

What Is Response to Instruction (RtI)?

Understanding Response to Instruction is the initial step toward implementing an effective intervention approach. Being able to define RtI, being knowledgeable of the laws that support it, and being able to delineate the advantages of RtI lead educators to a deeper understanding of this approach. Background knowledge is the cornerstone to the success of Response to Instruction.

So what is Response to Instruction (RtI)?

Response to Instruction (RtI) is an approach used to increase the opportunity for learners to meet and / or exceed academic achievement goals through early identification of students whose academic and/or behavioral needs place them at risk. RtI ensures that resources and interventions are appropriate and targeted to serve all underachieving learners as soon as possible through high quality instruction. RtI and differentiation are closely aligned with RtI often recognized as the definition for the struggling learner and differentiated instruction for the gifted learner.

- ☺ RtI meets the goals of No Child Left Behind (NCLB) legislation by assisting school districts such as Sparta, with early identification of struggling learner and by providing interventions that are research based instruction and teaching methods to improve educational outcomes.
- ☺ RtI is a school-wide prevention program with a district-wide perspective. When a student shows signs of struggling academically or behaviorally or both it is a design for early intervention.
- ☺ RtI's design is to generate high quality instruction/interventions matched to the needs of the individual student. It uses the learning rates of the student over time and the level of performance to make relevant educational decisions.
- ☺ After exhausting the intensive interventions, RtI can be used to make referral decisions for students who do not respond in the general academic setting.
- ☺ RtI provides support data which can be used in the process of identifying students with specific learning needs as opposed to the traditional discrepancy model used for so long to determine if a child is eligible for services or not.
- ☺ RtI meets the educational needs for ALL students by providing direct, focused instruction to address the academic and/or behavioral spheres.