The What Works Clearinghouse

About the WWC

Who we are
The What Works Clearinghouse (WWC) is a central and trusted source of scientific evidence on education interventions (programs, products, practices, and policies). An investment of the Institute of Education Sciences at the U.S. Department of Education, we are a resource to help you make evidence-based decisions.

What we do
We review the research to find what works in education. We use a systematic review process to identify all of the research on an intervention, assess the quality of each study, and summarize the findings from the high-quality studies.

How we can help
We give you the information you need to know, like has there been research conducted on an intervention, was the research credible, and was the intervention effective? Our easy-to-use reports are designed to help you make informed decisions and improve student outcomes.

Visit the WWC to check out our free resources.
Want to know which programs improve student outcomes? Find What Works can help. You’ll discover lists of programs that work, linking to more detailed information about the programs and research. To find what works in your area of interest, select a topic from the home page and start exploring!

Find What Works is...

Informative and Continually Updated
Download reports summarizing the research and explore specific interventions and studies.

Customizable
Find out whether the research was done in settings or for students like yours.

Dynamic
Search, sort, filter, and compare findings to focus on the information you need.

Transparent
Easily access data from all WWC systematic reviews.

Visit the WWC to check out Find What Works.
Intervention reports and evidence snapshots

Intervention reports summarize what the highest-quality research says about effectiveness and include details on program components, target populations, and costs. The reports offer clear, relevant information to help you select a policy or make a program change.

Want a quick view of an intervention’s effectiveness? Our evidence snapshots deliver one page, at-a-glance summaries of each intervention report.

Practice guides

Practice guides combine research and practice to offer educators the best available evidence and expertise on challenges in education. The WWC develops practice guides in conjunction with an expert panel, combining the panel’s expertise with the findings from rigorous research to produce specific recommendations for teaching a particular topic or addressing challenges in classrooms and schools. Each guide uses detailed examples to illustrate how the recommendations can be implemented in the classroom. Practice guide summaries synthesize key findings for educators in easy-to-use and accessible formats.

Quick reviews

When an education study grabs headlines, WWC quick reviews provide the WWC’s take on the quality of the research. We know education professionals don’t have a lot of time, so we design our quick reviews with busy educators like you in mind.

Visit the WWC to check out the Publications page.
Reviews of individual studies

Wondering if the WWC has reviewed a study? Search the Reviews of Individual Studies Database to find studies reviewed by the WWC. With thousands of citations in this database, you can explore studies that meet WWC design standards to find detailed information about study characteristics and ratings, as well as the WWC publication in which a particular study was cited.

Handbook

For a complete description of our standards and processes, take a closer look at the WWC Procedures and Standards Handbook. Using easy-to-understand illustrations and accessible, plain language, our Standards Briefs explain the rules we use to assess the quality of studies. Our handbooks and standards briefs ensure that the WWC is transparent about how to assess and rate education research.

Frequently asked questions

Still have questions about who we are and what we do? Visit our list of Frequently Asked Questions to learn more.

Help desk

Have a question or comment about the WWC? We’re here to help! Contact our Help Desk or reach out to us on Facebook and Twitter.

At the WWC, we’re always looking for ways to improve our products and serve our users. We want to hear from you!

Find us at whatworks.ed.gov.