Supporting Literacy Outcomes for Students with Disabilities

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2020

ELIZABETH SWANSON, PH.D.
THE MEADOWS CENTER FOR PREVENTING EDUCATIONAL RISK
UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

U.S. Department of Education Disclaimer

This presentation contains examples and resource materials that are provided for the user's convenience. The inclusion of any material is not intended to reflect its importance, nor is it intended to endorse any views expressed, or products or services. These materials may contain the views and recommendations of the presenter as well as hypertext links, contact addresses and websites to information created and maintained by other public and private organizations. The opinions expressed in any of these materials do not necessarily reflect the positions or policies of the U.S. Department of Education. The U.S. Department of Education does not control or guarantee the accuracy, relevance, timeliness, or completeness of any outside information included in these materials. Mentions of specific programs or products in these examples are designed to provide clearer understanding and are not meant as endorsements.

Today

- The Need
  - What do we know about reading development and students with disabilities?
  - What do we know about teacher preparation?

- Addressing the Need
  - Mississippi: General reading instruction
  - Texas: Response to Instruction / Multi-Tiered Systems of Support
  - Wyoming: Data-based Individualization

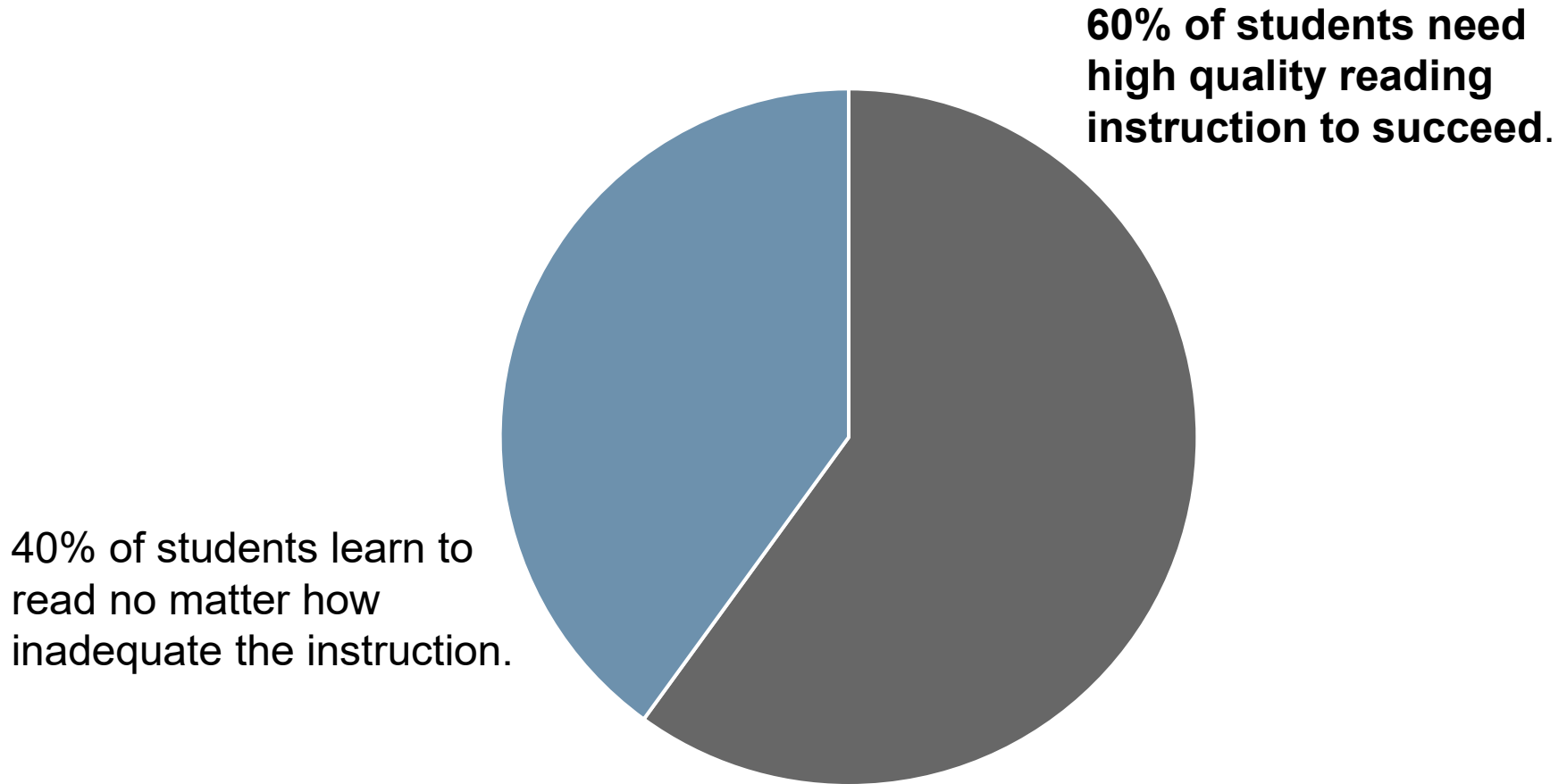# Understanding How Children Learn to Read

