

Framework for Informed Reading and Language Instruction

Matrix of Multisensory Structured Language Programs



Promoting literacy through research, education, and advocacy.



This comparison matrix of multisensory, structured language (MSL) programs enables consumers to see the similarities and differences among various approaches that are widely used throughout the United States.

Why was the Matrix Developed?

The International Dyslexia Association (IDA) works diligently to provide information to the public evidence-based informed, regarding reading instruction and professional development for teachers and intervention specialists. IDA fully supports the work of The Alliance for Accreditation and Certification of Structured Language Education, Inc. (The Alliance, www.allianceaccreditation.org), the International Multisensory Structured Language Education Council (IMSLEC, www.imslec.org) and The Academy of Orton Gillingham Practitioners and Educators (AOGPE, www.ortonacademy.org). These organizations represent institutes and agencies that design and provide instructional materials and training regarding language-based learning problems. IDA's Board, in turn, includes the Professional Development for Informed Practice (PDIP) Committee, which supports informed instruction of children and adults who experience difficulty learning to read and write. IDA intends to help school decision-makers, practicing educators, and parents gain access to one or more of the many effective sequential, multisensory, structured language programs.

Why These Programs?

These programs were chosen for inclusion in the matrix because they have a long history of use in clinics and classrooms. Over many years of development in clinical and classroom settings, these programs, when properly implemented, have been successful in teaching students to read, write, and use language. Each program has been repeatedly tested by practitioners who have met the training standards required for implementation. Each has been refined over many years of clinical and classroom use. Each embodies similar principles of instructional design. And each places strong emphasis on the necessity for teacher knowledge and teacher training. Programs vary, however, in the extent to which they have been included in scientifically conducted intervention studies. Additional materials and programs may be added to the matrix, or included in a similar matrix in the future, as evidence permits.

Who are the Programs For?

Current policies regarding the allocation of instructional resources in schools are promoting the idea of a "three-tier" system of instruction. In the three-tier system, students who are falling behind are placed in small groups for remediation (tier two). After progress monitoring, those who are not responding well to classroom or small group instruction are considered to be "treatment resisters," or students with potential learning disabilities (tier three).

Approaches included in the matrix are those used at every "tier" of student ability. Some are designed for whole class instruction and are used preventatively to keep children from experiencing academic failure (tier one). Some are designed for small group intervention (tier two). And some provide more intensive instruction and are favored by clinicians who work with students with severe reading disabilities.



Are These the Only Programs for Treatment of Reading and Language Problems?

This matrix of widely used programs does not include all of the programs that have been proven effective in remediating reading disabilities or preventing reading problems in "at risk" children. Research on early intervention and

prevention of reading disabilities has been conducted with many other instructional materials and programs that are not included in the matrix (see references). Additional reviews of instructional and intervention programs can be found on the website of the Florida Center for Reading Research (www.fcrr.org).

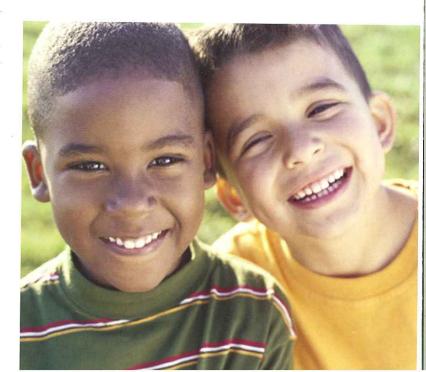
Are These Programs Research-Based or Evidence-Based?

The best studies of program effectiveness report the characteristics of the students in the study, the duration and intensity of the intervention, the training and skill of the teachers, the fidelity of program implementation, and the exact methods that were used. They also measure student outcomes multiple times during intervention with several valid, accepted assessments. Such research is expensive and complex, and many effective, clinically tested programs exist that have not been included in rigorous comparison studies. Some programs in the matrix are in that category. Other programs, not on the matrix, have been proven effective for teaching specific skills to certain kinds of children at particular stages of reading development, but do not identify themselves as MSL programs. Each program will provide the existing evidence for effectiveness on request. In summary, the effectiveness of some of the programs on the matrix is established by scientific standards, and the effectiveness of others is established through clinical use over time. The matrix does not include all programs with demonstrated effectiveness.

