

Research-Based Practices for Teaching Students Performing below Grade Level: A Resource for Supporting and Evaluating Teachers

The following table identifies major categories of research-based practices for teaching students performing below grade level (Column 1), including general instructional practices; reading, writing and mathematics instructional strategies; formative assessment strategies; and teacher collaboration practices.

In addition, it provides specific examples (though not exhaustive) of research-based best practices in teaching students performing below grade level (Column 2) and how teacher evaluators can identify evidence of these practices in classroom observation, teacher conferences or other sources of evidence (Column 3). The citations and references provided in Column 4 have complete bibliographic information at the end of the document.

Research-Based Practices for Teaching Students Performing Below Grade Level	Specific Examples	Data Sources: e.g, Classroom Observation	Citations/References
GENERAL INSTRUCTIONAL PRACTICES			
Academic Engaged Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of predictable routines and signals that have been taught and practiced by students so that instructional time is maximized <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Posted agenda <input type="checkbox"/> White board configuration <input type="checkbox"/> Hand signals or clapping patterns <input type="checkbox"/> Line-up procedures <input type="checkbox"/> Transition procedures <input type="checkbox"/> Materials distribution and collection <input type="checkbox"/> Music cues <input type="checkbox"/> Code words <input type="checkbox"/> Practicing routines (beginning of the school year or when introducing a new procedure) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classroom Observation • Lesson Plan • Pre-conference • Post-conference 	(Echevarria & Short, 2000; Peregoy & Boyle, 2008; The Education Trust, 2005)
Curriculum, Instruction and Assessments Linked	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teachers use standards and assessments to monitor their teaching. • In courses that have no external standards and assessments, teachers may create them (e.g., SLOs) to ensure that students are 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classroom Observation • Lesson Plan 	(Common Core State Standards Initiative, 2010, n.d.; The Education Trust, 2005)

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to Content Standards	getting the instruction they need.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-conference • Post-conference 	
<p>Universal Design in Learning (UDL) Principles:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. WHAT: Present content in multiple ways 2. HOW: Allow students to express what they know in multiple ways 3. WHY: Capture and maintain student interest and motivation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teacher may use visuals, short video clips, role play, discussion, debate, etc., to support a textual reading • Teacher may use manipulatives, graphics, symbols, animation, modeling, etc., to present mathematics content • Teacher uses multiple methods to check for understanding and allow students to demonstrate their learning, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Thumbs Up, Thumbs Down <input type="checkbox"/> Self-Assessment activities <input type="checkbox"/> Think (Write) Pair Share <input type="checkbox"/> Use of leveled sentence frames <input type="checkbox"/> Responses to leveled questions <input type="checkbox"/> Quick drawing or sketching <input type="checkbox"/> Response cards <input type="checkbox"/> Example/Non-example <input type="checkbox"/> Posters/comic strips <input type="checkbox"/> Reading response journals <input type="checkbox"/> Oral presentations or demonstrations • Teacher builds in opportunities for student choice, connects objectives to real-world situations, and eliminates learning distractions (e.g., noise levels when students are reading, overload of sensory stimulation) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classroom Observation • Lesson Plan • Pre-conference • Post-conference 	<p>(CAST, 2011)</p> <p>http://www.udlcenter.org/aboutudl/udlguidelines/downloads</p>
<p>Response to Intervention (RtI) Principles:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Primary prevention: high 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teacher teaches the core curriculum using research-based instructional strategies to help students access grade-level content (see the remainder of the document for examples of these strategies) • Teacher uses instructional practices that are culturally and linguistically responsive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classroom Observation • Lesson Plan • Pre-conference • Post- 	<p>(National Center on Response to Intervention, 2010)</p> <p>http://www.rti4success.org/</p>

