Classroom Reading Instruction
That Supports Struggling Readers:
Key Components for Effective Teaching*

Carolyn A. Denton, Children’s Learning Institute, University of Texas Health Science Center Houston

Teach essential skills and strategies.
◊ Effective reading teachers teach skills, strategies, and concepts.

Provide differentiated instruction based on assessment results and adapt instruction to meet students’ needs.
◊ Effective teachers recognize that one size doesn’t fit all and are ready to adapt instruction—both content and methods.

Provide explicit and systematic instruction with lots of practice—with and without teacher support and feedback, including cumulative practice over time.
◊ Students should not have to infer what they are supposed to learn.

Provide opportunities to apply skills and strategies in reading and writing meaningful text with teacher support.
◊ Students need to be taught what to do when they get to a "hard word."

Don’t just "cover" critical content; be sure students learn it—monitor student progress regularly and reteach as necessary.
◊ Effective teachers adjust their teaching accordingly to try to accelerate student progress.

*These key components need to be employed in the Tier 1 classroom

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