

**2011 Minnesota Statute: 120B.12**  
**Reading proficiently no later than the end of Grade 3.**

**Browns Valley Public School**  
**District #801**

**Minnesota State Literacy goal:**

The state of Minnesota legislature seeks to have every child reading at or above grade level no later than the end of grade 3 and that teachers provide comprehensive, scientifically based reading instruction.

**Local Literacy Plan:**

A school district must adopt a local literacy plan to have every child reading at or above grade level no later than the end of grade 3. The plan must include a process to:

- 1) assess students' level of reading proficiency
- 2) notify and involve parents
- 3) intervene with students who are not reading at or above grade level
- 4) identify and meet staff development needs

**Reading proficiently by 3<sup>rd</sup> grade:**

The state mandate requires school districts to design their programming to make sure that students are reading proficiently by the end of **grade 3**. A review of conducted research consistently reveals a very strong correlation between children's reading proficiency at grade 3 and rate of high school graduation. Students who are reading at grade level by the end of grade 3 consistently perform better in school for the years to come as compared to those students who are not reading proficiently at the end of grade 3. It is our responsibility to ensure that our students are ready for the expectations of high school when they leave our educational system.

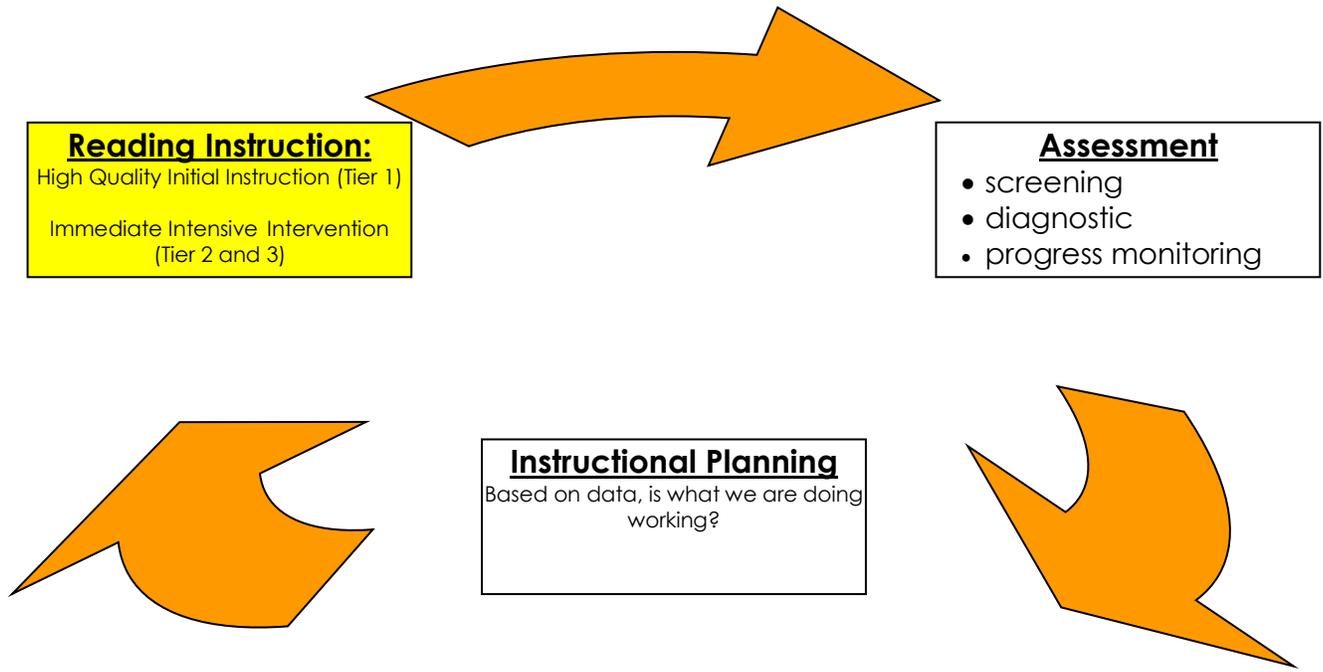
Browns Valley Public school is committed to ensuring that all children read proficiently by grade 3 and is making sure that all children reach their academic potential, therefore

