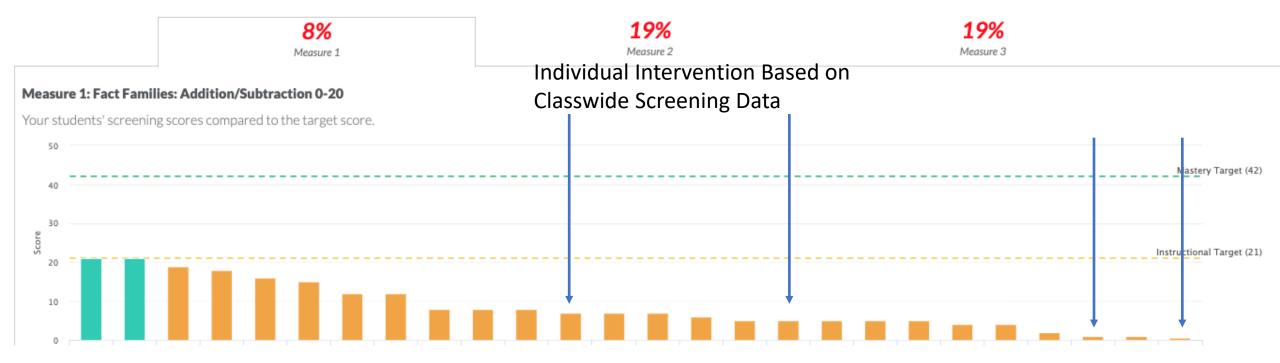
Fall 2019-20 Screening Results

The results are in. Let's take a look...

Classroom Performance

4% of your class reached the target on all of the screening assessments. Extra practice will help you reach mastery at this grade level.

The classwide intervention has already been started.

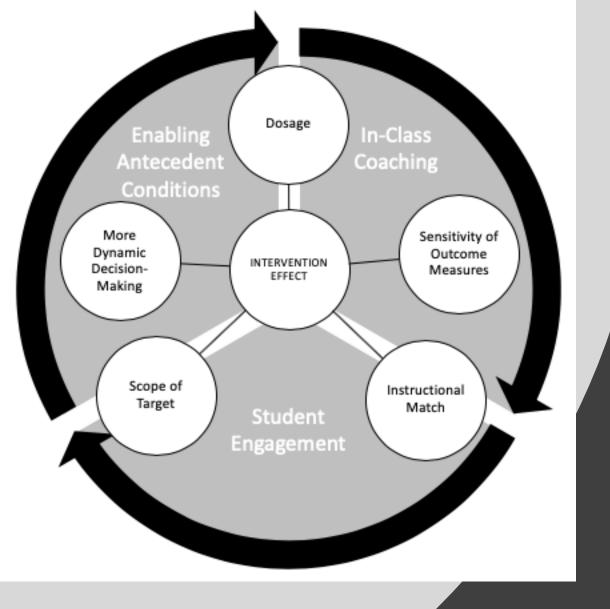


Fall Screening Gate 1: Fall Gate 1: Fall Winter Screening Gate 1: Winter Classwide Intervention Gate 2: Classwide Intervention Gate 2: Classwide Intervention Gate 2: Classwide Intervention Gate 2: Classwide Intervention ■ Positive PTP × Negative PTP

Classwide Intervention Lowers Base Rate of Risk & Improves Decision Accuracy

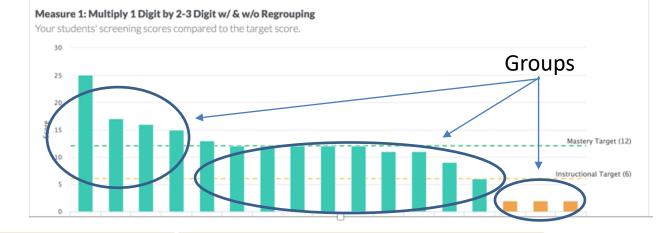
VanDerHeyden, Broussard, & Burns (2019). Classification Agreement for Gated Screening in Mathematics: Subskill Mastery Measurement and Classwide Intervention. Assessment for Effective Intervention.

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/336702020 Classification Agreement for Gated Screening in Mathematics Subskill Mastery Measurement and Classwide Intervention



Lesson 4: Use the Science of Instruction to Intensify Instruction

Differentiation is Not Enough



Differentiated

Matching protocols with small group needs.

Personalized

Delivering assessmentdriven lesson content.

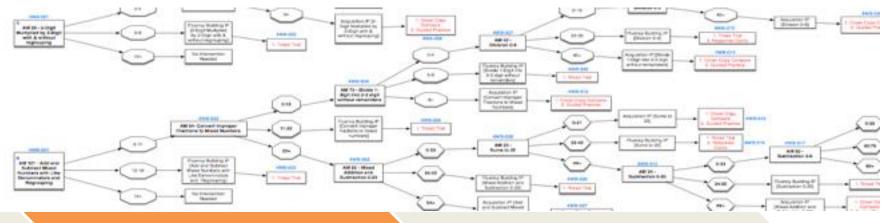
Individualized

Management of assessment-driven lesson content and tactical supports.

- Usually accomplished by organizing small groups
- Re-teach & enrich periods
- But, this is HARD to do.

"The results of the study indicate that the MAP program was implemented with moderate fidelity but that MAP teachers were not more likely than control group teachers to have applied differentiated instructional practices in their classes. Overall, the MAP program did not have a statistically significant impact on students' reading achievement in either grade 4 or grade 5." (Cordray et al., 2012)

Full report here: https://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/ED537982.pdf



Differentiated

Matching protocols with small group needs.

Personalized

Delivering assessmentdriven lesson content.

Individualized

Management of assessment-driver lesson content and tactical supports.

- Usually accomplished via web-based instruction
- Popular tools include: Headsprout,
 Dreambox
- But the data for most are somewhat unimpressive

Individualized



Differentiated

Matching protocols with small group needs.

