

HOW THE **WHAT WORKS** **CLEARINGHOUSE** DEVELOPS **PRACTICE GUIDES**



:ies INSTITUTE OF
EDUCATION SCIENCES

PRACTICE GUIDES provide educators with recommendations about evidence-based practices to tackle current challenges in education. Practice guides combine the best available evidence, expertise, and practitioner experience on a topic to give educators strategies to use in their classrooms and schools.

1 Select a topic

The What Works Clearinghouse (WWC) considers whether the topic is of **interest to educators**, can help them address a **specific challenge**, and has a **strong base of well-designed research** that supports effective practices.

2 Recruit researchers and educators

The WWC recruits a panel of expert **researchers and educators** to help develop the guide.

3 Conduct literature search

Using a review protocol that defines the scope of the guide (for example, grade level or subject), the WWC conducts a **thorough literature search** to gather all available research on the topic.

4 Screen and review studies

The WWC reviews eligible studies using WWC design standards to **identify rigorous research**.

5 Develop specific recommendations

The WWC develops specific recommendations that combine findings from rigorous research with the expertise of the panel. Recommendations are intended to be **practical and flexible** for use in different settings and with different students. The WWC and the panel rate the **strength of the evidence** that supports each recommendation. The guide's research appendix describes all of the rigorous research studies in more detail.

Recommendations include:

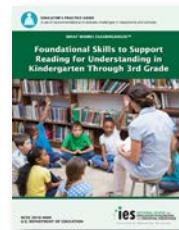
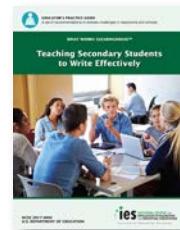
- steps to carry out the recommendation
- examples from educational settings
- suggested solutions to common challenges

6 Review practice guide

The guide is then **reviewed by educators and peer reviewers** to ensure it is of the highest quality.

7 Publish practice guide

The practice guide is **published** on the WWC website and **shared widely** with teachers, administrators, professional development providers, program developers, and education researchers.



Download one of our many free **practice guides** at whatworks.ed.gov.

Check out our other practice guide resources, including summaries, videos, webinars, instructional tips, and more.