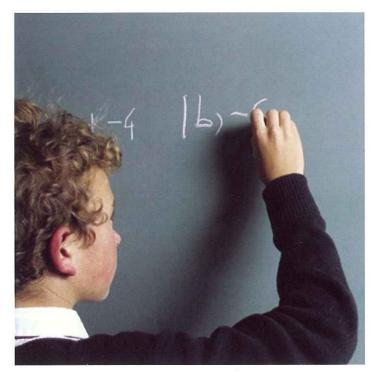
What Program Characteristics Are Most Important?

Intervention and remediation researchers report over and over that the most effective programs of instruction, at all ages, explicitly address multiple components of oral and written language learning in an integrated manner. These components include: phonological awareness; vocabulary development; reading comprehension skills and strategies; beginning and advanced decoding skills, with spelling included; reading fluency; handwriting; grammar; written composition; and strategies for learning. Certain programs that have been validated by research target some of these components, but the strongest contain lesson formats in which these components are interrelated and taught in parallel strands. In addition to teaching the content strands, effective approaches are explicit, systematic, multisensory, and cumulative.

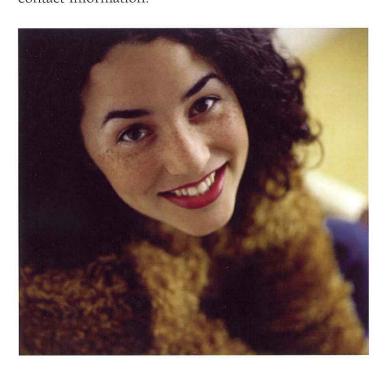
Interested consumers should contact program websites or program offices for specific information on research supporting the approach, and for other key information. Many of these programs provide websites, videos or DVDs explaining their unique characteristics.



Codes Used in the Matrix



The matrix contains codes regarding the following program characteristics: type of program (prevention, intervention/remediation, or general); type of delivery (1-1, small group, or classroom instruction); intensity; multi-sensory drill procedures; components of instruction, (phonemic awareness, phonics [including comprehension fluency, **lincluding** spelling], vocabulary], written expression [hand-writing and constructing text]); level of professional development provided; research evidence of program-efficacy; and contact information.



Key to Alphabetic Symbols

Type of Program:

P Prevention. R

Intervention/Remediation,

G General Instruction

Type of Delivery:

I Individual. G Small

Group, **C** Classroom

Intensity

(# of hours per week)

Multisensory Drill Procedures: A Auditory, V Visual,

K-t Kinesthetic-tactile

Reinforcement

B Card Blending

Instruction:

Phonemic Awareness:

PA D Decoding, S Syllables,

M Morphemes, I Irregular

Words, **Sp** Spelling

Fluency:

Phonics:

W Words, P Phrases,

T Connected Text

Comprehension:

V Vocabulary, **T** Text

Comprehension, **N** Narrative Text

E Expository Text

Text levels (range of

grade levels)

Written Expression:

Constructing Text:

Handwriting:

M Manuscript, **C** Cursive

S Sentence Level.

P Punctuation, N Narrative

Composition.

E Expository Composition

Professional Development:

Levels of Training:

C Certification

I Introductory, A

Advanced, **F** Follow-up for

teachers

Levels of Trainers:

C Coaching, A Area Trainer,

N National Trainer.

T Trainer of Trainers

Supervised Practicum:

Yes or No

Distance Learning:

Online Courses.

W Webcast

Research Evidence:

