

Product Correlation to Funding Source

Funding Source: Title I, Part A

Purpose: to provide all children significant opportunity to receive a fair, equitable, and high-quality education, and to close educational achievement gaps.

Product: Renaissance Star Reading®

| Title I, Part A Requirements | Renaissance Star Reading |
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| <p>Provide opportunities for all children to meet the challenging State academic standards.</p> | <p>Star Reading is a short-cycle, interim reading assessment that provides accurate norm- and criterion-referenced reading scores on demand for independent readers in grades 1 through 12, using items aligned to the challenging State academic standards. It is available in Spanish for grades 1-8. The purpose of these interim assessments is to determine students' abilities in reading and prepare them to meet end-of-year proficiency targets.</p> <p>Star Reading is a computer-adaptive test, continually adjusting the difficulty of the test based on the student's grade level, prior performance on Star Reading tests, and the student's responses to previous test items. This process dynamically personalizes each student's assessment, providing actionable, real-time information about his/her reading skills. Because assessment and record-keeping are automated, non-learning time is kept to a minimum.</p> |
| <p>Identify and implement instructional and other strategies that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • strengthen academic programs in the school | <p>Star Reading strengthens the academic program in the school by monitoring the growth of students toward proficiency targets. In addition to its use for screening and benchmarking 2–4 times during the year, students can be assessed as often as weekly or monthly to measure their progress and help teachers plan appropriate instruction.</p> <p>Star Reading assesses 46 reading skills in 11 reading domains. The domains and skills are grouped into four major areas that relate to State reading standards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foundational Skills • Reading Information Text • Reading: Literature • Language <p>Star Reading increases the amount and quality of learning time since assessment and record-keeping are automated, keeping non-learning time</p> |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • increase the amount and quality of learning time • address the needs of all children in the school, but particularly the needs of those at risk of not meeting the challenging State academic standards • provide an enriched and accelerated curriculum | <p>to a minimum. Students typically average 15 to 20 minutes to complete a Star Reading test. The immediate availability of assessment results enables teachers to swiftly respond to students’ needs for differentiated instruction or intervention.</p> <p>Star Reading helps teachers set progress-monitoring goals tailored to each student—goals that result in challenging but reasonable expectations for that particular student. Using Star Reading data, teachers can identify at-risk students, differentiate instruction, track growth over time, and assist students in selecting appropriate books for reading practice.</p> <p>Star Reading reports identify prerequisite skills and next instructional steps, allowing teachers to bridge assessment and instruction in ways that enrich and accelerate the curriculum. The Core Progress learning progressions for each grade level identify: the focus skill, terminology and concepts, conceptual knowledge, linguistic competencies, strategies for English learners, and prerequisite and related skills. This tool is supported by teacher activity plans, including objectives, materials, and detailed lessons.</p> |
| <p>Provide professional development and other activities for teachers, paraprofessionals, and other school personnel to improve instruction and use of data from academic assessments.</p> | <p>Star Reading is a powerful tool, but it does not create student achievement gains by itself. It is how teachers use it that makes the State challenging academic standards achievable. Star Reading-related professional development focuses on best practices and includes Renaissance-U® (self-paced, on-line assessment course), virtual seminars, custom on-site seminars, and customized implementation and data coaching.</p> |
| <p>Implement effective parent and family engagement.</p> | <p>Informed and involved parents create a continuum between school and home that enhances the learning process and enables parents to be active participants in the school-wide program plan. Star Reading Parent Reports are available in English or Spanish to strengthen the connection between school and home and help parents become actively involved in their children’s reading progress.</p> |