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<p>quality core instruction that meets the needs of most (80%) students</p> <p>2. Secondary prevention for the remaining 20%, including evidence-based intervention in small groups</p> <p>3. Tertiary prevention and individualized intervention(s) of increased intensity for students (2-7%) who show minimal response to secondary prevention</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teacher engages in once-a-year universal screening to determine students' current level of performance • Teacher conducts Progress Monitoring at regular intervals to determine if students are responding to intervention • Teachers collaboratively engage in data-based decision making to inform instruction within the classroom and allow movement within the multi-level system (e.g., use of formative and benchmark assessments focused on specific Common Core State Standards and discrete skills) • Teacher provides differentiated learning activities (e.g., mixed instructional grouping, use of learning centers, peer tutoring) to address individual needs • Teacher makes accommodations to ensure all students have access to the instructional program (e.g., use of Assistive Technology [see below], strategies for helping English learners and non-readers access grade-level content and text [see below and see ELL document]) • Teacher identifies interventions, as needed, to address behavior problems that prevent students from demonstrating the academic skills they possess (e.g., use of Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports [see below]) • In Tier 2, evidence-based interventions are well defined in terms of duration, frequency, and length of sessions, and the interventions demonstrate fidelity to research-based models [see below] • In Tier 3, teachers provide intensive and individual support to remediate existing problems and prevent more severe problems [see Students with Disabilities document] 	<p>conference</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School-wide data analysis • Observation of collaborative teams • Observation of collaboration between general education and special education teachers 	
<p>Use of Assistive Technology (AT) as needed</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examples include (but are not limited to): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Abbreviation expanders <input type="checkbox"/> Alternative keyboards <input type="checkbox"/> Audio books and publications 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classroom Observation • Lesson Plan • Pre- 	<p>(Great Schools Inc., 2012)</p> <p>http://www.greatschools.org/articles/?topics=188&language=EN</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Electronic math work sheets <input type="checkbox"/> Freeform database software <input type="checkbox"/> Graphic organizers and outlining <input type="checkbox"/> Information/data managers <input type="checkbox"/> Optical character recognition <input type="checkbox"/> Paper-based computer pen <input type="checkbox"/> Personal FM listening systems <input type="checkbox"/> Portable word processors <input type="checkbox"/> Proofreading programs <input type="checkbox"/> Speech-recognition programs <input type="checkbox"/> Speech synthesizers/screen readers <input type="checkbox"/> Talking calculators <input type="checkbox"/> Talking spell checkers and electronic dictionaries <input type="checkbox"/> Variable-speed digital recorders <input type="checkbox"/> Word-prediction programs 	<p>conference</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post-conference • Observation of collaboration between general education and special education teachers 	
Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teacher implements school-wide behavioral expectations, including the use or teaching of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> rules <input type="checkbox"/> routines <input type="checkbox"/> prosocial behaviors <input type="checkbox"/> environment arrangement to prevent the development and occurrence of problem behavior <input type="checkbox"/> instruction to prevent initial occurrences of behavior the school would like to target for change <input type="checkbox"/> data to make decisions and solve problems <input type="checkbox"/> universal screening and regular monitoring of student behavior and performance • Teacher teaches, models, provides opportunities for student practice of, observes and recognizes examples of appropriate student behavior, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Respect Yourself, Respect Others, and Respect Property 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classroom Observation • Lesson Plan • Pre-conference • Post-conference • School-wide behavioral plan 	<p>(OSEP Technical Assistance Center on Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports, 2009)</p> <p>www.pbis.org</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Be Safe, Be Responsible, Be Respectful <input type="checkbox"/> Respect Relationships and Respect Responsibilities • Tier 2: Teacher provides specialized small group interventions for students with at-risk behavior • Tier 3: Tertiary Level (Individual) – teacher provides or collaborates with specialists who provide specialized, individualized systems for students at high risk for dangerous or highly disruptive behavior or those behaviors that impede learning or result in social exclusion 		
TEACHING STUDENTS BELOW GRADE LEVEL IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS			
<p>Addressing Gaps in the Code:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phonemic/Phonological awareness • Alphabetic knowledge <p>CCSS Foundational Skills 1, 2¹</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Systematic instruction and practice in orally identifying and producing sounds, and sorting words based on beginning, middle, and ending sounds <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Rhyming <input type="checkbox"/> Onset/rime blending <input type="checkbox"/> Onset/rime segmentation <input type="checkbox"/> Phoneme blending <input type="checkbox"/> Phoneme segmentation <input type="checkbox"/> Phoneme substitution, addition, deletion • Systematic instruction and practice to recognize all 52 letters of the alphabet (upper- and lower-case) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classroom Observation • Lesson Plan • Pre-conference • Post-conference 	<p>(Adams, 1990; Adams, Foorman, Lundberg, & Beeler, 1998; Ehri, et al., 2001; Juel, 1988; National Reading Panel, 2000)</p>
<p>Addressing Gaps in the Code:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phonics and decoding • Multisyllabic decoding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focused instruction of phonics/ decoding with immediate practice in text (including consonants, short/long vowels, consonant blends and digraphs, diphthongs, silent consonants, and syllabication) • Picture Sorts by sound • Use of software to reinforce sound/spelling relationships 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classroom Observation • Lesson Plan • Pre-conference • Post- 	<p>(Adams, 1990, 2011; Blachman, et al., 2004; Foorman, Francis, Fletcher, Mehta, & Schatschneider, 1998; Lesaux & Siegel, 2003; National Reading Panel, 2000; O'Connor, Fulmer,</p>