**At Browns Valley Public School, ensuring that every child can read is our #1 priority.**

We recognize that we are living in the information age. Without the ability to read and understand what is being read, a person will have difficulty functioning and succeeding in our society. Over the past decade alone, the amount of information requiring more advanced levels of comprehension, writing skills, problem solving abilities and critical thinking has grown tremendously. As a result, adults with limited reading skills will have fewer opportunities for success in society. **Therefore, it has never been more important to us that every child learns to read and we are committed to do whatever it takes to ensure every child in our district becomes a functional reader.**

Written below are the Local Literacy Plan details that the Browns Valley Public School (#801) is following to ensure that necessary components are in place so that all children will be reading well by the end of 3<sup>rd</sup> grade.

Our **“Whatever it Takes”** philosophy is based on this ongoing model.



**Reading Instruction:**

Every child in PreK – 4<sup>th</sup> grade in our district has access to **at least** 90 minutes of **Scientifically-Based Core Reading Instruction** every day. Scientifically-based reading instruction includes balanced instruction in the “Big 5” areas of reading.

**Balanced Instruction:**

High quality Initial Instruction and Immediate Intensive Instruction (intervention) is provided to students, based on needs.

High Quality Initial Instruction

**Whole group instruction** – Whole-class instruction is often used to introduce new materials strategies to the entire class. Our teachers find that working with the whole class to introduce new concepts builds common experiences and provide a shared basis for further exploration, problem solving, and skill development. Whole-class instruction also can help identify students' prior knowledge and experiences that will affect new knowledge acquisition.

**Small group instruction** – Our teachers use small, flexible groups to target specific skill needs and provide opportunities for working with students who have common needs, for either reinforcement or enrichment. Smaller group sized allow children more practice and response opportunities as well as immediate and directed feedback from the teacher.

**Peer Pairing and Tutoring** – Our teachers intentionally train students to effectively work with each other to enhance their learning in reading. This is especially beneficial for students who benefit from working in pairs rather than large groups or individually. Peer Assisted Learning Strategies (PALS) are used to support reading growth and development in our classrooms.

Immediate Intensive Instruction

**Individualized Instruction** – Based on student data, when appropriate, students are offered one on one, individualized instruction through intervention opportunities. During these sessions, students receive explicit, direct instruction with immediate feedback by the teacher or interventionist. This method of instruction is used with students for whom reading growth is below target and must be accelerated.

**Big 5 Areas of Reading**

- 1) **Phonemic Awareness** – hearing the sounds in our language, skills such as: clapping syllables (**beats**) in words, rhyming (words that sound the same at the **end**), alliteration (words that sound the same at the **beginning**), and blending and segmenting words helps children to sound out words.
- 2) **Phonics** – the relationship between the **symbols** (our letters) and **sounds** those letters make. Phonics is important because our language is alphabetic, and decoding is an essential and primary means of recognizing words.
- 3) **Vocabulary** – students need to have 80,000 words in their vocabulary by the time they graduate from high school. Vocabulary is very important in reading comprehension. Readers cannot understand what they are reading unless they know what most of the words mean.
- 4) **Fluency-** Fluency is defined as the ability to read with speed, accuracy, and proper expression. In order to understand what they read, children must be able to *read fluently* whether they are reading aloud or silently. Fluency can be described as “automaticity” or how quickly the brain processes information.

- 5) **Comprehension-** The purpose for reading and the act of understanding what is read. Without comprehension, reading is nothing more than tracking symbols on a page with eyes and sounding them out.

### **High Quality Initial Instruction:**

The **Treasures & Houghton Mifflin curriculum** is utilized by all classrooms. This curriculum is designed to be used as a full-year program with instruction on developing the big 5 (**phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension**) as well as writing, spelling, and grammar. Students are directly taught lessons as well as provided multiple practice opportunities where newly taught skills and strategies are embedded into daily activities.