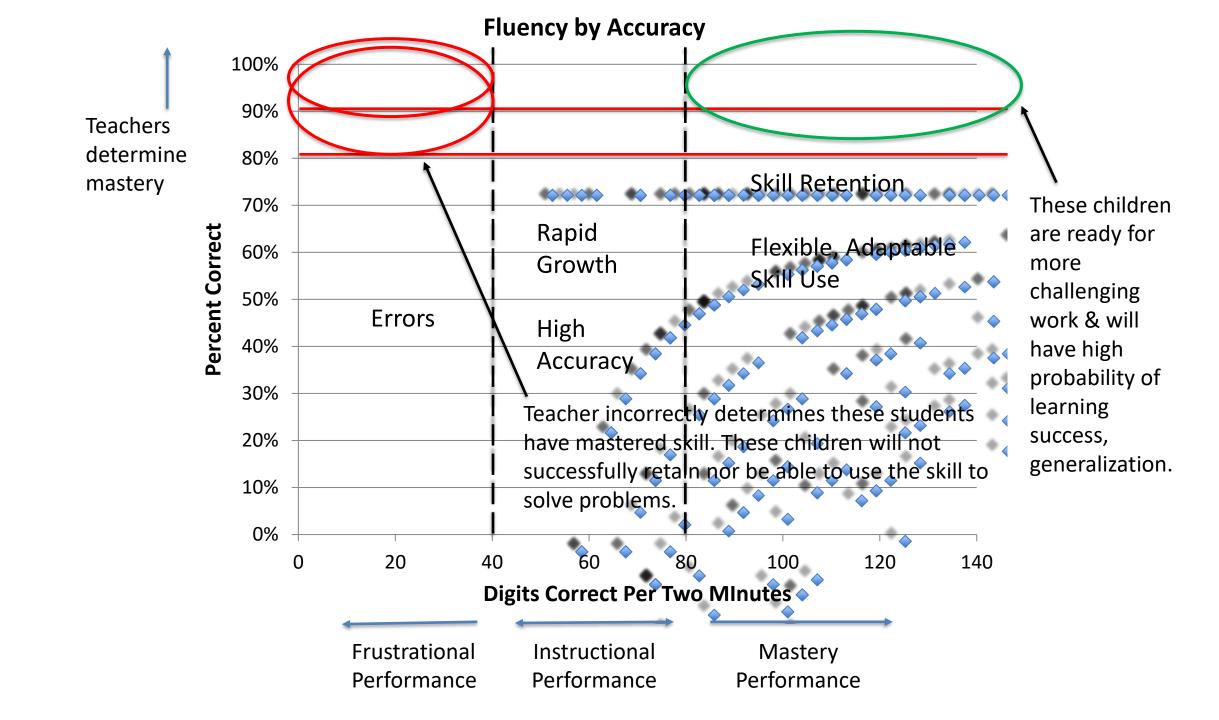
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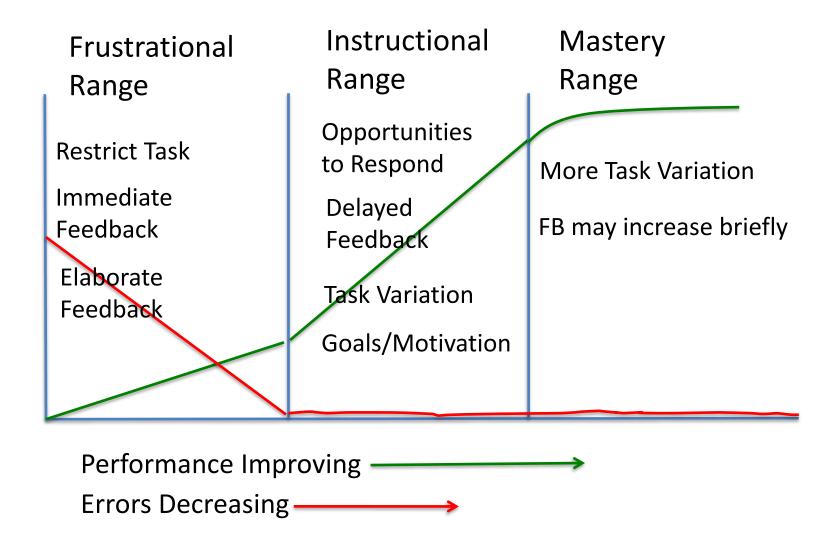
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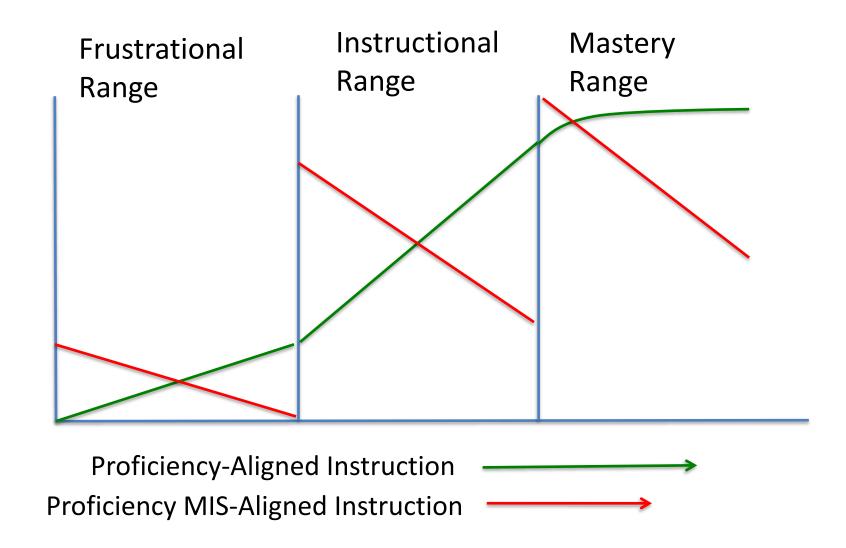
Differentiates and customizes instruction in the context of local learning expectations, ongoing progress monitoring, implementation management, and outcomes evaluation over time.



The Instructional Hierarchy: How it Works



Skill x Treatment Interaction



How to Plan Instruction Using Science

Acquisition

Child response is inaccurate: Frustrational Performance.

Goal of instruction is to build accurate understanding. Tactics should include: salient cues, frequent & highlevel prompting, immediate feedback, more elaborate feedback, sufficient exemplars of correct/incorrect responses, controlled task presentation.

Fluency

Child response is accurate but slow: Instructional Performance

Goal of instruction is to build fluency (accuracy + speed). Tactics should include: intervals of practice, opportunities to respond, delayed feedback, goals & reinforcement for more fluent performance.

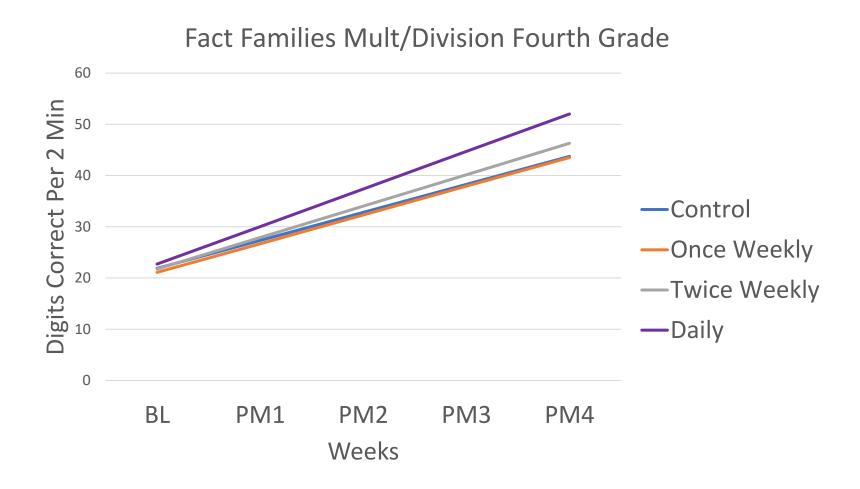
Generalization & Adaptation

Child response is fluent: Mastery Performance

Goal is to promote generalization. Tactics should include: cues to generalize, corrective feedback for application and problemsolving, systematic task variation, fading of support.