¹ CCSS – Common Core State Standards. Foundational Skills are not ends in themselves, but are necessary prerequisites to effective text comprehension.

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CCSS Foundational Skills 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular assessment to determine which sound/spelling relationships have been mastered • Multisyllabic decoding instruction: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ BEST—Break apart the word, Examine each part (prefix, suffix, root, syllables), Say each part, Try the whole word in context (5-10 minutes per day at most) □ Word Analysis Chart used in instruction 	conference	Harty, & Bell, 2005)
Addressing Gaps in the Code: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Code-switching/contrastive analysis CCR Anchor Standards² for Speaking and Listening, 6 CCR Anchor Standards for Language, 1, 3, 6 CCR Anchor Standards for Writing, 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide explicit instruction and practice in code-switching or contrastive analysis between: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Casual writing and formal writing • First and second languages • Dialects and standard English <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ “Accurate assessment requires that we separate dialect influence from decoding error in Standard English” (R. Wheeler, Cartwright, & Swords, 2012, p. 418) • General and technical (domain-specific) language (e.g., plane, equal) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classroom Observation • Lesson Plan • Pre-conference • Post-conference 	(Laufer & Girsai, 2008; Turner, 2009; R. Wheeler, et al., 2012; R. S. Wheeler, 2006, 2008)
Oral Reading Fluency (accuracy, rate, expression) and Word Recognition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explicit instruction in high-frequency irregular sight words • Constant Time Delay (sight word practice with 3-second delay to promote word recall) • Use of Word Walls 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classroom Observation • Lesson Plan • Pre- 	(Rasinski, 2003; Wexler, Vaughn, Edmonds, & Reutebuch, 2008) (O'Connor, 2006)

² CCR Anchor Standards – College and Career Readiness Standards (K-12) from the Common Core State Standards

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(automaticity) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Link the Teaching of Oral Reading Fluency to proven Word Recognition and Comprehension Strategies CCSS Foundational Skills 3, 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practice games to increase automaticity (e.g., I have ____; who has ____?) • Pattern and predictable books • Partner reading • Unison reading • Choral reading • Phrased Text Lessons (for modeling and practicing reading with expression and phrasing) • Limited use of repeated reading 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • conference • Post-conference 	
Vocabulary <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explicit and Systematic Vocabulary Instruction • Regular opportunities to practice and apply new vocabulary • Word learning strategies taught • Wide reading of fiction/non-fiction • Morphemic analysis CCR Anchor Standards for Language, 4, 5, 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teacher has pre-selected high-utility domain-specific and general vocabulary words for instructional focus • Use of Word Knowledge Rating Chart or Anticipation Guide to pre-assess student understanding • Links between new words and previously-learned words or concepts • Clear, student-friendly definitions and examples • Use of visuals, short video clips, or graphics • Opportunities to check for understanding during vocabulary instruction • Regular opportunities to practice new words in context • Meanings of Latin and Greek roots, prefixes and suffixes • Structural and morphemic analysis of words • Use of student-friendly dictionaries • Appropriate use of context clues • Academic word families • Multiple meaning words • Use of graphic organizers • Examples/non-examples (Frayer model) • Word Walls • Personal dictionaries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classroom Observation • Lesson Plan • Pre-conference • Post-conference 	(Beck, McKeown, & Kucan, 2002; Feldman & Kinsella, 2005; Hairrell, et al., 2011; Harmon, Hedrick, & Wood, 2005; Kinsella, 2003; Marzano, 2004; Stahl & Nagy, 2006)

