

5 Steps to Transform Your Literacy Culture

Realizing the benefits of instruction based on the Science of Reading demands a change in school culture, but the rewards are well worth it. Upon implementation, you can expect some of the following advantages:

- An increased likelihood of being responsive to students' needs and improved outcomes
- A greater prospect of student engagement
- Less wasted time and fewer wasted resources
- Less trial and error
- Increased accountability with data to support the solution's effectiveness

Here are 5 steps you can take to begin this transformation:

1. Lead the transformation

- Be an advocate for change, recognizing the adjustments needed to implement changes to literacy instruction.
- Address bandwidth issues to help teachers remain effective and efficient.
- Build a community of support around literacy.

2. Empower all teachers, wherever they are on their own learning journeys, by strengthening their capacity to:

- Engage in consensus building and collaborative decision making.
- Save time when choosing explicit and systematic lessons to appropriately support instruction and learning.
- Contribute to increased confidence and morale of learners.

3. Engage students further to make a positive impact

- Motivate them with active learning opportunities.
- Ensure learning is fun with easy-to-use resources and activities.
- Provide multiple, multisensory practice opportunities.

4. Address unfinished learning

- Ensure foundational skills instruction is explicit and systematic.
- Create a strategic plan that includes professional learning opportunities and intentionally-designed instruction.

5. Conduct regular system evaluations

- Provide real-time assessments to gauge student progress.
- Include actionable data for teacher analysis and planning.
- Review student performance data to assess solution effectiveness and understand student progress or gaps at the school/district level.