

REL Corner: Implementing Quality Instruction

[Learn about the REL Appalachia and its work](#), and dive into these resources on implementing quality instruction to help educators grow and improve their practice.

- [Instructional Improvement Cycle: A Teacher’s Toolkit for Collecting and Analyzing Data on Instructional Strategies](#). This REL Central toolkit provides a process and tools to help teachers use data from their classroom assessments to evaluate promising practices. The toolkit provides teachers with guidance to consider the effects of a given instructional strategy on student learning.
- [Gearing Up to Teach the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics in Rural Northeast Region Schools](#). This REL Northeast & Islands study describes key challenges and necessary supports related to implementation of the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics (CCSSM) identified by rural math educators in the Northeast.
- [Assisting Struggling Students with Mathematics: What Works for Tiered Interventions in Elementary and Middle Schools](#). This REL Central webinar provides research-based approaches to assisting students who are struggling in math, focusing on recommendations from an Institute of Education Sciences (IES) practice guide, with specific examples of instructional strategies related to those recommendations.
- [Algebra for All! Preparing Students for Success](#). This REL Appalachia blog post discusses strategies that support struggling learners and English learner (EL) students in developing essential proportionality skills to set them up for success in algebra I and beyond.
- [All Aboard: Improving English Learner Instruction Through a New Framework, Professional Development, and Culture Change](#). This REL Southwest blog post discusses how a district redefined their approach for serving EL students through a new framework, which prioritizes providing high-quality and culturally responsive instruction that supports EL students in acquiring English proficiency and mastering grade-level core content.
- [Teaching Newcomer English Learners: Four Powerful Vocabulary Practices](#). This REL Northwest video provides evidence-based activities teachers can use to build EL students’ academic vocabulary.
- [Teaching Elementary School Students to Be Effective Writers](#). This WWC practice guide provides four recommendations for improving elementary students’ writing. Each recommendation includes implementation steps and solutions for common roadblocks.
- [Phonological Awareness: The Sounds of Reading](#). This REL Appalachia blog post shares a systematic approach for teaching phonological awareness and provides strategies and resources for educators to support children who are struggling with early reading.
- [What is the importance of professional learning for the effective use of instructional materials in K–12 settings and what is the impact on student achievement?](#) This REL Mid-Atlantic Ask A REL response cites research reports and descriptive study articles regarding professional learning and student outcomes connected to effective use of instructional materials.

- [Using Inquiry Cycles in PLCs to Improve Instruction](#). This REL West infographic sheds light on one approach to professional learning that builds inquiry cycles into professional learning communities. Inquiry cycles can provide opportunities for peer support as teachers examine data and evidence together and engage in testing change ideas to improve their practice and support student learning.
- [What does the research say about supplementing whole-classroom reading instruction with skill-specific small-group intervention for increasing elementary reading achievement?](#) This REL Northwest Ask A REL response cites research reports and descriptive study articles regarding reading instruction with skill-specific small-group intervention for increasing elementary reading achievement.