



Resource roundup: Returning to school during COVID-19

School districts across the country have begun to reopen for in-person, remote, or blended learning. We rounded up resources from across the REL network to help administrators and teachers foster positive learning environments amid the uncertainties caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. For more resources and events related to the pandemic, see the REL Program's [COVID-19 page](#).

[Read more](#) →

Meaningful online education for our youngest learners: Tips to reconcile the need for e-learning with how young children learn best

As schools reopen, many educators will be incorporating e-learning and educational technology. Explore these tips to support young learners and ensure that e-learning is developmentally appropriate.

[Read more](#) →

Video: Interview with Tim Shanahan on integrating play into literacy instruction

Reading expert and former teacher Tim Shanahan, Ph.D., describes research-based recommendations from the What Works Clearinghouse for teaching literacy to young students, with a focus on strategies that use a play-based approach.

[View the video](#) →

Study spotlight: Examining a professional development initiative to improve early literacy in the Chicago Public Schools

REL Midwest is partnering with Chicago Public Schools to study the district's new professional development initiative designed to improve literacy instruction in prekindergarten through grade 2. The district will use the findings to refine the initiative and determine whether to scale it up district-wide.

[Read more](#) →

Comprehensive Center resources for school and teacher leaders

Education leaders, check out these blog posts from the Comprehensive Centers for guidance in planning for the return to school and for best practices for teacher leaders.

- National Comprehensive Center: [Returning to School: A Toolkit for Principals](#)
- Region 9 Comprehensive Center: [4 key insights about teacher leaders: Best practices from high-growth districts](#)

Ask A REL

Browse the responses to some recent questions submitted to our Ask A REL reference desk, and then [submit a question](#) of your own!

- What research is available on the role of school leadership in building a [trusting and positive learning culture](#)?
- What research is available on the role of school leadership in [fostering teacher leadership](#)?
- What research is available on the role of school leadership in [leading through change effectively for continuous improvement](#)?
- What research is available on the role of school leadership in developing an [aligned system of curriculum, instruction and assessment](#)?

Contact Us

Please contact us for more information about any of the items in this newsletter or to speak to a member of our staff. We look forward to hearing from you.

REL Midwest at American Institutes for Research

10 S. Riverside Plaza, Suite 600
Chicago, IL 60606



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