Aligned with the Science of Teaching Reading

Language acquisition is <u>natural</u>.
Reading acquisition is <u>taught</u>.

- <u>Explicit instruction</u> from a teacher focused on how sounds and print are related is <u>key</u> to reading.

- Early text reading opportunities <u>align with phonics instruction</u>.

- Quality literature is a <u>necessary component</u> of a well-rounded reading program.

- "<u>Do not wait</u>."

Most Students Need Reading Instruction

60% of students need high quality reading instruction to succeed.

40% of students learn to read no matter how inadequate the instruction.

http://bit.ly/40_60_per

Consequences for Students with Disabilities

Texas Education Agency, 2020

What Do We Know About Teacher Preparation?

"We have not been successful in scaling what we know about beginning reading instruction."

Jack Fletcher

"Too few teachers and the programs that prepare them understand and apply the science of reading. The result is classroom instruction that does not teach students how to read."[1]
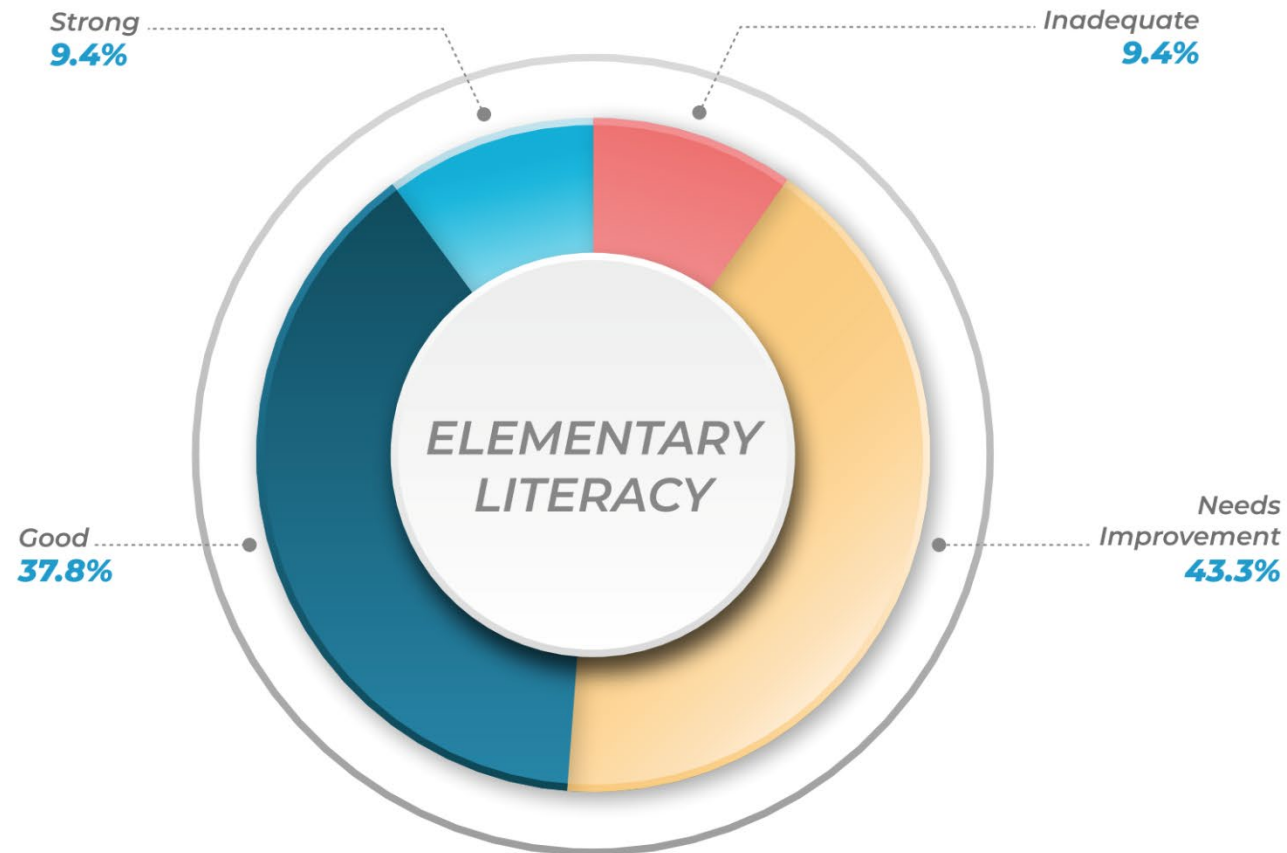
Edward Crowe and Stephanie Howard