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vocabulary games for review • I have _____. Who has _____? • Picture This • Non-linguistic representations (sketches, motions) to represent newly acquired vocabulary 		
<p>Reading Comprehension Support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scaffolding of complex text • Leveled texts on same topic • Repeated reading for different purposes • Direct instruction of key words and concepts, with student practice • Exploration of subtopics involving more complex texts <p>CCSS Anchor Standards for Reading, 1-11</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scaffolding of complex text <ol style="list-style-type: none"> “1. Select a topic about which your students need to learn. If the students are below grade level, begin with shorter, simpler texts. 2. Teach the key words and concepts directly, engaging students in using and discussing them to be sure they are well-anchored. 3. As the students learn the core vocabulary and basic concepts of the domain, they will become ready to explore its subtopics (more complex texts!)” (Adams, 2011, p. 93) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Use of visual displays, realia, and actions to support comprehension of complex text <input type="checkbox"/> Graphic organizers <input type="checkbox"/> Clustering, webbing, mapping <input type="checkbox"/> Venn diagrams, compare/ contrast matrices <input type="checkbox"/> Branching (e.g., family tree) <input type="checkbox"/> KWL charts <input type="checkbox"/> Thinking maps <input type="checkbox"/> Flow charts <input type="checkbox"/> Storyboards or timelines <input type="checkbox"/> Cause/effect relationships (e.g., Fishbone) <input type="checkbox"/> T-charts <input type="checkbox"/> Somebody Wanted But So <input type="checkbox"/> Semantic maps <input type="checkbox"/> Sense charts or 5 W charts <input type="checkbox"/> Mnemonic devices <input type="checkbox"/> Computer-assisted instruction • Instruction and student practice in leveled texts along these 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classroom Observation • Lesson Plan • Pre-conference • Post-conference 	<p>(ACT, 2006; Adams, 2011; Bowers, Fitts, Quirk, & Jung, 2010; Gajria, Jitendra, Sood, & Sacks, 2007)</p>

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	<p>dimensions of complexity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> “Relationships (interactions among ideas or characters) <input type="checkbox"/> Richness (amount and sophistication of information conveyed through data or literary devices) <input type="checkbox"/> Structure (how the text is organized and how it progresses) <input type="checkbox"/> Style (author’s tone and use of language) <input type="checkbox"/> Vocabulary (author’s word choice) <input type="checkbox"/> Purpose (author’s intent in writing the text)” (ACT, 2006, p. 14) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leveled texts, leveled questions, leveled response frames • Teacher read-aloud before independent reading • Partner reading • Teacher-guided discussion of text 		
<p>Reading Comprehension Support through Syntactical and Semantic Analysis</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The teaching of language structures to develop comprehension of complex text <p>CCR Anchor Standards for Language, Standards 1-6</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comparative analysis of oral and written language <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Analysis of sentences to determine propositions <input type="checkbox"/> Teaching of relevant parts of speech and their function in context <input type="checkbox"/> Opportunities to play linguistic and conceptual categorization games 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classroom Observation • Lesson Plan • Pre-conference • Post-conference 	<p>(ACT, 2006; Adams, 2011)</p>
<p>Teaching of Reading/Listening Comprehension and</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explicit instruction in, and opportunities to practice, comprehension and self-regulation strategies while reading complex text, including: 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classroom Observation • Lesson Plan 	<p>(Block & Duffy, 2008; Block, Parris, Reed, Whiteley, & Cleveland, 2009; Block, Parris,</p>

