

Race to the Top Comprehensive Education Reform

The purpose of the **Race to the Top Fund** is to encourage and reward States that are creating the conditions for education innovation and reform; achieving significant improvement in student outcomes, including making substantial gains in student achievement, closing achievement gaps, improving high school graduation rates, and ensuring student preparation for success in college and careers; and implementing ambitious plans in the four core education reform areas.

The mission of Scholastic Education is to help districts and schools develop confident, successful learners who are prepared for college and careers. We combine an understanding of how to motivate students with a long-held partnership with educators to create instruction, intervention and assessment tools that accelerate learning for all students. Our programs and services are informed by America's top educators and researchers, helping us develop programs that truly work to improve reading skills.

Scholastic *READ 180* Supports the Race to the Top Initiative

READ 180 is a scientifically research-based, intensive reading intervention program with a proven track record of delivering measurable learning gains to the older, struggling reader. The program is designed to accelerate reading achievement with students in upper elementary through high school who are seriously below level. *READ 180* was developed in collaboration with Vanderbilt University and is based on ten years of research by Dr. Ted Hasselbring. The following table illustrates how *READ 180* supports the core education reform areas of Race to the Top.

Core Education Reform Areas	Scholastic <i>READ 180</i> : Recommended Curriculum and Aligned Programs and Services
Standards and Assessments	<p>Increasing student achievement in (at a minimum) reading/language arts and mathematics</p> <p><i>READ 180</i> is an intensive reading intervention program for students in grades 4-12. This comprehensive program helps educators confront the problem of low reading achievement on multiple fronts, using state-of-the-art adaptive technology, high-interest print and professional development. The most thoroughly tested and documented intervention program, <i>READ 180</i> has been proven to increase reading test scores, increase high school graduation rates, decrease dropout rates, move students from special education to general education, and help schools make AYP.</p> <p><i>READ 180</i> is currently in use in more than 15,000 classrooms nationwide. The subject of continuous testing over the course of a decade, there are 30 study sites across the nation to prove the effectiveness of <i>READ 180</i> with English Language Learners, Special Education, Reading Self-Efficacy/Attitudes and Extending Learning.</p> <p>Decreasing achievement gaps between subgroups in reading/language arts and mathematics</p> <p><i>READ 180</i> is designed specifically for reading intervention and acceleration. The Software continuously assesses and adjusts instruction and practice based on students' skill needs and learning rates. <i>READ 180's</i> multimedia approach accommodates students with different learning preferences and needs. The Software contains universal access provisions, such as closed captioning of videotext, color and contrast settings, voice-over descriptions of images, and adjustable speed of certain activities. Leveled Paperbacks are provided, so students can read with success. Audiobooks provide struggling readers with opportunities to access quality literature that would otherwise be above their independent reading level. <i>Scholastic Achievement Manager (SAM)</i> reports provide detailed diagnostic data to help teachers group students, target key skills, and understand individual needs.</p> <p>Increasing graduation rates</p> <p>The Alliance for Excellent Education reports that students with below-level reading skills are twice as likely to drop out of school as those who read at or above the appropriate level of reading proficiency. <i>READ 180</i> builds student confidence by enabling students to experience success immediately. This promotes self-confidence and a desire to achieve further progress. Teachers of <i>READ 180</i> classrooms consistently comment on the program's ability to transform student attitude and self-esteem, as well as increase attendance and participation.</p>
Data Systems to Support Instruction	<p>Using data to improve instruction</p> <p>Through the <i>Scholastic Achievement Manager (SAM)</i>, <i>READ 180</i> measures over 250 data points relative to student reading achievement. The Software generates detailed reports that identify and measure skills students have mastered, as well as areas where they require further instruction. <i>SAM</i> facilitates differentiated instruction for all students by providing over 30 detailed reports on student achievement. Reports link student performance data to specific lessons for instruction. In addition, educators can disaggregate student data by groups to report adequate yearly progress (AYP) and to chart students' achievement at the classroom, building, and district levels.</p>

Core Education Reform Areas	Scholastic <i>READ 180</i> : Recommended Curriculum and Aligned Programs and Services
<p>Great Teachers and Leaders</p>	<p>Improving teacher and principal effectiveness</p> <p>Scholastic prepares teachers and administrators to become effective with <i>READ 180</i>'s intensive acceleration features through multiple pathways including in-person implementation training, follow-up training, online professional development and digital resources. Professional resources embedded in the program also support educators at point of use throughout the instructional plan. Reporting features of the management system enable teachers to target specific student gaps with intensive, individualized instruction to maximize program effectiveness. Principals and other literacy leaders can evaluate the effectiveness of the instructional model through the program's continuous and automatic assessment and reporting capabilities.</p> <p>Establish clear approaches to measuring student growth</p> <p>The <i>READ 180</i> Software continually monitors student progress, collecting data that reflects student abilities, strengths, progress, and weaknesses. Data is then presented in actionable reports. Teachers and administrators can see data in real time and generate progress-monitoring reports that correspond to the grading periods.</p> <p>Provide effective, data-informed professional development and coaching to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Gathering and analyzing data Scholastic implementation specialists train both teachers and administrators in analyzing data that is automatically captured by the management system. ● Designing instructional strategies for improvement <i>READ 180</i> includes a teaching system that equips—and trains—educators to deliver effective reading, writing, and vocabulary instruction to struggling readers. Teachers receive a rich curriculum of skills instruction, point-of-use professional development, a variety of assessment tools, and reports that link to resources for differentiating instruction. ● Differentiating instruction <i>READ 180</i> is the only program of its kind that uses assessment data to effectively differentiate instruction. The software continually adjusts the level of instruction based on student performance. Actionable reports and periodic checkpoints alert teachers to students' needs and direct them to resources for individualizing instruction. ● Creating school environments supportive of data-informed decisions Teachers will embrace and support data-informed instructional decision-making when they understand how the <i>Scholastic Achievement Manager (SAM)</i> can easily maximize their instruction by targeting the needs of each individual child. Results will be experienced immediately by both students and teachers. ● Designing instruction to meet the specific needs of high-need students Professional development and implementation training provides educators with the information and techniques they need to give each student a clear instructional path based on individual needs. Universal access features and multi-modal learning, as well as language support in five languages, help teachers reach and teach all high-need students.
<p>Turning Around the Lowest-Achieving Schools</p>	<p>Identify the persistently low-achieving schools, and support LEAs in turning around these schools by implementing one of the four school intervention models—turnaround model, restart model, school closure, or transformation model.</p> <p>In partnership with the International Center for Leadership in Education (ICLE), Scholastic works with district leaders to ensure they have the information necessary to be accountable for success.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● School turnaround planning and ongoing consultation—Drawing on its national network of best practices, ICLE collaborates with school and district leaders to conduct a needs analysis and document a theory of action for school turnaround planning. ● Custom reporting on fidelity of implementation metrics—Scholastic Partnership Planning delivers a year-long schedule of metrics that will allow school and district leaders to evaluate the ongoing fidelity of curricular program implementation. ● Ongoing progress monitoring and data analysis—Scholastic Data Analytics professionals plan and deliver a year-long schedule of data review, analysis and course correction strategies. ● Rubrics for evaluating classroom practice—Scholastic Implementation Services provide district and school leaders with clear rubrics for evaluating classroom practice aligned with curriculum programs, along with coaching on required remediation strategies.