TPI-US Study 2020

QUALITY OF COURSEWORK AND TRAINING IN ELEMENTARY LITERACY

52.7% OF PROGRAMS REVIEWED ARE INADEQUATE OR NEED IMPROVEMENT

Strong **9.4%**

Inadequate **9.4%**

ELEMENTARY LITERACY

Good **37.8%**

Needs Improvement **43.3%**

Three Examples

Mississippi Department of Education
- – Tier 1 Reading Instruction K-3

Texas Education Agency
- – RTI / MTSS K-12

Wyoming Department of Education
- – Data Based Individualization K-5

Mississippi Department of Education
Focus: Tier 1

Literacy Based Promotion Act of 2013
Prioritized reading by the end of 3rd grade.

School Leaders

Mississippi Principal Corp provides literacy training, resources, and support to reinforce reading instruction

In-Service Teachers

Free training on the science of reading to all K-3 teachers. Most schools required their teachers to attend.

Pre-Service Teachers

Free training on the science of reading for teacher candidates in colleges and teacher preparation programs

Results of Efforts Focused on Tier 1 Reading Instruction

2017-2019 Gains

- 1st in nation
  - 4th grade reading
  - 4th grade math
- 3rd in nation
  - 8th grade math
- 4th in nation
  - 8th grade reading

- Exceed national average for proportion of students with disabilities at or above proficient in 4th grade

Is MTSS required in your state?

Texas Education Agency
Focus: RTI / MTSS

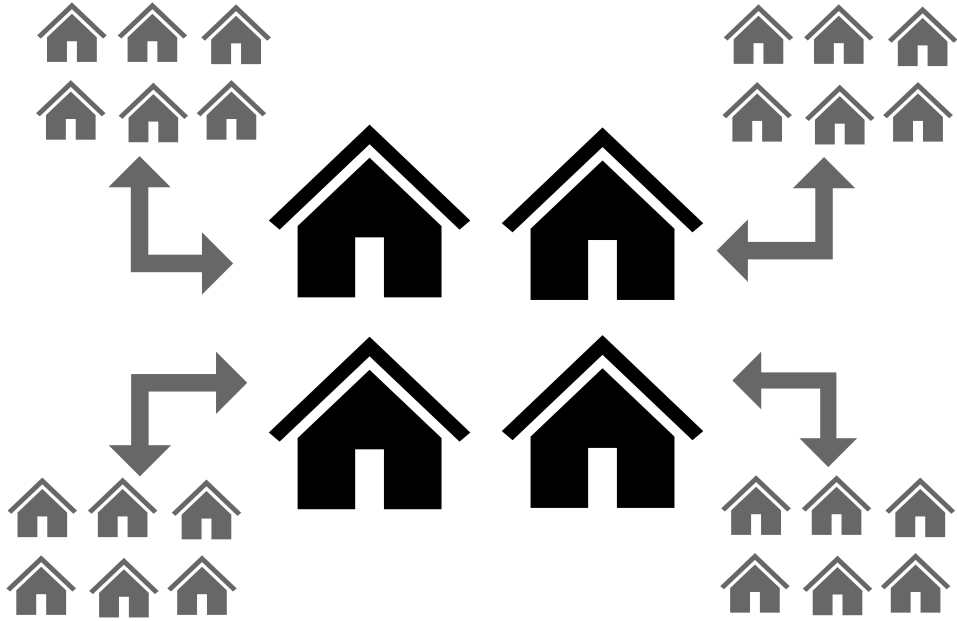The Meadows Center for Preventing Educational Risk
The University of Texas at Austin