**1) Phonemic awareness** skills are intentionally and explicitly taught using the curriculum and supplemental resources to all students in our PreK, Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade classrooms and additional instruction is provided for students as needed beyond 1<sup>st</sup> grade.

**2) Phonics** skills are intentionally and explicitly taught using the curriculum and supplemental resources if needed to all students in PreK through 4<sup>th</sup> grade.

**3) Vocabulary** is intentionally and explicitly taught using Reading and content area curriculum (Social Studies, Science, Art, Health, Music, Phy Ed) to all students in PreK through 4<sup>th</sup> grade.

**4) Fluency** skills are intentionally and explicitly taught through continual practice opportunities using Reading and content area curriculum (Social Studies, Science, Art, Health, Music, Phy Ed) to all students in PreK through 4<sup>th</sup> grade. PreK and Kindergarten fluency practice opportunities use materials to build automaticity with letter names, letter sounds and sight words rather than connected text materials.

**5) Comprehension** skills and strategies are intentionally and explicitly taught through continual practice opportunities using Reading and content area curriculum (Social Studies, Science, Art, Health, Music, Phy Ed) to all students in PreK through 4<sup>th</sup> grade. The skills of both listening comprehension as well as reading comprehension are addressed and embedded into learning.

### **Immediate Intensive Instruction:**

For students whose data indicates that they are not making the rate of progress necessary with just the classroom instruction, additional support may be necessary. This additional support is provided **in addition to**, not **in place of** the Tier 1 Core Instruction. Students will be placed in intervention programs based on assessment data and student's response to instruction. Screening assessments will be used to determine student's need for additional support and diagnostic assessments will be used to determine which big 5 area(s) are needed to be targeted to strengthen.

**Browns Valley Elementary School offers the following intervention resources to students.**

Students in **PreK** who are not proficient in early literacy reading skills receive daily one-on-one support from a trained tutor for tier 2 instruction. Students who fall slightly below target fit the criteria required to receive services through Minnesota Reading Corps. Students will work with the tutor on specific, scripted interventions to strengthen skills in the areas of phonics, phonemic awareness, and vocabulary. The Reading Tutor is required to work with at least 5 students from each PreK classroom, but is certainly able to work with more if the daily schedule allows.

**PreK Minnesota Reading Corps:**

Big 5 Area	Intervention/Description
<b>Vocabulary</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Oral Language:</u></b></p> <p>Students will increase skill in vocabulary and expressive language while providing a model and practice in correct grammar and syntax. Children will be able to expressively say identified objects through Random Automatic Naming over time.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is it Bag</li> <li>• Cube: Vocabulary</li> <li>• Theme-Related Picture Cards</li> </ul>
<b>Phonics</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Visual Discrimination</u></b></p> <p>Students will increase skill in visual discrimination and letter sounds while providing practice that leads to automaticity so that children will be able to expressively say identified objects, colors, letters or sounds through Random Automatic Naming over time.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Matching items that look the same</li> <li>• Pointing to a letter when a tutor says it</li> <li>• Saying the letters by themselves</li> <li>• Pointing to a letter sound card when a tutor says it</li> <li>• Saying the letter sound</li> </ul>
<b>Phonemic Awareness</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Auditory Discrimination</u></b></p> <p>Students will increase skill in auditory discrimination while providing practice that leads to automaticity so that children will be able to expressively identify sounds over time.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Matching environmental sounds</li> <li>• Matching rhyming or beginning sounds/alliterative words</li> <li>• Pointing to rhyming or beginning sounds/alliterative words using pictures</li> </ul>

**K-3 Minnesota Reading Corps:**

Students in **Kindergarten – 3<sup>rd</sup> grade** who are not proficient in reading skills receive one-on-one support from a trained tutor for 20 minutes each day. Students who fall slightly below target fit the criteria required to receive services through Minnesota Reading Corps. Students will work with the

tutor on specific, scripted interventions to strengthen skills in the areas of phonics, phonemic awareness, fluency and comprehension. Students will receive, on average, 100 minutes/ week of additional reading support. The one on one setting allows a student to receive multiple response opportunities, direct reading instruction and immediate, corrective feedback from an individual highly trained in that strategy.