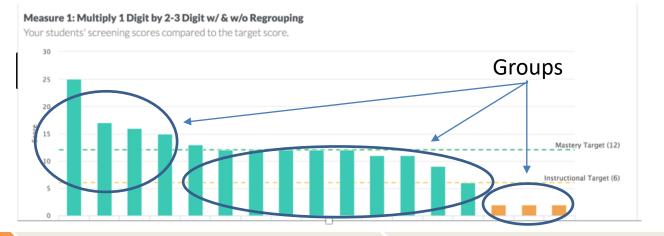
Haring, N. G., & Eaton, M. D. (1978). Systematic instructional procedures: An instructional hierarchy. In N. G. Haring, T. C. Lovitt, M. D. Eaton, & C. L. Hansen (Eds.), *The fourth R: Research in the classroom* (pp. 23–40). Columbus, OH: Merrill.

Dose What is Needed, Not What Fits Schedule



Codding, R., VanDerHeyden, Martin, R. J., & Perrault, L. (2016). Manipulating Treatment Dose: Evaluating the Frequency of a Small Group Intervention Targeting Whole Number Operations. *Learning Disabilities Research & Practice*, 31, 208-220.

Differentiation is Not Enough



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 Usually accomplished by organizing small groups

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Personalized

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Full report here: https://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/ED537982.pdf
Align Tactic w Proficiency

For Math: Use Screening Data

Classwide Intervention Individual Interventions Screening Students Growth

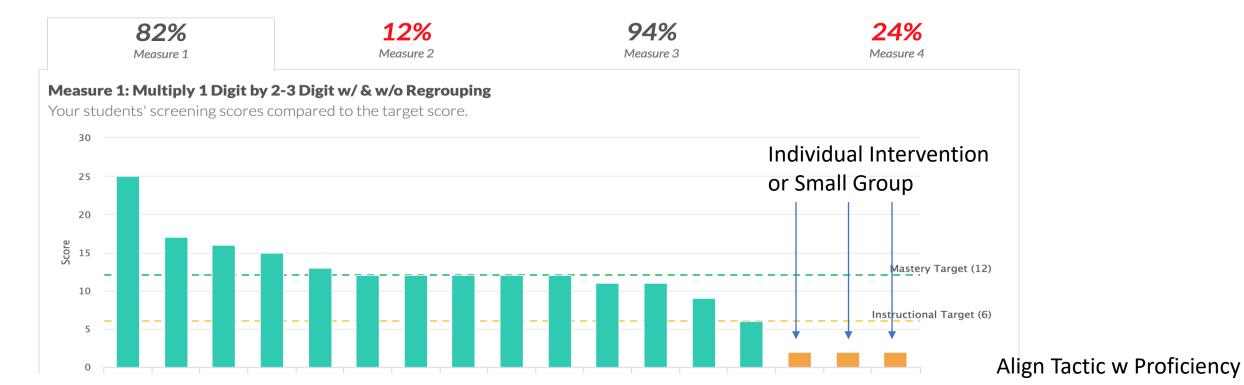
Spring 2017-18 Screening Results

The results are in. Let's take a look...

Classroom Performance

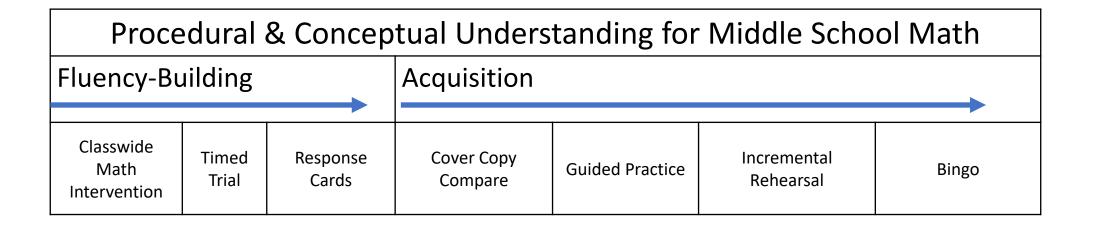
6% of your class reached the target on all of the screening assessments. Extra practice will help you reach mastery at this grade level.

The classwide intervention has already been started.



Sample Back to Find Starting Level & Tactic Sums to 9 Frustrational Fluency-**Building** ∕instructional Sums to 18 Intervention: Sums to 18 Mastery **Goal Skill** Frustrational Fluency-Addition with 2-**Acquisition Building** Intervention: Intervention: 1nstructional **Digit Numbers** Addition 2-Digit Addition with 2without **Numbers Digit Numbers** regrouping without Mastery without regrouping regrouping Fluency-Frustrational Addition 2-Digit **Building** Numbers, Intervention: Instructional **Acquisition** Addition 2with and without Intervention: Digit regrouping Addition 2-Digit Numbers with Mastery Numbers with and without and without regrouping regrouping Stop

You will Need a Range of Interventions & Data to Connect them to the Student



Tier 2 Take-Aways

- Group size can vary (larger groups not associated with weakened efficacy
- Groupings must be flexible (they should change based on learner growth & need— in math this means every 1-2 weeks)
- Sessions can be brief, but more frequent is better (dosage).
- Students can work in pairs (like a mini-classwide intervention) to maximize opps to respond & feedback
- Can be used for Acquisition and Fluency-Building interventions

Websites

- <u>www.intensiveintervention.org/chart/instructional-intervention-tools</u>
- www.ebi.Missouri.edu
- www.springmath.com
- http://www.cehd.umn.edu/reading/PRESS/about.html



Lesson 5: Manage Intervention Don't Do This

Add Components

Innovation Not Working

Increases Complexity

Decreases
Probability of
Correct Use

What are the Consequences of our Actions?

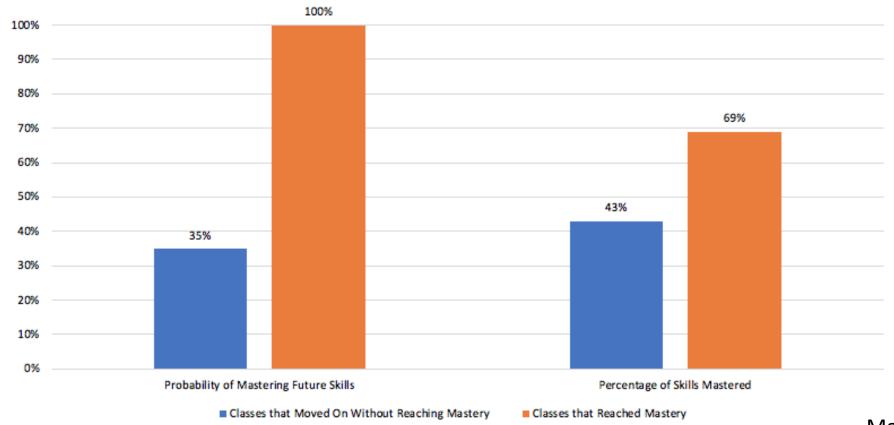
- Is risk going down?
- Who is vulnerable (still)?
- Are vulnerable students growing/catching up?

