

About Really Great Reading

Mission

At Really Great Reading (RGR), our mission is to ensure that every student has access to high-quality foundational reading instruction. We are dedicated to preventing and remediating decoding and foundational reading skills weaknesses in students of all ages, providing educators with the tools and knowledge they need to teach all students to read effectively. Our programs are research-based, interactive, explicit, structured, and multisensory, making reading both an enjoyable and efficient learning process.

Development and Approach

RGR has been developing comprehensive foundational literacy solutions grounded in the Science of Reading since 2005. Our programs are designed to align with scientifically-based reading research while providing clear guidance for teachers and still allowing them to maintain their creative instructional “touch.” RGR’s foundational skills instruction is designed to fit seamlessly into the typical 90-minute English Language Arts (ELA) block found in most elementary classrooms.

RGR’s portion of an evidence-based elementary literacy block primarily focuses on the Word Recognition strand of Scarborough’s Reading Rope (2001), or the Decoding side of Gough and Tunmer’s Simple View of Reading equation (1986). Activities are geared toward strengthening students’ foundational skills. This includes phonemic awareness, phonics, handwriting and basic grammar, fluency practices, and some basic vocabulary work, aligning with the National Reading Panel’s (2000) recommendations, which emphasize systematic and explicit instruction in these areas as vital for developing strong reading skills. RGR’s instruction fits seamlessly with the remainder of the literacy block, which should be devoted to enhancing language comprehension, including engaging in comprehension activities with knowledge-building texts, expanding vocabulary, and practicing writing.

Key Principles of Our Programs:

- **Explicit Research-Based Instruction:** Our lessons are designed to be clear and direct, helping students understand and apply foundational reading skills.
- **Systematic Scope and Sequence:** We provide a structured approach that ensures consistent and progressive skill development.
- **Phoneme-Level Instruction:** Under the umbrella of phonological awareness, we emphasize phoneme-level instruction to build strong foundational skills and phoneme proficiency.
- **Instructional Routines:** Regular, predictable practice routines foster mastery and retention of foundational skills.
- **Connected Text Application:** Students apply their reading and writing skills using connected text to reinforce their learning.
- **Differentiated, Data-Driven Instruction:** Our programs include opportunities for reteaching and enrichment to meet the diverse needs of all students. Our digital tools provide real-time information on student skills to help teachers drive instruction.

- **Engaging Digital Experience:** Interactive digital tools enhance student engagement and provide valuable practice, assessment, and differentiation opportunities, while also significantly reducing teacher prep time and enhancing teacher effectiveness and efficiency.

Programs Overview

Launchpad: Playful and powerful evidence-based phonics and pre-reading skills instruction that prepares students for kindergarten. Launchpad is game-based, teacher-led, interactive, kinesthetic, and multisensory instruction.

Countdown: A foundational skills program for kindergarten students, offering 15-20 minutes of daily direct instruction focusing on phonological awareness, phonics, spelling, and letter knowledge, plus whole group practice to mastery, small group instruction, and independent practice in handwriting (print), fluency, vocabulary/morphology, and more.

Blast Foundations: A first-grade program that builds on the skills developed in Countdown, providing 15-20 minutes of daily instruction in phonemic awareness, phonics, spelling, and high-frequency words, plus whole group practice to mastery, small group instruction, and independent practice in handwriting (print), fluency, vocabulary/morphology, and more.

HD Word: Designed for second and third graders, this program focuses on advanced phonics, syllable types, and fluency to ensure students become proficient readers. HD Word provides 15-20 minutes of daily instruction in phonemic awareness and phonics, plus whole group practice to mastery, small group instruction, and independent practice in high-frequency words, handwriting (print and cursive), spelling, fluency, vocabulary/morphology, and more.

Proven Results

The effectiveness of RGR's programs is evidenced by significant improvements in student literacy outcomes. Schools and districts using RGR's solutions have reported substantial gains in reading scores, demonstrating the transformative impact of the company's approach to literacy instruction. Explore our Research Library at reallygreatreading.com/successes to read our ESSA Level II and III research studies, explore our ESSA Level IV logic model, and to find a wide variety of case studies and white papers showcasing both the statistically significant and educationally meaningful results that schools nationwide experience with RGR instruction.

Professional Development & Implementation Support

At RGR, we prioritize effective implementation by offering focused professional learning and curriculum services tailored to the unique needs of districts, schools, and organizations. Our experts collaborate with educators to maximize student learning impact. RGR supports educators through embedded professional development within all teaching tools, ensuring even those without a literacy background can implement the programs effectively. Our resources include virtual training courses, scripted lesson plans, and comprehensive teacher guides.

For more information about Really Great Reading and its programs, visit www.reallygreatreading.com or contact us at 866-401-7323.