Spotlight 3-Tier

2004-2007

CAPACITY BUILDING RTI

2007-2019

T·I·E·R
Tiered Interventions Using Evidence-Based Research

2019-present

Spotlight 3-Tier

2004-2007

TEA Provided	Schools Received	Dissemination
Funding Oversight	Professional Development RTI Consultant Instructional Coaching	Spotlight 3-Tier Website State Presentations Nation-Wide Presentations

CAPACITY BUILDING RTI

2007-2019
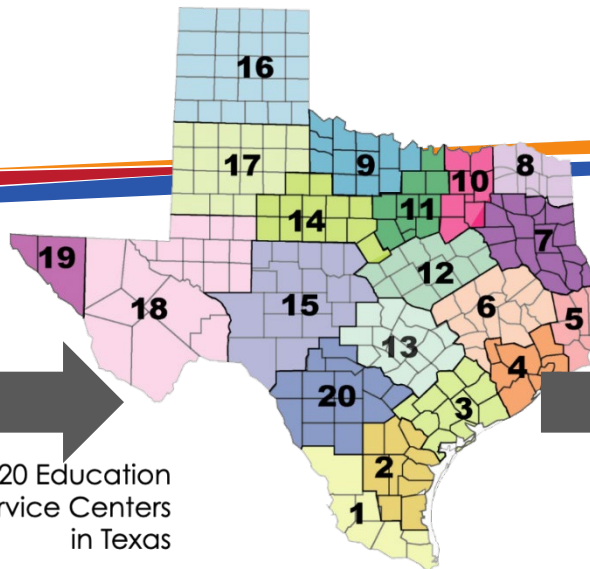
The 20 Education Service Centers in Texas

TEA Provided	ESC Leaders Received	Dissemination
Funding Oversight Participation in events	Annual Leadership Conference in Austin Quarterly conferences in regions Products to support RTI RTI Consultants	Building RTI Capacity Website State Presentations Nation-Wide Presentations

Impact: Building RTI Capacity (2007-2019)

The 20 Education Service Centers in Texas
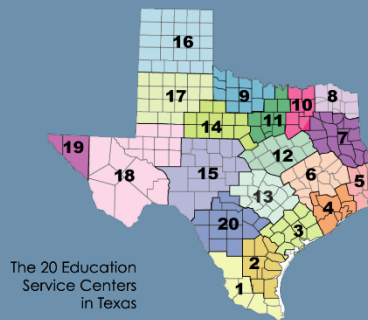
buildingrti.utexas.org	750,000 to 1,000,000 hits per year	
RTI Leadership Conference	> 2,400 ESC participants →	
RTI Conferences in Regions	20 regions	> 5,000 school participants
RTI Consulting	20 regions	> 8,000 principals, RTI Coordinators, and teachers
Products	> 800 products	
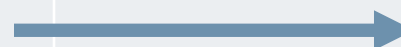
The 20 Education Service Centers in Texas

2020-2021

- 11 Modules
- Certified TIER Trainers
- 10 Model Demo Schools
  - ID School Needs
  - TIER Training
  - TIER Coaching

Introduction
Learn about the multi-tiered system of supports (MTSS) framework and how it can be used to meet the academic, behavioral, and emotional needs of all students.

Introduction Pathways

Communities
Be informed about working with caregivers and important outside-of-school stakeholders.