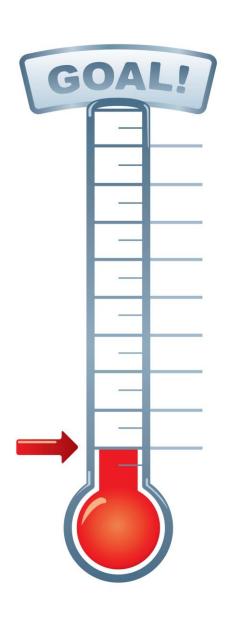


Even Veteran Districts will Drift

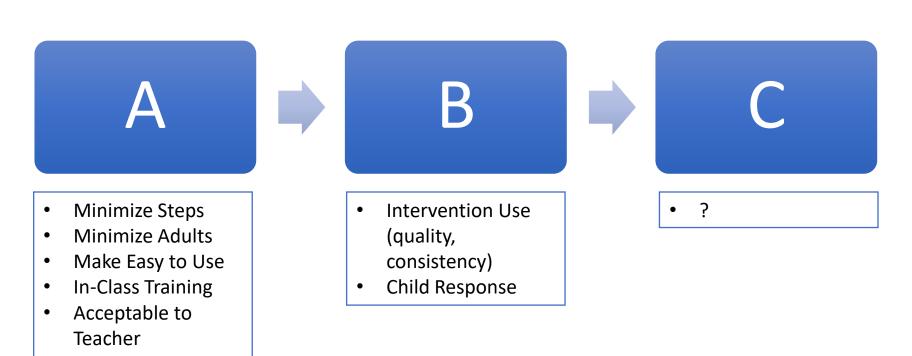
My students can't meet the mastery criterion, can't we just move on?

Importance of Reaching Mastery for Each Skill During Classwide Intervention

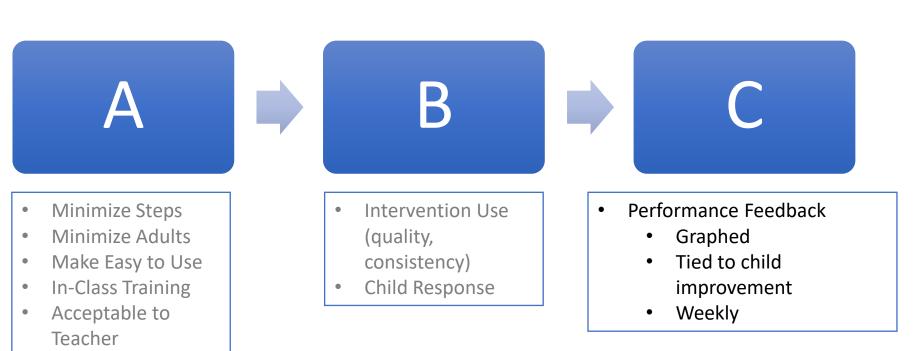


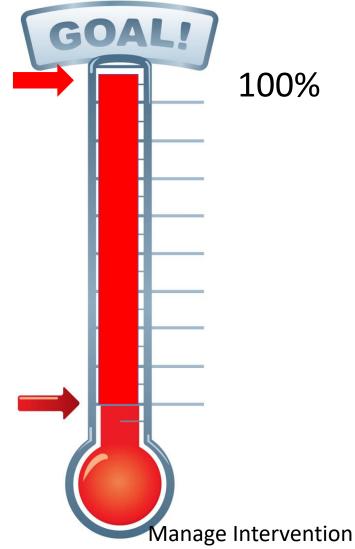


Antecedent Supports



With Consequent Supports







Manage Intervention

Use your Analytical Know-How

Barriers/Punishers for Implementation	Rewards for Implementation
Lack of skill	Child learning gains
Lack of materials	Positive appreciation from admin
Lack of time to implement	Recognition among peers
Lack of follow-up or progress monitoring (no knowledge if working)	Positive appreciation from family
Complex and resource intensive	Change of role or opportunities for new work

Minimize, remove, attenuate

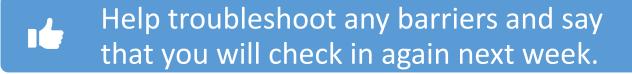
Facilitate immediacy, frequency, quality. Make less predictable.

Use Implementation Science





When growth is weak, check-in with teacher by watching intervention being implemented.



Wash, Rinse, Repeat.



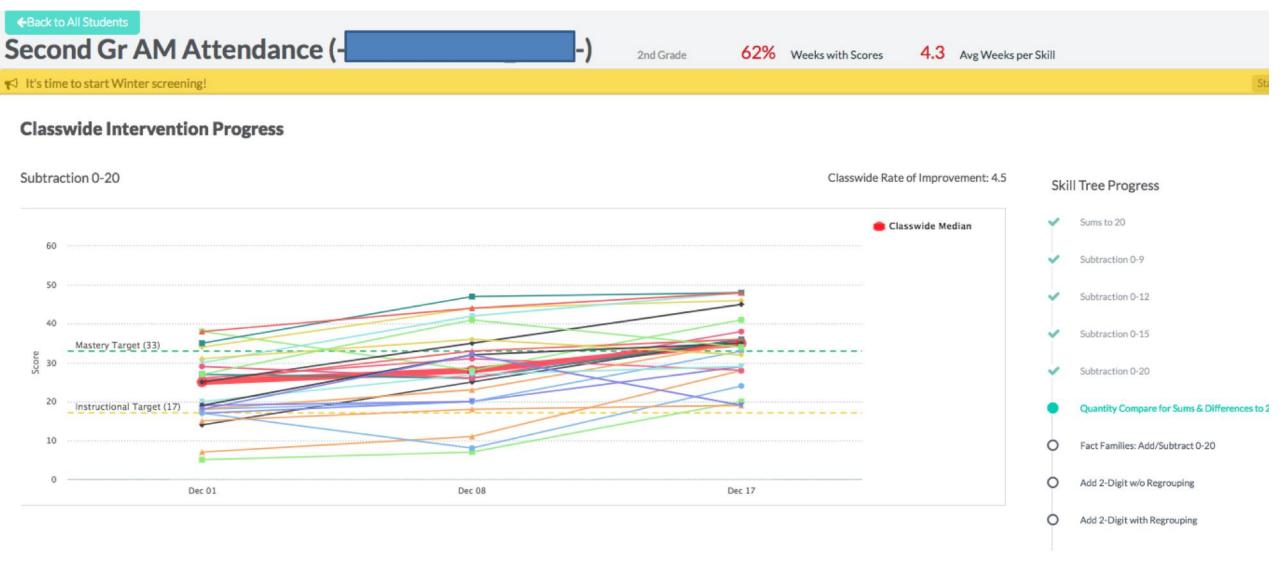
Signs of an Effective Intervention

- Scores available for each week.
- Median increases each week within instructional groupings.
- Most students grow week over week.
- Very few students remain in the frustrational range.
- Few students require more intensive intervention.