R Response to Intervention,

QE Quantitative/ **Empirical Research**

QC Qualitative/Case Study

Research

	Orton-Gillingham Approach	Alphabetic Phonics	Association Method	Language!	Lexia-Herman Method	Lindamood-Bell	Project Read	Slingerland	Sonday System	Sounds In Syllables	Spalding Method	Starting Over	Wilson Fundations & Wilson Reading
Type of Program	P, R	R	R	P, R, G	R	P, R, G	P, R, G	P, R, G	P, R, G	P, R, G	P, R, G	P, R	P (fdns), R, G
Type of Delivery	I, G	I, G (up to 10)	I, G, C	l, G, C (1-20)	I, G	I, G, C	I, G (2-10)	I, G, C (1-25)	I, G, C		I, C, G	I, C, G (1-30)	I, G, C (1-15)
Intensity	2-5X, 2hrs.	4-5X, 45-60 min.	Min. 2 hrs./wk. Max. 35 hrs./wk.	5X, 1-2 hr.	50 min. 5X wk.	5X, 20 min 6hr.	2-5X wk.	Daily lang. arts	2-5X wk.	1 hr. 4-5X wk.	2 hrs. 5X wk.	Opt. 45 min./day Min. 1.5 hrs./wk.	Fdns: 5X wk., 30 min. WR: 5X wk., 90 min. opt. Min. 2X wk., 60 min.
Multisensory Procedures - Drills	A, V, K-t, B	A, V, K-t, B	A, V, K-t, B	A, V, K-t, B	A, V, K-t, B		A, V, K-t, B	A, V, K-t, B	A, V, K-t, B	A, V, K-t, B	A, V, K-t, B	A, V, K-t, B	A, V, K-t, B
INSTRUCTION Phonemic Awareness	PA	PA	PA	PA	PA	PA	PA	PA	PA	PA	PA	PA	PA
Phonics	D, S, M, I, Sp	D, S, M, I, Sp	D, S, M, I, Sp	D, S, M, I, Sp	D, S, M, I, Sp	D, S, M, I, Sp	D, S, M, I, Sp	D, S, M, I, Sp	D, S, M, I, Sp	D, S, M, I, Sp	D, S, M, I, Sp	D, S, M, I, Sp	D, S, M, I, Sp
Fluency	W, P, T	W, P, T	W, P, T	W, P, T	W, P, T	W, P, T	W, P, T	W, P, T	W, P, T	W, P, T	W, P, T	W, P, T	W, P, T
Reading Comprhension Text Level	V, T, N, E	V, T, N, E	V, T, N, E	V, T, N, E primer- gr. 10	V, T, N, E 2-adult		V, T, N, E gr. preK-12	V, T, N, E	V, T, N, E grades K-12	V, T, N, E	V, T, N, E	V, T, N, E	Fun: V, T, N WR: V, T, N, E
Written Expression													
Handwriting	M, C	С	С	м, с	С	M, C	М, С	M, C	M, C	M if nec., C	М, С	М, С	M, C
Constructing Text	S, P, N, E	S, P, N, E	S, P, N, E	S, P, N, E	S, P, N, E	S, P, N, E	S, P, N, E	S, P, N, E	S, P Gen. Writing	S, P, N, E	S, P, N, E	S, P, N, E	S, P
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	C - 3 levels	C - 4 levels	In Process	С	С	C - 4 levels		С	С	C - 2 levels	С	С	C (WR) - 3 levels
Levels of Training	l, A, F	I, A, F	l, A, F	I, A, F	I, A, F	I, A, F	I, A, F	I, A, F	I, A, F	I, A, F	I, A, F	I, A, F	I, A, F
Levels of Trainers	Ck AOGPE	C, A, N, T	IMSLEC Levels	C, A, N, T	C, A, N, T	C, A, N, T	C, A, N, T	IMSLEC Instructor	C, A, N, T	Therapy Level			Trainer Level
Supervised Practicum	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes, in-class	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Distance Learning	O-G subscriber level	At some centers	In development		O, W	W	120	Pilot Project					0
Research Evidence for Efficacy	QC, QE Ck AOGPE	r, qe Ck alta	R, QE, QC Ck Assoc.	R, QE, QC Ck L!	R, QC Ck Lexia-Herman	R, QE, QC Ck Lindamood-Bell	R, QE, QC Ck Project Read	R, QC Ck Slingerland	R, QE, QC Ck Sonday	R, QC Ck SIS	R, QC Ck Spalding	R, QC Ck Starting Over	R, QC, QE Ck Wilson
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Unique Features	Original MSL program for dyslexic learners; most other MSL programs are based on Orton- Gillingham	ALTA certifies individuals, ALTA Centers accredits centers	Precise artic of phonemes; cursive script; ext. auditory training; delayed use of phonetic rules	Comprehensive literacy curric., inc. reading, writing, spelling, grammar; ESL included	Blind writing, behind back writing; sight word rdg to metronome; practice software	LiPS Program® Nancibell ® Seeing Stars ® Visualizing & Verbalizing ® for Language Comp. and Thinking ®	Complete Lang. Arts program; Staff Dev. K-12 curriculum; effective w/ reg. & spec. needs learners	Designed for classroom; strong hand-writing component Slingerland ® Screening Tests; no spec. mat'ls	All mat'ls inc.; recommended for ELL; on- going, in-class, assessment; student driven pacing	Strong emphasis on syllable unit for rdg. & sp.; mat'ls appropriate all ages inc. adult	writing for establ. letter-sound relationships;	IMSLEC accred.; Curricula K-Adult; also program for children 6-16 w/ their parents	Fundations: Geared to children K-3; Wilson Reading: upper elementary & adult with extensive controlled text for older students

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