**Interventions used by the K-3 Minnesota Reading Corps:**

Big 5 Area	Intervention/Description
<b>Phonics</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Letter/Sound Correspondence:</u></b></p> <p>Students practice saying letter sounds when shown a letter symbol card.</p>
<b>Phonemic Awareness</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Word Blending:</u></b></p> <p>Students practice blending sounds of consonant-vowel-consonant words to make words.</p>
<b>Phonemic Awareness</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Phoneme Blending:</u></b></p> <p>When auditorily given the parts of a word the student will blend the parts to make a word. /c/ /a/ /t/ = cat</p>
<b>Phonemic Awareness</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Phoneme Segmenting:</u></b></p> <p>When auditorily given a word, the student will provide the parts of the word cat = /c/ /a/ /t/</p>
<b><u>Phonics/Phonemic Awareness and Fluency</u></b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Great Leaps:</u></b></p> <p>A supplemental reading program that provides direct instruction of skills in the areas of phonemic awareness, phonics, high frequency words and reading fluency. The program provides support in 4 independent sections which can be used separately or together depending on the student's needs.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>4 – Independent sections</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sound Awareness Letter Recognition and Phonics High Frequency Words and Phrases Stories</p>
<b><u>Phonemic Awareness</u></b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Sound Awareness (phonemic awareness):</u></b></p> <p>Students practice hearing the sounds in words. Students are asked to give information about the sounds in words (blend syllables, segment into syllables, select or produce rhyming words, select the first or last sound, alliteration)</p>
<b><u>Phonics</u></b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Letter Recognition and Phonics (phonics):</u></b></p> <p>Students practice naming letters, saying the sounds of letters, and reading decodable words, prefixes, suffixes and letter combinations.</p>
<b><u>Fluency</u></b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>High Frequency Words and Phrases (fluency):</u></b></p> <p>Students practice high frequency words found in children's text.</p>

	Those words are then moved into phrases.
<b>Fluency</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Stories:</b></p> <p>Students practice reading stories. The stories increase in difficulty as the student passes from one story to the next.</p>
<b>Fluency</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>RRCS = Repeated Reading with Comprehension Strategy:</b></p> <p>Students repeatedly read aloud from a passage for one timed minute. After each timing, the student records how many words were read correctly and errors read in that minute. The student will re-read the same material again for 1 minute, and the goal is for the student to improve his/her fluency and read more words than the time before.</p> <p>Throughout the intervention, students are asked to answer the following questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) <b>Who is the most important who or what?</b> (character recall)</li> <li>2) <b>What is the most important thing about the who or what?</b> (main idea)</li> <li>3) <b>Predict what will happen in the rest of the story?</b> (Prediction)</li> </ol> <p>This strategy includes a <b>fluency</b> component (repeated readings), <b>comprehension</b> component (answering the questions) and a motivational component (graphing the number of words read correctly and errors during the repeated readings.)</p>
<b>Fluency</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Duet Reading:</b></p> <p>A passage will be selected for the student to read. The student will repeatedly read a section/portion of the passage (the same passage 4 times before moving on to the next part of the text.</p> <p><b>1<sup>st</sup> reading:</b> Student reads a portion of the text independently</p> <p><b>2<sup>nd</sup> reading:</b> Student and interventionist take turns reading every other word (interventionist starts)</p> <p><b>3<sup>rd</sup> reading:</b> Student and interventionist take turns reading every other word (student starts)</p> <p><b>4<sup>th</sup> reading:</b> Student reads the portion of the text independently</p>
<b>Fluency</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Stop/Go Reading:</b></p> <p>This is for students who struggle to stop at periods and pause at punctuation during the reading. Students will read through a <b>portion</b> of the passage at a time. They will repeatedly read the same portion three times each.</p> <p><b>1<sup>st</sup> reading:</b> At the end of every sentence, the teacher will say “<b>stop</b>” and wait 2-5 seconds and then say “<b>go.</b>” The student will read the next sentence in the same fashion.</p> <p><b>2<sup>nd</sup> reading:</b> Student will read the same portion of the passage and this time, at the end of every sentence, the student</p>