Activity: NCII DBI Implementation Rubric

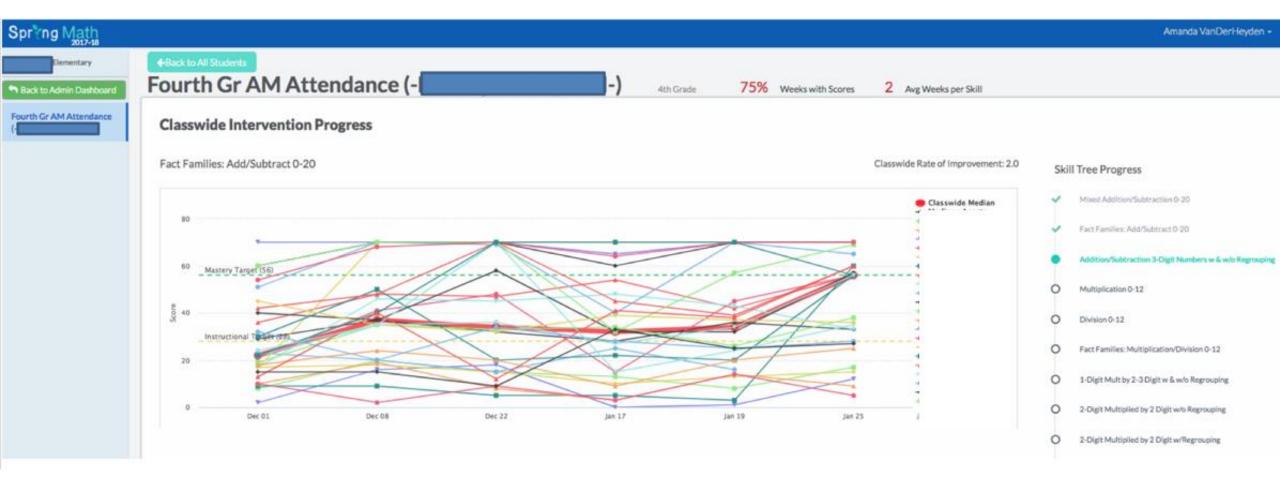
https://intensiveintervention.org/resource/dbi-implementation-rubric-and-interview

This is a High-Integrity Intervention



Manage Intervention

This Growth Indicates a Problem



Classwide Intervention Progress



Make intervention use fail-proof: Make sure you have Not doing the intervention.

Students do not know how to follow the classwide intervention routine.

materials. Make sure you know HOW to implement. Make sure there is a scheduled time for intervention.

Re-train the students. Show the students how to get into working pairs, how to use the materials, how to provide high-quality feedback, and how to be engaged.

Teacher is not completing all steps of the intervention.

Review missed steps and understand rationale. Papers must be scored during the intervention because that provides feedback to the student, provides the error correction opportunity, and provides goal attainment opportunity. The error correction component is important because it improves student accuracy for the next session.

Children seem bored with the intervention.

Include rewards to motivate students. Display the median graph on dashboard for the class to see their growth. Be sure to set daily goals with the students!

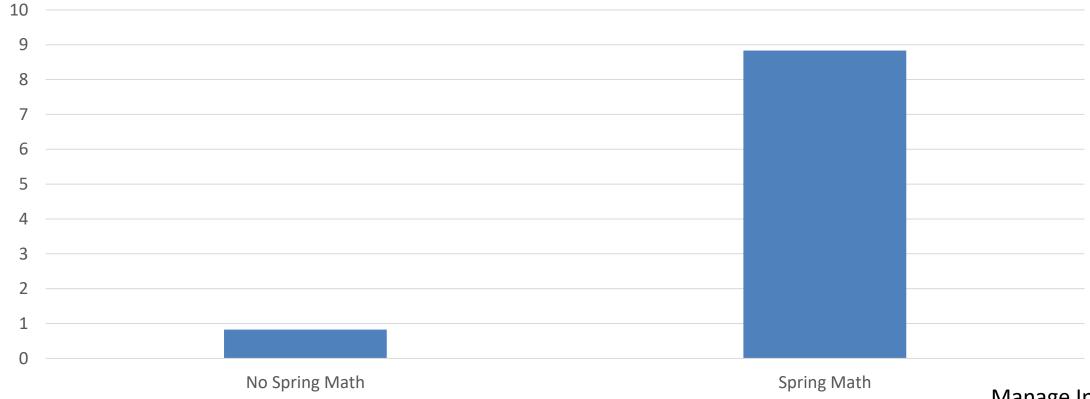
Manage Intervention

Most Typical Intervention "Fixes"

- ✓ Watch the intervention session.
- ✓ Pay attention to dosage.
- ✓ Tighten up rewards.
- ✓ Make sure error correction occurs with high quality everyday.
- ✓ If students are making errors, use pre-teach protocol in support.
- ✓ Integrate review of prerequisite skills and current skills into games and practice opportunities during the school day.
- ✓ Know that some skills take TIME!

If You Move the Baby Indicators, You will Move the Big Indicators. It's really not rocket science.