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<p>Metacognitive Strategies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The teaching and practice of comprehension and metacognitive strategies (including cognitive strategy instruction) <p>CCR Anchor Standards for Reading, 1-11</p> <p>CCR Anchor Standards for Speaking and Listening, 1-3</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Metacognition <input type="checkbox"/> Monitoring <input type="checkbox"/> Questioning <input type="checkbox"/> Predicting / verifying predictions <input type="checkbox"/> Inferring <input type="checkbox"/> Summarizing <input type="checkbox"/> Synthesizing <input type="checkbox"/> Using text cues <input type="checkbox"/> Visualizing/imaging <input type="checkbox"/> Clarifying (fix-it strategies) <input type="checkbox"/> Evaluating 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pre-conference Post-conference 	<p>& Whiteley, 2008; Boulware-Gooden, Carreker, Thornhill, & Joshi, 2007; Cubukcu, 2008; Duffy & et al., 1988; Edmonds, et al., 2009; Eilers & Pinkley, 2006; Greenleaf, Schoenbach, Cziko, & Mueller, 2001; Gunning, 2010; Hare & et al., 1989; Jitendra, Hoppes, & Xin, 2000; Johnson & von Hoff Johnson, 1986; Klingner, Vaughn, & Boardman, 2007; Kratzer & Teplin, 2005; Mills, 2009; Moats, 2001; National Reading Panel, 2000; Paris, Lipson, & Wixson, 1983; Pressley, 2006; Swanson, Edmonds, Hairrell, Vaughn, & Simmons, 2011; Teplin, 2008; Wexler, et al., 2008)</p>
<p>Opportunities for peer interaction around academic tasks and texts</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cooperative group activities using purposeful grouping arrangements and structured tasks around comprehending text Development of instructional arrangements where students work together to plan, draft, revise, and edit their compositions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classroom Observation Lesson Plan Pre-conference Post-conference 	<p>(Frey, Fisher, & Everlove, 2009; Klingner & Vaughn, 1999; Perin, 2007)</p>
<p>Writing Processes</p> <p>CCR Anchor Standards for</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opportunities for students to discuss and verbalize their ideas before writing Brainstorming, pre-writing and planning opportunities Extended and frequent opportunities to produce writing drafts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classroom Observation Lesson Plan Pre- 	<p>(Davidson & Koppenhaver, 1993; Fisher & Frey, 2008; Gunning, 2010; Ivey & Fisher, 2006; Kinsella, 2005; Perin,</p>

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Writing, 5, 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instruction and practice in revising to improve specific parts of the writing craft (e.g., organizational structure, word choice, sentence variety, integration of evidence) • Instruction and practice in peer editing and self-assessment • Opportunities to publish and present writing to authentic audiences • Targeted instruction to individuals or small groups based on analysis of student writing/data • Teacher modeling of all steps in the writing process • Backwards graphic organizers • Balance between writing short, bounded texts and longer process pieces • Targeted questions to help students edit and revise their work • Use of editing checklists for student self-assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> S (Spelling) <input type="checkbox"/> C (Capitalization) <input type="checkbox"/> O (Order of words) <input type="checkbox"/> P (Punctuation) <input type="checkbox"/> E (Express complete thought) 	conference • Post-conference	2007; Spandel & Stiggins, 1990; Vaughn & Bos, 2011)
Teaching of Analytic Writing and Presentation Skills <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing for different purposes: to inform, explain, or persuade • Writing for different audiences 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explicit cognitive strategy instruction in writing • Instruction and opportunities to practice incorporating the 6 Traits of Writing (ideas, organization, voice, word choice, sentence fluency, conventions) within a writing process model • Use of mentor texts, real-world models, anchor papers and rubrics to provide clear and high expectations for student writing • STOP: Suspend judgment, Take a side, Organize ideas, Plan as you write • DARE: Develop a topic sentence, Add supporting details, Reject an argument for the other side, End with a conclusion • Instruction in summarizing a text: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Delete unnecessary material (practice with existing paragraphs) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classroom Observation • Lesson Plan • Pre-conference • Post-conference 	(Coe, Hanita, Nishioka, & Smiley, 2011; Culham, 2003; Davidson & Koppenhaver, 1993; Dixon, Carnine, & Kame'enui, 1993; Fisher & Frey, 2008; Graham, MacArthur, & Fitzgerald, 2007; Harris & Graham, 1992; Ivey & Fisher, 2006; Langer, 2001; Perin, 2007; Raphael & Englert, 1990; Spandel & Stiggins, 1990; Stein, 1994)