Communities Pathways

Leadership
Review essential structures and practices necessary for schoolwide implementation of MTSS.

Leadership Pathways

Academics
Dive into evidence-based practices that should be included within targeted and intensive support.

Academics Pathways

Culturally Responsive
Focus on culturally and linguistically responsive practices within academic interventions.

Culturally Responsive Pathways

Decision Making
Learn how to use a data platform. Review decision rules for determining student progress.

Decision Making Pathways

Screening
See why screening is an essential practice in MTSS. Learn about common screening measures in academics and behavior.

Screening Pathways

Progress Monitoring
Explore progress-monitoring measures. Review administration and scoring of measures.

Progress Monitoring Pathways

Mental Health
Explore how to integrate mental health supports such as trauma-informed care and restorative practices within MTSS.

Mental Health Pathways

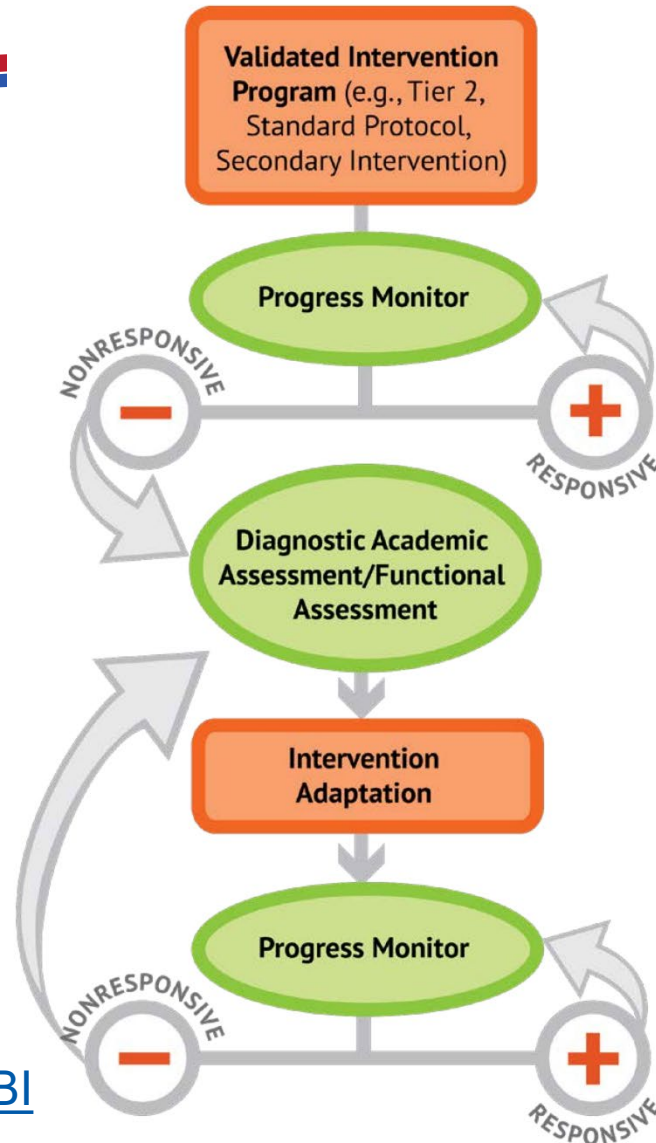### Behavior
See how to incorporate Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) within an MTSS framework.

Behavior Pathways

Wyoming Department of Education
Focus: Students with Disabilities

NCII: http://bit.ly/NCII-DBI

Providing Literacy Instruction to Students

Wyoming's Implementation Story

State Improvement Plan focused on improving outcomes for students with disabilities.

2016-2017
Open Call to Districts
4 teachers
6 students

2017-2018
Additional Teachers
14 teachers
22 students

NCII: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2PfhlbMems8&feature=emb_logo

Wyoming's Implementation Story

State Improvement Plan focused on improving outcomes for students with disabilities.

Regional Service Center Partnership

University of Wyoming

NCII: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2PfhlbMems8&feature=emb_logo

Do Not Despise Small Beginnings

What initiatives from your state were implemented with "small beginnings" and now have a larger impact on literacy outcomes for students with disabilities?