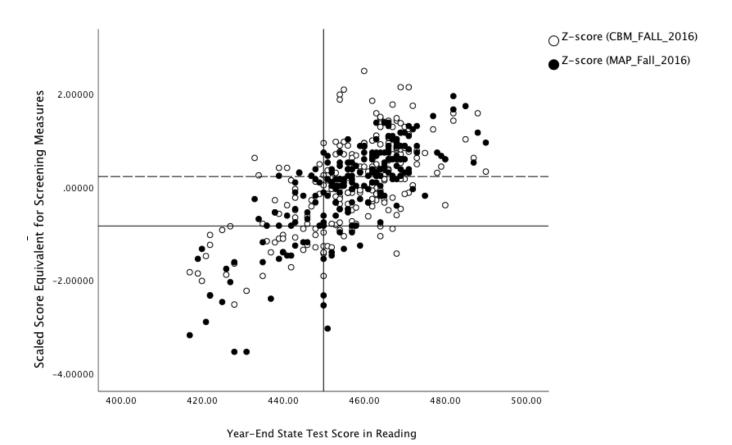
Lesson 6: Assess More Efficiently

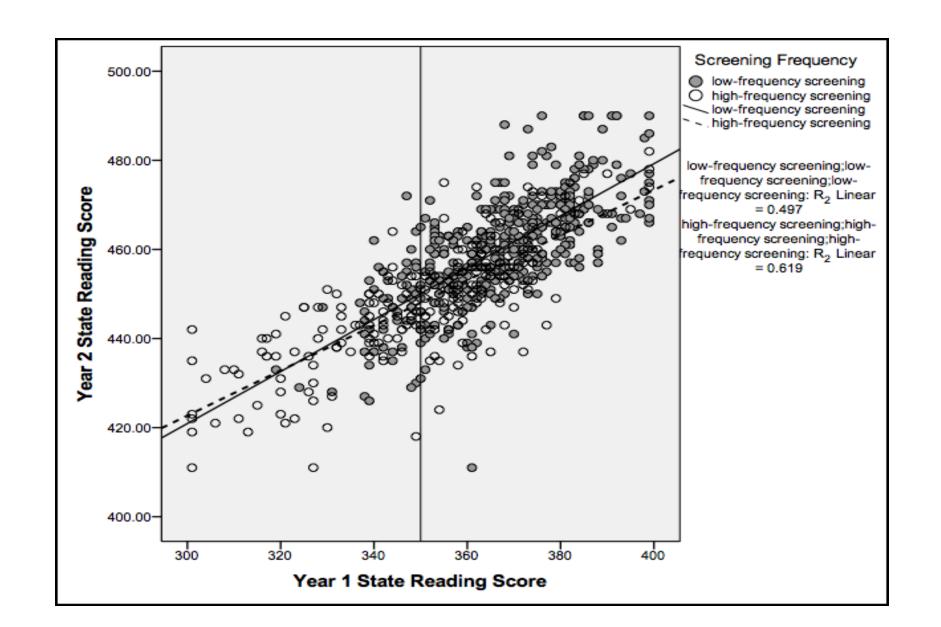


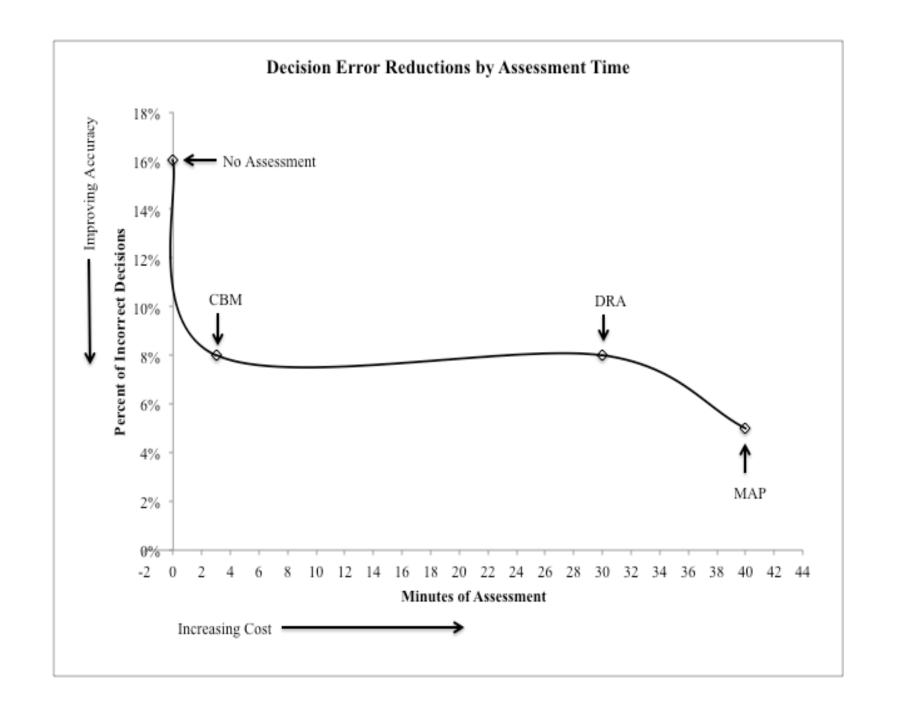
More Assessment Does Not Make You More Accurate.

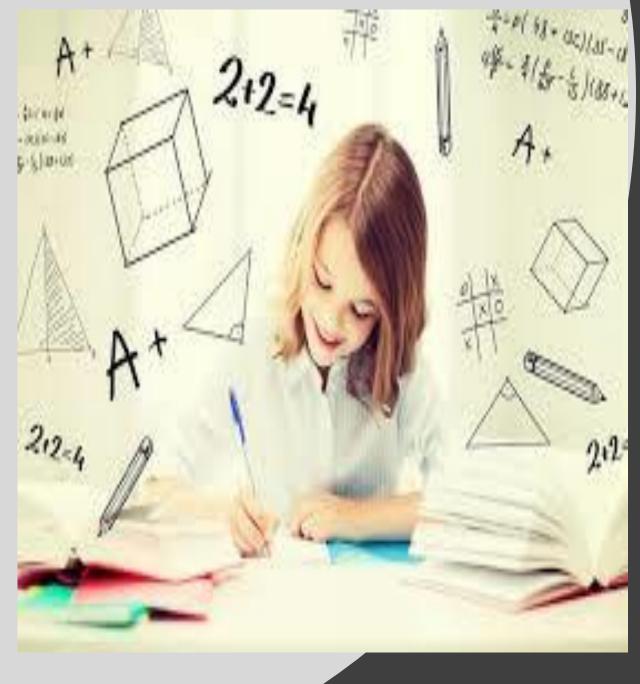
It Has Been Associated with Decreased Performance for All but the Most At-Risk Students.

Concurrent Correlated Measures Do Not Increase Accuracy of Risk Decision









Lesson 7: Lead more efficiently/effectively (Learner Objective 3)

Your Role as a Coordinator of Actions

- The most expensive care, is not always the best care.
- Gawande we need more performance management due to the complexity of our work
 - 1. Study the failures
 - 2. Checklist of key actions/ "pause points"
 - 3. Implementation



Your Role as an Adaptive Leader: Technical Leaders v. Adaptive Leaders

- Technical leaders are good managers. They are:
 - Engaged
 - Quick to recognize and respond to issues that arise
 - Organize groups to solve problems
 - Regularly produce desired results

Technical Leadership

Zone of Less Complexity; Tactics are clear Adaptive Leadership

Zone of Greater
Complexity where tactics
are not known & agreed
upon

Change Requires Adaptive Leaders

"When systems undergo change, the natural tendency of those in the system is to look to those in authority to minimize the tension of change and regain stability. However, when change is the goal, formal authority can get in the way of leadership because it is designed to maintain systems, not to help people overcome their natural tendencies to maintain the status quo. When organizations and systems are being changed on purpose, adaptive leadership is needed to manage the change process." (National Implementation Research Network).



Adaptive Leaders Build Trust AND

- Is believing that the other person will
 - acknowledge me,
 - not take advantage of me,
 - not embarrass or humiliate me,
 - tell me the truth,
 - not cheat me, but rather work on my behalf and support the goals we have agreed to.
 - Edgar Schein, Humble Inquiry

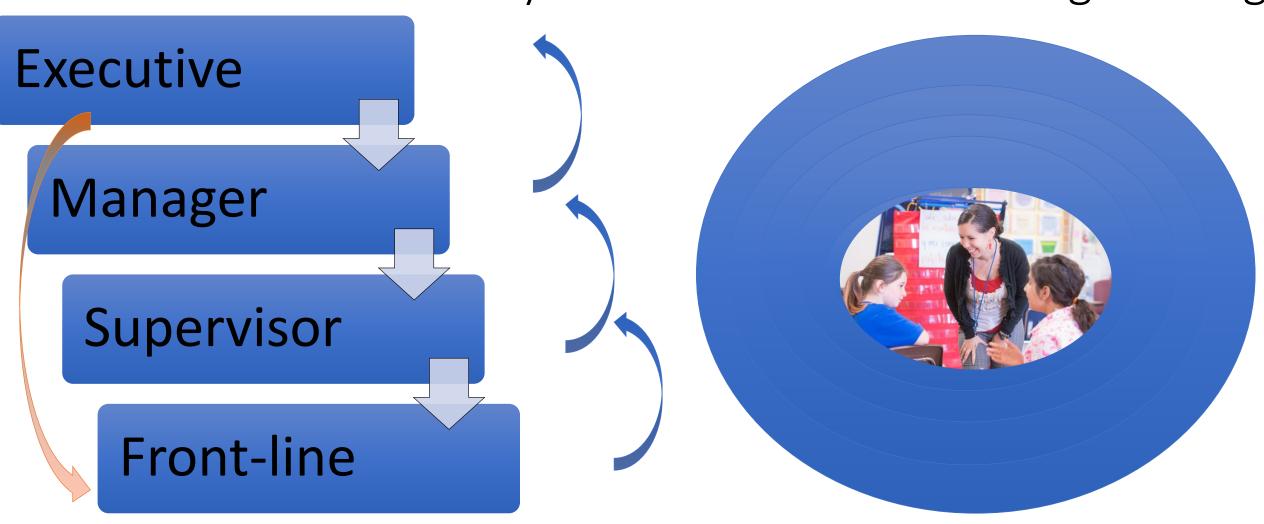
Have the Skill to Deliver Results

"... trustworthiness goes beyond integrity to include real competence. You have to be true to your word, but also very good at what you do."

