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TTAC Monthly e-Newsletter



Ready, Set, Go

Success for All

An e-Newsletter linking people and resources to support quality practices in the education of all students

IMPLEMENTING THE VIRGINIA LITERACY ACT WITH SPECIALLY DESIGNED READING INSTRUCTION FOR STUDENTS WITH DYSLEXIA



Please join us as we examine what we can do to provide Specially Designed Reading Instruction for Students with Dyslexia. This Ready, Set, Go issue will guide us through how the implementation of the Virginia Literacy Act (VLA) supports improved outcomes for students with dyslexia. We will focus on illustrating how the VLA requires evidence-based literacy instruction for all students. As a special educator, you may be familiar with scientifically based practices through implementing a student's IEP and providing evidence-based instruction designed according to the child's unique needs. This specially designed instruction (SDI) in reading is described as explicit, systematic, and cumulative. With the implementation of the VLA, instruction to students through all tiers will provide evidence-based curriculum materials that contain best practices. This allows educators to implement our "specialized" mission: providing instruction that is data-based, intensified, and individualized based on a student's IEP, with their unique needs serving as the driver.

Get **Ready**

Become familiar with....

Dyslexia is defined as “a specific learning disability that is neurobiological in origin and is characterized by difficulties with accurate and/or fluent word recognition, poor spelling, and decoding abilities. These difficulties typically result from a deficit in the phonological component of language that is often unexpected in relation to other cognitive abilities and the provision of effective classroom instruction. Secondary consequences may include problems in reading comprehension and reduced reading experience that can impede the growth of vocabulary and background knowledge” (Virginia Department of Education [VDOE], 2023, para. 1). “Specially designed instruction means adapting, as appropriate to the needs of an eligible child, the content, methodology, or delivery of instruction: (34 CFR 300.39(b)(3)” (VDOE, 2023, Specially Designed Instruction section). Instruction must be specially designed to meet a child’s unique needs and must provide for meaningful academic and/or functional advancement (Wright, 2020). The Virginia Literacy Act was designed to support students at all tiers including, Students with Disabilities and English Language Learners.

Article

- [IDA Dyslexia Handbook](#)

Video

- [What is dyslexia? - Kelli Sandman-Hurley - YouTube](#)
- [Virginia Literacy Act | Virginia Department of Education](#)
- [Science-Based Reading Research and the VLA](#)

Podcast

- [Science of Reading: The podcast \(Apple Podcasts\)](#)
- [10 Podcasts for Dyslexia Awareness](#)

Websites

- [HLPs in Reading](#)
- [Virginia Literacy Partnership \(VLP\)](#)
- [Dyslexia | Virginia Department of Education](#)

Get **Set**

Learn how specially designed instruction using evidence-based practices for literacy can increase student outcomes for students with disabilities, supporting the implementation of the Virginia Literacy Act (VLA)

Virtual Professional Learning

- [NCII Using DBI to Improve Literacy](#)

- [CEEDAR: Reading Modules](#)
- [IRIS Center Evidence-Based Practices \(Module Part 1\): Identifying and Selecting a Practice or Program](#)
- [Dyslexia Awareness Training](#)

Book Study Guide and Materials

- [Structured Literacy Interventions: Teaching Students with Reading Difficulties, Grades K-6, Edited by Louise Spear-Swerling, 2022, and Book Study](#)

Go

Explore these resources to include specially designed instruction for students with dyslexia into your structured literacy routines in the classroom

Article

- [Dyslexia in the Classroom: What Every Teacher Needs to Know](#)

PowerPoint

- [Specially Designed Instruction and Reading](#)

Websites

- [Student Intervention Log from The Progress Center](#)
- [Value Series](#)

Infographics

- [Considerations for Effective Implementation: 5 Elements of Fidelity](#)
- [Dyslexia Awareness Every Day](#)
- [The Science of Reading](#)

Books

- Specially Designed instruction: Increasing Student Success for Students with Disabilities
- Essentials of Dyslexia and Intervention

References

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Rodgers, W. J., Weiss, M. P., & Ismail, H. A. (2021). Defining specially designed instruction: A systematic literature review. *Learning Disabilities Research & Practice*, 36(2), 96-109.

Virginia Department of Education (2023). *Dyslexia*.

<https://www.doe.virginia.gov/programs-services/special-education/specific-disabilities/learning-disability/dyslexia>

Virginia Department of Education (2023). *Specially designed instruction*.

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Wright, P. W. (2020). *Endrew v. Douglas County: IDEA demands more: Inclusion & progress in regular curriculum; IEP 'tailored to unique needs'*. Wrightslaw.

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