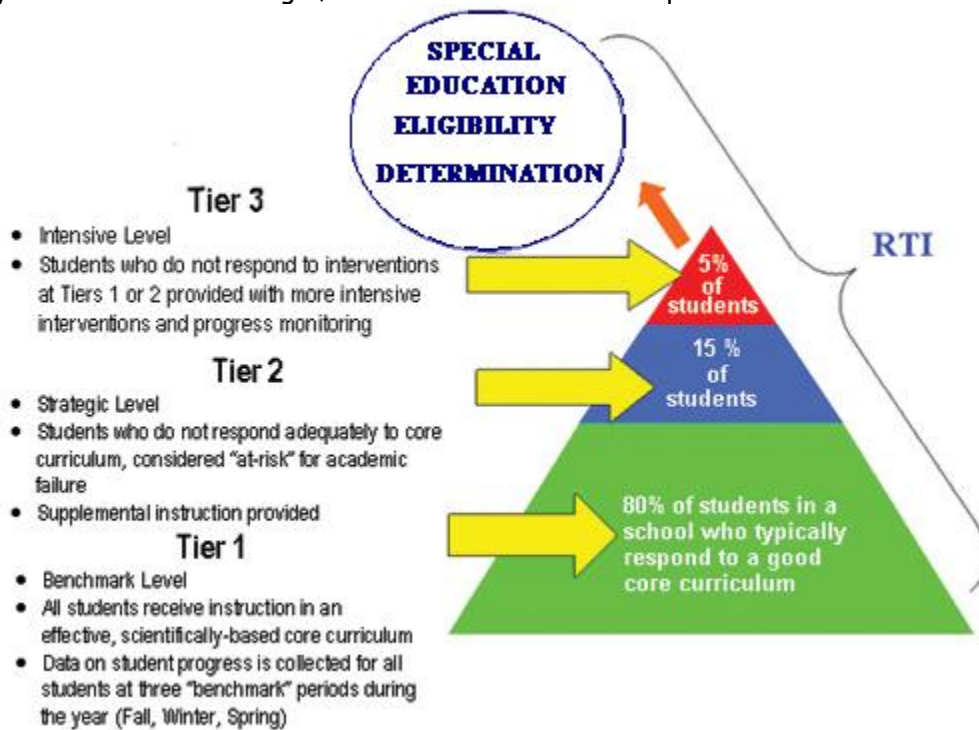


What is RTI?

Response to Intervention is an Instructional Process. It is NOT an assessment and it is NOT an identification process. RTI is a 30 minute block of your school day that is used for intervention with all your students! Students are divided into Tier 1, Tier 2, and Tier 3 interventions.

RTI methodology is conceptualized within a three-tiered model of prevention across *all* students in a school, general education *and* special education students. If you could place all of the students in your school into a triangle, the three-tiered model of prevention will look like this:



Tier 1: Benchmark Level

- All students receive instruction in an empirically supported core curriculum
- Typically, about 80% of students in a school will respond to a high-quality core curriculum and will make adequate progress throughout the year
- Progress of all students is monitored at three points in time, or "Benchmarks", during the Fall, Winter, and Spring of each school year
- Benchmark data indicate students who may not be responding adequately to the core curriculum and who are in need of additional instruction .

Tier 2: Strategic Level

- Students who do not respond adequately to the core curriculum
- Should be taught by classroom teacher
- Smaller group of students - Approximately 15% of the students in a school
- Considered "at-risk"
- Provided supplemental instruction/intervention (in addition to the core curriculum)
- Student progress monitored more frequently: 1 to 2 times per month
- Most students at this level will make sufficient progress given this supplemental instruction and are "returned" to the Benchmark level

Tier 3: Intensive Level

- Students who do not respond adequately to core curriculum *and* strategic level interventions
- Should be taught by Reading Specialist, Title 1 Teacher, or Special Education Teacher
- Approximately 5% of the students in a school
- Considered in need of intensive intervention
- Provided high-quality, research-based interventions on a daily basis; individually or in small groups
- May use an individualized problem-solving model to derive instruction
- Student progress monitored more frequently: 1 to 2 times per week
- Changes are made to the student's intervention based upon his/her data and progress toward a specified goal
- Students who make adequate progress at this level are returned to Strategic or Benchmark level

Critical Features of RTI

- The heart and soul of RTI is **READING!**
- 80% of the interventions should be done using Nonfiction text
- Do less "stuff" and do more than 50% of Reading, Writing, and Talking
Ask: Is this going to make kids more proficient and reflective readers?
- In a 30 minute intervention, 20 minutes will be Reading, Writing, and Talking
- **EVERY SECOND COUNTS!** Don't waist kids' time!
- Kids that will respond to differentiated instruction **DO NOT** belong in Tier 2 or 3
- RTI is not meant to keep kids out of Sped, it is to make sure the kids that don't belong there, aren't

Scheduling of Tiers

Here is the School Wide initiative Mary Howard recommends- WIN Time (What I Need)

Basically, you have to get all teachers involved, including your Special Area teachers of Art, Music, PE, and so on. Develop a schedule that allows for the following.

Tier 1: Special Area teacher comes in the classroom and completes a reading lesson with the 80%, Tier 1 kiddos (Use Mentor Texts and Nonfiction Mentor Texts by Lynne Dorfman and Rose Cappelli for an easy resource)

Tier 2: The classroom teacher takes her own group of Tier 2 kiddos and hits them with highly effective best practices

Tier 3: The Reading Specialist, Title 1 Teacher, Reading Recovery Teacher, Special Education teacher takes the Tier 3 kiddos.

Resources

Moving Forward with RTI by Mary Howard

Reading and Writing Activities for Every Instructional Setting and Tier: Small-Group Instruction, Independent Application, Partner Work, Whole-Group Engagement, and Small-Group Collaboration

ISBN 978-0-325-03040-1 / 0-325-03040-5 / 2010 / 208pp / Paperback + CD

Imprint: Heinemann

Grade Level: 1st - 5th

Special Note: Be careful with resources labeled RTI. There are many "resources" out there, but not everything is quality or correct for that matter!