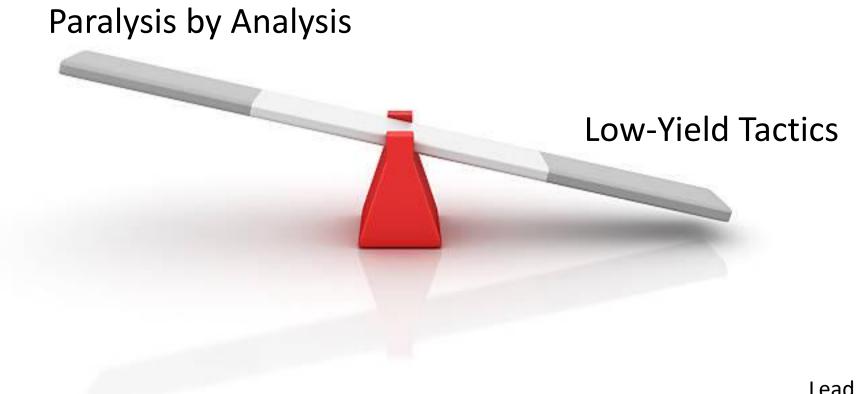
Fullan

Your Role in Setting Priorities:

Traditional Accountability v. Reverse Behavioral Engineering



Your Role in the Feedback Loop: Don't Do This



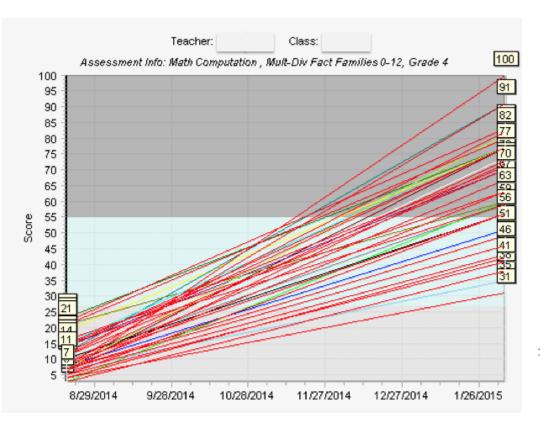
Strategic Instead, Do This Vision Data Sources Needs

Costs/Benefits

Tactics (Implementation Management)

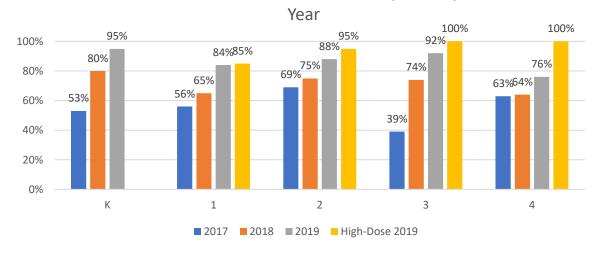
Report to Leaders

 Dose, Growth on Proximal, Growth on Distal

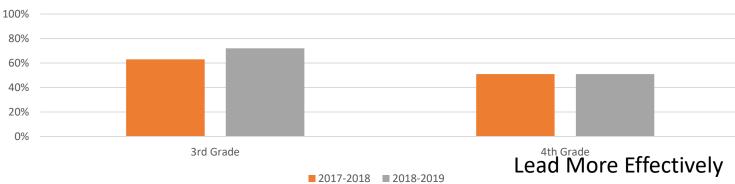


	Percentage of Skills Mastered (2017-2018)	Percentage of Skills Mastered (2018-2019)
Kindergarten	58%	100%
1 st Grade	60%	80%
2 nd Grade	62%	88%
3 rd Grade	35%	68%
4 th Grade	22%	49%

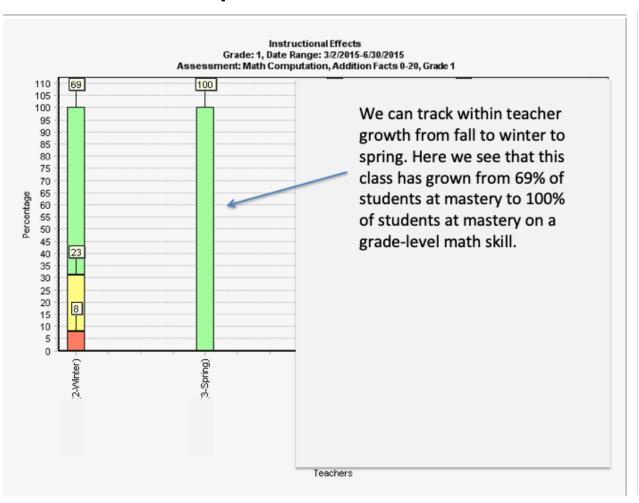
Percent Proficient on Winter DIBELS Composite by Grade &



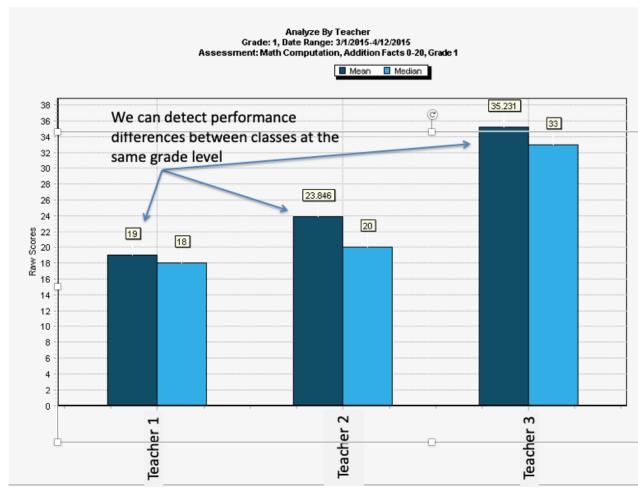
Percent Proficient on PSSA (State Year-End Test) for Grades 3 and 4



