



Scholastic *Sprint Reading*TM

*Scholastic Sprint Reading*TM is a research-based program that provides struggling readers with books they can read successfully and with skills and strategies that help them become better readers. This supplemental program can be used for whole-class instruction, small-group instruction and during independent reading periods, as well as after-school or summer school programs.

There are 12 leveled *Sprint Reading* Collections. Six are suitable for Upper Elementary and six for Middle School. The Lexile Framework[®] for Reading, which uses Lexile measures to match students to appropriately challenging text for reading success, was utilized to level the books in each Collection. *Sprint Reading* benefits students who have approximate reading levels between Grades 1.5 and 6.0.

Instructional Content

Sprint Reading strengthens core instruction and meets federal standards by helping students build the five essential elements of reading as identified in *No Child Left Behind*.

Phonemic Awareness

- Phonemic awareness instruction provides practice in manipulating individual sounds, or phonemes, within words. Instruction includes rhyming, oral blending, and oral segmentation.
- Routines correlate to the phonics skill taught.

Phonics

- Through systematic, explicit instruction, students learn strategies for decoding unfamiliar words. Instruction topics include consonants, short and long vowels, r-controlled vowels, vowel pairs, diphthongs, polysyllabic words, and open/closed syllables.
- Corresponding pages in the *Student Workbook* provide practice in applying phonics strategies.

Fluency

- Teachers model fluency by reading with correct intonation, appropriate pauses, expression, and reading rate using phrase-cued text and other passages.
- Using the *Student Workbook*, students build fluency by reading aloud passages; they do repeated readings of the passage throughout the week.

Vocabulary

- Teachers introduce students to the vocabulary words from the reading selection, and then teach a vocabulary strategy to help students recognize unfamiliar words.
- In each lesson, students reinforce words and skills by completing pages in the *Student Workbook*.

Comprehension

- Students draw conclusions, compare/contrast, determine cause/effect, make inferences, evaluate author's purpose, and use other comprehension strategies.
- Workbook exercises provide practice in applying the comprehension skills taught, and graphic organizers aid students' understanding of text.

Writing

- Teachers present writing guidelines and model how to use graphic organizers.
- Students write narrative, expository, descriptive, and persuasive paragraphs.
- Using a checklist, students review their drafts for correct grammar, capitalization, and punctuation and publish a final copy

Instructional Design

Sprint Reading's instructional design closes the achievement gap between high- and low-performing students through direct instruction of essential skills, placement and ongoing assessment, and leveled books.

The Teacher's Guide provides a variety of intervention tools to support students' reading and to build their competency in vocabulary, phonics and word study, comprehension, fluency, and writing strategies. It includes:

- A detailed teaching plan for each book that includes before, during, and after reading instruction
- Routines that provide extra support and opportunities for direct intensive intervention
- Additional resources including extra support for English-language learners, a student self-assessment form, home/school connections, and a skills index

Sprint Reading Collections are available at six Lexile levels: 300, 400, 500, 600, 700, and 800. These levels have been determined by a precise system for measuring readability, the Lexile Framework[®] for Reading. The framework can be used to measure students' reading ability, as well as texts, and match them for reading success. By providing students with books they can read—and accelerating them to the next level—they can close their achievement gap.

Sprint Reading is flexible and can be used in whole-class instruction, small-group instruction, extended-day or after-school instruction, and independent reading. Each four-page lesson plan in the *Teacher's Guide* presents direct instruction for before, during, and after reading, and provides writing guidelines, support for English as a Second Language students, strategies to monitor and assess comprehension, extra support routines, and a home/school connection.

Assessments

Sprint Reading provides assessment opportunities through placement, formal, and informal measures to accelerate the reading ability of each individual student. The Placement Guide allows teachers to accurately place students at the correct level. The guide contains a variety of assessment tools, including:

- A comprehension test for each level, made up of a reading passage and comprehension questions
- A Student Profile Form that helps to gather and record information about students

Informal assessment with *Sprint Reading* includes Observation, Self-Assessment, and Conferences. Formal assessment is provided after students complete each lesson. Re-teaching lessons are also provided for students who need additional instruction of a particular skill.

Motivation and Engagement

Scholastic Sprint Reading engages striving readers with motivating books aligned to core curriculum in specific Lexile[®] ranges. This effective reading intervention program uses paperbacks and Students Workbooks to teach the strategies readers need to become successful, including decoding, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension. *Sprint Reading* Builds vocabulary, reading fluency, and writing skills, as well as improves students' abilities to self-monitor comprehension and apply meaning-making strategies to a variety of texts.

Differentiated Instructional Strategies

Sprint Reading's individualized, leveled instruction and practice activities can raise the achievement of students with varying abilities and needs, including those who are struggling and at-risk of not meeting state academic standards.

Strategies for English-Language Learners

The Teacher's Guide provides detailed support strategies to use with English Language Learners:

- Suggestions for helping ELL students increase their high-frequency vocabulary
- Ways to help ELL students develop their social, culturally appropriate, and academic language
- Ideas for multi-sensory teaching approaches, using idioms, and emphasizing vocabulary
- Classroom-tested instructional tips and strategies to use in whole- and small-groups
- Information on the stages of language acquisition— pre-production, early production, speech emergence, intermediate fluency, and advanced fluency
- Book-related activities that help ELL students develop academic, oral, culturally appropriate, and social language, and high frequency vocabulary

Strategies for Special Education Students

Sprint Reading accommodates students reading at the first grade level in Upper Elementary and the second grade level in Middle School. For each book, teachers provide intensive instructional support to students as they read using the teaching plan, along with the corresponding pages from the Student Workbook.

Before Reading strategies include:

- Build Background
- Develop Vocabulary
- Build Phonemic Awareness
- Practice Phonics/Word Study
- ELL Support

During Reading strategies include:

- Target Comprehension
- Monitor Comprehension
- Build Reading Fluency

After Reading strategies include:

- Teach Writing
- Assess/Check Comprehension
- Home/School Connection

Extra Support Routines are provided for students who need additional support in vocabulary, phonics/word study, comprehension, fluency, or writing. These routines support readers who are experiencing specific difficulties or for small groups to strengthen these reading strategies.

Home-School Connection

Parents are able to actively support their child's reading development through the *Sprint Reading* program. Students bring books home to share with their families. Teachers send families letters with fluency activities and discussion ideas for each book. Each Teaching Plan provides suggestions for book-related activities that students can do at home or with family members. During conferences, teachers discuss with caregivers their child's program participation, progress, and homework tips.

Professional Development

The *Scholastic Sprint Reading* program is supported by six *Scholastic RED* facilitated, online courses:

- *Exploring the Lexile Framework for Reading, Grades 3-12*
- *Building Decoding Skills & Strategies, Grades 3-5*
- *Improving Reading Comprehension, Grades 3-5*
- *Improving Fluency, Grades 3-8*
- *Improving Decoding Skills & Strategies, Grades 6-8*
- *Middle School Literacy: Improving Text Comprehension*

These professional development courses provide:

- Instant access to research and theory
- Video modeling of research-based practices
- Interactive simulations of skills and strategies
- Structured feedback, collaboration, and ongoing support
- Materials that can be immediately used in the classroom

 For additional information about *Sprint Reading*, visit www.scholastic.com/sprintreading.