

Case Studies

Ideal for use in personnel preparation courses and PD activities, IRIS Case Studies ask learners to approach realistic instructional scenarios through increasing levels of complexity.

Early Reading

iris.peabody.vanderbilt.edu/ics_earrd.pdf

Take part in realistic and increasingly challenging scenarios to learn more about reading strategies appropriate for kindergarten and 1st-grade classrooms.

Comprehension and Vocabulary: Grades 3–5

iris.peabody.vanderbilt.edu/ics_compvoc.pdf

Learn about comprehension and vocabulary strategies that correspond with the 3rd-grade through 5th-grade reading curriculum.

Fluency and Word Identification: Grades 3–5

iris.peabody.vanderbilt.edu/ics_flu.pdf

Learn to identify strategies that you can implement when upper-elementary students have difficulty with word identification and reading fluency.

Additional Resources

In addition to modules and case studies, the IRIS Center offers activities, information briefs, interviews, video vignettes, wrap-around content maps, sample syllabi, and more.

Professional Development

The IRIS Center offers four distinct professional development options:

- » **Free Open-access Website** – IRIS creates a host of materials about evidence-based instructional and behavioral practices. These resources are all freely available on our Website.
- » **PD Certificates for Teachers** – This option allows users to earn certificates toward their PD hours. Practitioners can work through a wide variety of our modules and—after taking a pre-test and post-test—receive verification of completion.
- » **School & District Platform** – School and district administrators can assign modules to individual teachers or to groups, send reminder emails, track teacher progress, and export results for accountability purposes.
- » **IRIS Micro-credentials** – These highly focused units provide opportunities for educators to learn and demonstrate discrete skills. Upon successful completion, users earn a digital badge.



Visit Us! iris.peabody.vanderbilt.edu • iriscenter.com

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READING INSTRUCTION



IRIS CENTER™

iris.peabody.vanderbilt.edu
or iriscenter.com

Serving: Higher Education Faculty • PD Providers • Practicing Educators

Supporting the preparation of effective educators to improve outcomes for all students, especially struggling learners and those with disabilities

Why Is It Important?

Because the curriculum in upper grades relies more and more on independent reading skills, students who struggle with reading in the early grades will eventually struggle in all academic areas. On average, 30% of schoolchildren in the early grades struggle with reading. Regardless of the causes of this academic difficulty, research has demonstrated effective methods for providing students with early reading support.

Primary Topics

Reading is an essential skill that students must have if they are to be successful in school. The IRIS Center provides resources on many reading-related topics:

- » Early reading
- » Secondary reading
- » Progress monitoring
- » Comprehension strategies
- » Vocabulary strategies
- » Word identification & fluency strategies
- » Peer tutoring
- » MTSS/RTI

Evidence-Based Practice Summaries Tool

Search this tool for information about instructional strategies and interventions, including the level of effectiveness and age groups for which those strategies and interventions are designed. Links to further information are also available for those who wish to learn more.

IRIS Modules

Based on a proven theory of adult learning and structured around the award-winning *STAR Legacy* instructional cycle, IRIS Modules offer in-depth looks at topics relevant to educators through text, graphics, interactive activities, interviews with experts and educators, and video demonstrations. User-friendly, approachable, and highly engaging, our modules are made up of five components:



Challenge: A case-based video scenario that introduces the topic and invites inquiry

Initial Thoughts: Questions that activate learners' prior knowledge about the topic

Perspectives & Resources: Scaffolded, engaging, and accessible content developed using instructional design principles

Wrap Up: A summary of the module content

Assessment: An opportunity for learners to evaluate what they have learned or need to study further

IRIS Modules that address reading instruction provide valuable resources for teachers and incorporate interactive activities to enhance student learning. These activities include:

- » Identifying evidence-based instructional practices
- » Pairing students for partner reading and implementing cooperative small-group activities
- » Administering and scoring reading probes
- » Graphing students' reading scores
- » Evaluating students' reading progress

IRIS Modules About Reading Instruction

CSR: A Reading Comprehension Strategy

iris.peabody.vanderbilt.edu/csr

Learn about:

- » Practices that improve comprehension
- » Implementing CSR in content-area classes
- » Teaching students to work collaboratively

PALS: A Reading Strategy for High School

iris.peabody.vanderbilt.edu/palshs

Learn about:

- » Strategies that target fluency and comprehension
- » Pairing students
- » Classwide implementation

Classroom Assessment (Part 2): Evaluating Reading Progress

iris.peabody.vanderbilt.edu/rpm

Learn how to:

- » Administer and score probes
- » Graph scores
- » Make data-based instructional decisions

Note: Classroom Assessment (Part 1) is a general introduction to progress monitoring.

PALS: A Reading Strategy for Grades K–1

iris.peabody.vanderbilt.edu/palsk1

Learn about:

- » Highly structured activities that target reading skills such as phonological awareness, decoding, word recognition, and fluency
- » Reciprocal peer tutoring
- » Classwide implementation

RTI (Part 3): Reading Instruction

iris.peabody.vanderbilt.edu/rti03

Learn about:

- » High-quality instruction
- » Core reading components
- » Effective instruction at each tier

Secondary Reading Instruction (Part 1): Teaching Vocabulary and Comprehension in the Content Areas

iris.peabody.vanderbilt.edu/sec-rdng

Learn about:

- » Literacy in content-area lessons
- » Vocabulary instruction
- » Comprehension instruction

PALS: A Reading Strategy for Grades 2–6

iris.peabody.vanderbilt.edu/pals26

Learn about:

- » Strategies that strengthen reading skills such as fluency and comprehension
- » Pairing students
- » Classwide implementation

RTI (Part 5): A Closer Look at Tier 3

iris.peabody.vanderbilt.edu/rti05

Learn about:

- » Identifying students who need Tier 3 intervention
- » Implementing Tier 3 reading interventions
- » Assessing student response

Secondary Reading Instruction (Part 2): Deepening Middle School Content-Area Learning with Vocabulary and Comprehension Strategies

iris.peabody.vanderbilt.edu/sec-rdng2

Learn how to help students:

- » Develop stronger vocabulary knowledge
- » Comprehend content-area text