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<p>CCR Anchor Standards for Writing, 1-3, 11</p> <p>CCR Anchor Standards for Speaking and Listening, 4-6</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Delete redundant material (practice with existing paragraphs) 3. Compose a word to replace a list of items 4. Compose a word to replace the individual parts of an action 5. Select a topic sentence 6. Invent a topic sentence if one is not available <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teachers set clear and specific goals for what students are to accomplish with their writing product. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the purpose of the assignment? 2. What are the characteristics of the final product? 3. Define each part of the product, give an example, and ask students to give examples. 4. Provide prewriting opportunities • Teach text structure (e.g., compare/contrast, problem/solution) 		
<p>Development of Writing Fluency and Stamina</p> <p>CCR Anchor Standards for Writing, 10</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily opportunities for students to write for different purposes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Journals <input type="checkbox"/> Reading response logs <input type="checkbox"/> Quick Writes <input type="checkbox"/> Exit slips <input type="checkbox"/> Process pieces <input type="checkbox"/> Writing explanations in math and science <input type="checkbox"/> Writing for web publication <input type="checkbox"/> Responding to writing prompts • Integration of longer writing tasks (process writing) over extended periods and short writing tasks (completed in one sitting) • Integration of student-selected writing tasks and topics with teacher-provided prompts and genres • Emphasis on fluency rather than correctness in the early phases of working with struggling writers • Individual oral and written feedback to students that encourages effort and growth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classroom Observation • Lesson Plan • Pre-conference • Post-conference 	<p>(Johannessen & McCann, 2009; Kinsella, 2005)</p>

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Research/Synthesis in Writing CCR Anchor Standards in Writing, 7-9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teacher modeling and guided practice in gathering and synthesizing information from multiple sources to inform or persuade an audience Teacher modeling and guided practice in using textual evidence to support a written argument 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classroom Observation Lesson Plan Pre-conference Post-conference 	(Graham & Harris, 2005; Perin, 2007)
TEACHING STUDENTS BELOW GRADE LEVEL IN MATHEMATICS			
1. Visual and Graphic Depictions of Problems CCSS Standards for Mathematical Practice, 4 (Model) and 5 (Use appropriate tools)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teacher presentation of graphic depictions of problem-solving sets with multiple examples Student practice using their own graphic organizers with guidance from teacher on which visuals to select and why Initial use of manipulatives with a transfer from concrete to abstract 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classroom Observation Lesson Plan Pre-conference Post-conference 	(Butler, Miller, Crehan, Babbitt, & Pierce, 2003; Gersten, et al., 2009; Witzel, Mercer, & Miller, 2003)
2. Systematic and Explicit Instruction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Highly explicit models of steps, procedures, and/or questions to ask when solving problems Vocabulary and strategy instruction in mathematics, with teacher modeling, student practice (with teacher guidance) followed by student restating of their learning for the day 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classroom Observation Lesson Plan Pre-conference Post-conference 	(Baker, Gersten, & Lee, 2002; Gersten, et al., 2009; Kroesbergen & van Luit, 2003)
3. Student Think Alouds and Metacognition in Math CCSS Standards for	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teachers teach students to ask themselves the following questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> “1. Do I understand the meaning of the words in this problem? What is the question? (problem translation, linguistic knowledge) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classroom Observation Lesson Plan Pre-conference 	(Cardelle-Elawar, 1992, 1995; Carpenter, Fennema, Franke, Levi, & Empson, 1999; Gersten, et al., 2009)

