

INTRODUCTION TO THE READING CENTER

Welcome to The Reading Center,
a comprehensive reading intervention for the
assessment and development of elementary readers.

Purpose of The Reading Center. The Reading Center is a combination of procedures that have been supported by research to improve student reading and comprehension. It is most effective for students who are reasonably accurate in their reading but who are slow and need to build reading fluency. It contains two basic components:

- ?? **Reading Assessment.** The Reading Center contains procedures for assessing a student's reading. The assessment is used to place the student at the correct instructional level within the Reading Center
- ?? **Reading Development.** The Reading Center helps improve reading skills by first modeling accurate reading for the student and by then providing the student with the opportunity to practice reading. It also provides an opportunity for students to practice difficult words used in the story to expand basic sight word vocabulary. Finally the Reading Center challenges the student to demonstrate that had good comprehension of what they read.

Structure of The Reading Center. The Reading Center contains 5 separate reading rooms for different reading levels:

<u>Reading Room</u>		<u>Reading Level</u>
Blue Circle	=	1 st Grade
Red Star	=	2 nd Grade
Green Square	=	3 rd Grade
Yellow Triangle	=	4 th Grade
Purple Diamond	=	5 th Grade

Use of The Reading Center. The Reading Center should be implemented using 3 steps on a student-by-student basis:

- ?? **Step 1 – Reading Room Placement.** The first step is to determine in which reading room each student should be placed. To place a student in the appropriate room, a series of reading assessments are provided for the placement of 1st-5th Graders.
- ?? **Step 2 – Reading Room Completion.** Once placed in the appropriate reading room, the student is ready to begin the lessons in that room. Each reading room contains 12 lessons that progress in reading difficulty from 1-12. Each lesson has 3 parts, which are designed to improve reading through repetition, practice, and generalization. In each of these 3 parts of a lesson, a reading passage is narrated while the student follows along. The student then reads the passage alone twice for practice. The student also completes a word recognition quiz and a comprehension quiz for each passage. At the end of each lesson, a reading test is conducted to determine if the student is ready to progress to the next lesson in the room. Two options are available for conducting this step:
 - ☞ **Teacher-Based Room Completion** – Each student works with a teacher or tutor and the instruction is provided by another person. Teacher-Based Completion materials are available for each reading room.
 - ☞ **Computer-Based Room Completion** – The student works independently on a computer program to complete each lesson, and the teacher conducts each lesson test. Computer-Based Completion materials are available for each reading room.
- ?? **Step 3 – Progress Monitoring.** To determine if the student is benefiting from the lessons, it is necessary to monitor the student's progress within the reading room three times a week. **Conduct Steps 2 and 3 together.** Materials are provided to monitor student progress within each reading room.