

Assisting Students Struggling with Mathematics: Rtl for Elementary and Middle Schools

IES Recommendations Practice

Recommendation 1. Screen all students to identify those at risk for potential mathematics difficulties and provide interventions to students identified as at risk.

Recommendation 2. Instructional materials for students receiving interventions should focus intensely on in-depth treatment of whole numbers in kindergarten through grade 5 and on rational numbers in grades 4 through 8. These materials should be selected by committee.

Recommendation 3. Instruction during the intervention should be explicit and systematic. This includes providing models of proficient problem solving, verbalization of thought processes, guided practice, corrective feedback, and frequent cumulative review.

Recommendation 4. Interventions should include instruction on solving word problems that is based on common underlying structures.

Recommendation 5. Intervention materials should include opportunities for students to work with visual representations of mathematical ideas and interventionists should be proficient in the use of visual representations of mathematical ideas.

Recommendation 6. Interventions at all grade levels should devote about 10 minutes in each session to building fluent retrieval of basic arithmetic facts.

Recommendation 7. Monitor the progress of students receiving supplemental instruction and other students who are at risk.

Recommendation 8. Include motivational strategies in tier 2 and tier 3 interventions.