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Mathematical Practice, 1 (Solve problems) and 2 (Reason)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Do I have all the information needed to solve the problem? What type of information do I need? (problem integration, schematic knowledge) <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Do I know how to organize the information to solve the problem? Which steps should I take? What do I do first? (planning, strategic knowledge) <input type="checkbox"/> 4. How should I calculate the solution? With which operations do I have difficulty? (problem execution, arithmetic knowledge)” (Cardelle-Elawar, 1995, p. 85) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students explain their thinking and strategy for how they solved a problem 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post-conference 	
4. Peer-Assisted Learning Activities CCSS Standards for Mathematical Practice, 3 (Critique)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instruction and practice in using peer-assisted learning interventions, particularly for computation work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classroom Observation • Lesson Plan • Pre-conference • Post-conference 	(Baker, et al., 2002; Gersten, et al., 2009; Kroesbergen & van Luit, 2003)
5. Use of Formative Assessment Data CCSS Standards for Mathematical Practice, 4 (Model) and 6 (Use precision)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teachers receive computer information on student performance and recommended next steps • Teachers not only use formative assessment data but share the information with students regarding the number of types of problems students should complete in a given amount of time or focus on next • Formative assessment occurs every 1-4 weeks within and between instructional units and affects student engagement and achievement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classroom Observation • Lesson Plan • Pre-conference • Post-conference • School-wide data analysis • Observation of collaborative teams 	(Baker, et al., 2002; William, 2007)

Research-Based Practices for Teaching Students Performing Below Grade Level	Specific Examples	Data Sources: e.g, Classroom Observation	Citations/References
<p>6. Automaticity / Skill Efficiency</p> <p>CCSS Standards for Mathematical Practice, 6 (Use precision)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Teaching is rapidly paced • Modeling by the teacher with many teacher-directed, product type of questions • Smooth transitions from demonstration to substantial amounts of error-free practice. • The teacher plays a central role in organizing, pacing, and presenting information to meet well-defined learning goals” (Hiebert & Grouws, 2007, p. 1) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classroom Observation • Lesson Plan • Pre-conference • Post-conference 	<p>(Brophy & Good, 1986; Hiebert & Grouws, 2007)</p>
TEACHER PROFESSIONAL AND COLLABORATIVE PRACTICES			
<p>Teacher Collaboration in Lesson Planning and Lesson Analysis</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teachers collaborate to ensure that course content is consistent no matter who is teaching <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Lesson Study <input type="checkbox"/> Consultancy <input type="checkbox"/> Micro-lab <input type="checkbox"/> Video analysis <input type="checkbox"/> Peer observation of classroom instruction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School-wide data analysis • Observation of collaborative teams 	<p>(Chokshi, Ertle, Fernandez, & Yoshida, 2001; Lewis, 2003; The Education Trust, 2005)</p> <p>http://www.nsrffharmony.org/</p>
<p>Use of Common Assessments linked to CCSS and/or SLOs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teachers create and/or analyze assessments used across a grade level or course to determine student mastery of CCSS, achievement of SLOs, or to identify students in need of intervention, remediation, acceleration or enrichment • Teachers collaboratively engage in data-based decision making to inform instruction within the classroom and allow movement within the multi-level system (e.g., use of formative and benchmark assessments focused on specific Common Core State Standards and discrete skills) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Collaborative analysis of student work <input type="checkbox"/> Academic conference <input type="checkbox"/> Data-driven dialogue 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School-wide data analysis • Observation of collaborative teams 	<p>(Bailey & Heritage, 2008; Love, 2002; Popham, 2008)</p> <p>http://www.nsrffharmony.org/</p>

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