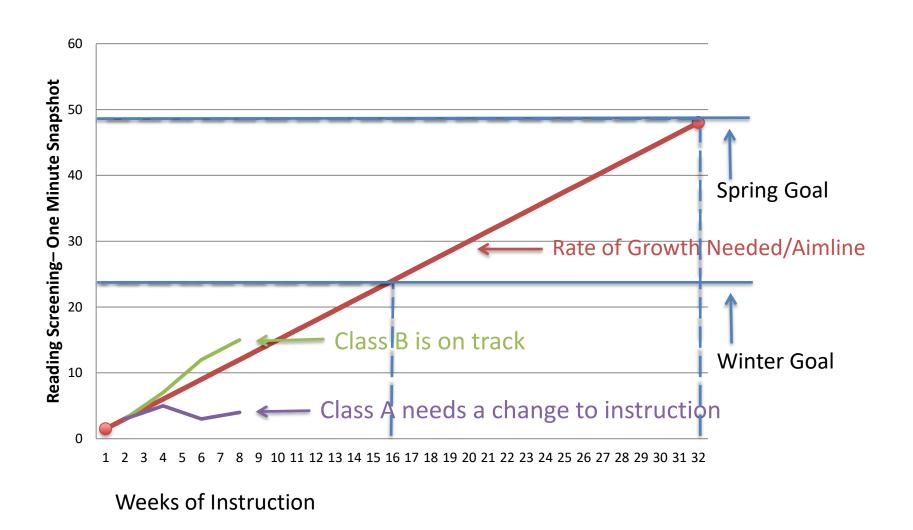
Within-Class, Within-Year Improvements



Across-Class Differences

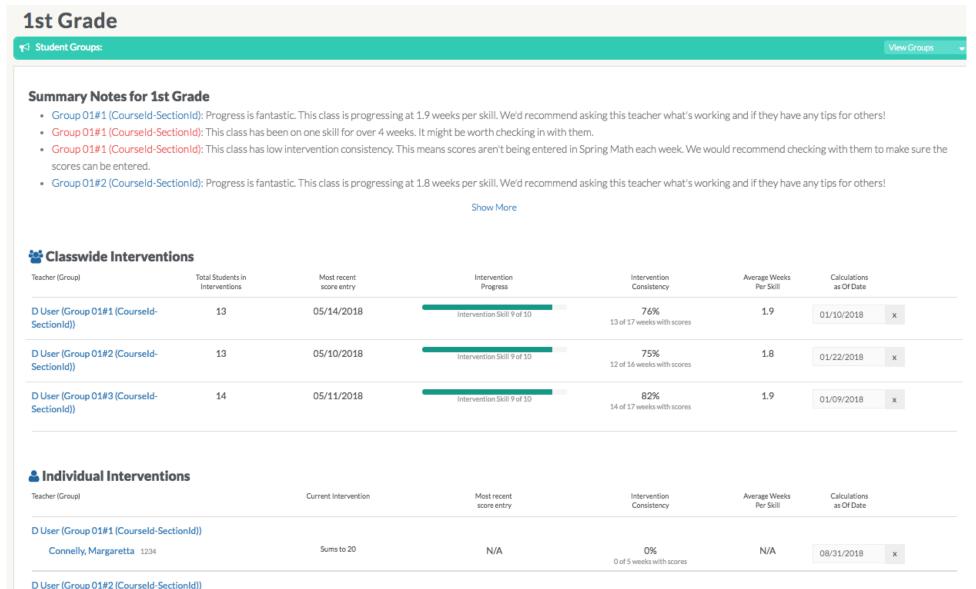


Weekly Monitoring of Learning to Assure Milestones



What Must Leaders Know?

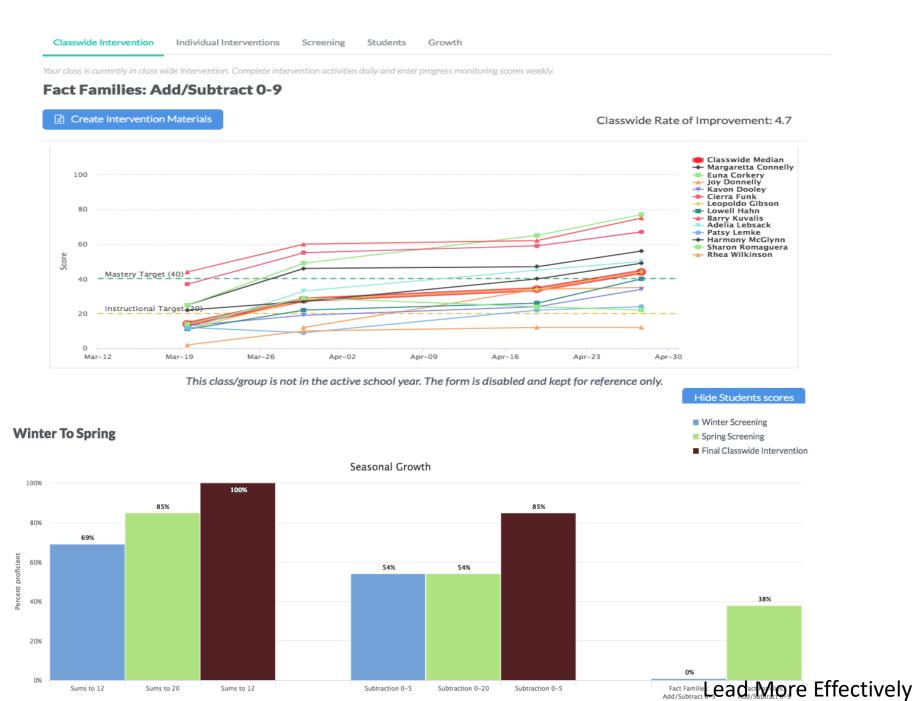
- What actions are underway?
- What are the results right now?
- Where is support needed?
- Are proximal indicators headed in the right direction?
- What are the barriers we can troubleshoot?



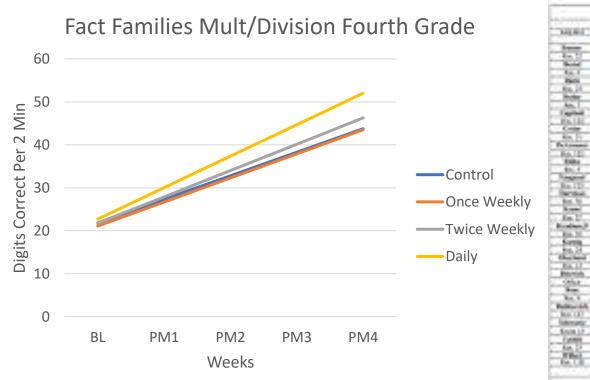
Lead More Effectively

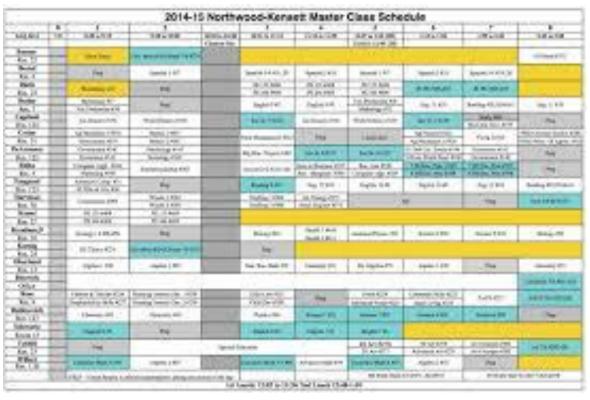
Teacher: Are Students Growing?

Teacher:
Does Growth
Transfer?



Dose What is Needed, Not What Fits Schedule





Codding, R., VanDerHeyden, Martin, R. J., & Perrault, L. (2016). Manipulating Treatment Dose: Evaluating the Frequency of a Small Group Intervention Targeting Whole Number Operations. *Learning Disabilities Research & Practice*, 31, 208-220.



Lessons Learned

- 1. Specialized instruction is a myth. Intensified instruction is not.
- 2. Effective instruction saves lives.
- 3. Use classwide intervention.
- 4. Manage interventions.
- 5. Intensify Instruction Smarter.
- 6. Assess less.
- 7. Lead more effectively.

Final Questions, Discussion

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