	<p>stops at the end of each sentence and takes a deep breath.</p> <p><b>3<sup>rd</sup> reading:</b> Student will read the same portion of the passage and this time, at the end of every sentence, the student reads naturally, briefly pausing at the end of each sentence.</p> <p>Move to the next portion of the passage and begin the same routine again.</p>
<p><b><u>Fluency</u></b></p>	<p><b><u>Pencil Tap:</u></b></p> <p>This intervention is used for students who read so quickly that they insert many errors and inaccuracies. The student repeatedly reads each portion of the passage <b>3 times</b>. Each time the student reads, any time a word is misread, the teacher will tap the pencil. The student is expected to stop, fix the error, and go back to the beginning of the sentence and reread the sentence. The student rereads each portion three times with the goal to have fewer and fewer errors each time the passage portion is read.</p>
<p><b><u>Fluency</u></b></p>	<p><b><u>Newscaster:</u></b></p> <p>This intervention is used for students who do not apply expression to their reading. This routine allows the student an opportunity to hear a fluent reader read a portion of the passage.</p> <p><b>1<sup>st</sup> reading:</b> The student reads a portion of a passage alone</p> <p><b>2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> readings:</b> The interventionist reads aloud the same portion of the passage <b>3 times</b> while the student tracks with his/her finger.</p> <p><b>4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> readings:</b> The interventionist and student read the same passage at the same time <b>3 times</b>, while the student matches the interventionist's speed and expression.</p> <p><b>7<sup>th</sup> reading:</b> Student reads the portion of the passage alone.</p>

**Title 1:**

Title 1 is a federally funded program that ensures that all children have a fair, equal, and significant opportunity to obtain a high-quality education and reach, at a minimum, proficiency on challenging state academic achievement standards and state academic assessments. Browns Valley Elementary School offers Title 1 support to students in grades K-6 who fall below target on reading screening assessments (NWEA, FAST, EIR). Specific intervention strategies are used to target the specific area(s) of the Big 5 to be strengthened. Students in Title 1 receive reading support in a one-on-one setting or small group setting 3-5 days/week for 10-20 minutes sessions. Students will receive, on average, 75-100 minutes/week of additional reading support. The small group setting allows a

student to receive multiple response opportunities, direct reading instruction and immediate, corrective feedback from an individual highly trained in that strategy.

**Reading Intervention (ADSIS)**

Alternative Delivery of Specialized Instructional Services provides instruction to assist students who need additional academic support to succeed in the general education environment. The goal of this program is to reduce the number of referrals to special education by providing supports early to struggling students. The Reading Intervention program supports children in **Kindergarten – 8<sup>th</sup> grade**. It is the most intensive of intervention opportunities available for students prior to a special education referral. The small group setting allows a student to receive multiple response opportunities, direct reading instruction and immediate, corrective feedback from an individual highly trained in effective, research-based reading strategies. Students receive daily, small group (2-4 students) sessions that range between 25-30/session. Students in this program will receive, on average, 125-150 minutes/week of additional reading support.

The Reading intervention teacher has been trained on and has access to the same interventions used by the Minnesota Reading Corps Member and Title 1 interventionists and has further access to the following interventions:

Big 5 Area	Intervention/Description
<b>Phonemic awareness</b> <b>Phonics</b> <b>Fluency</b> <b>Comprehension</b> <b>Vocabulary</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>SRA Reading Mastery:</u></b></p> <p><i>Reading Mastery</i> is a direct instruction program designed to provide explicit, systematic instruction in English language reading. The program begins by teaching phonemic awareness and sound-letter correspondence and moves into word and passage reading, vocabulary development, comprehension, and building oral reading fluency. Later lessons continue to emphasize accurate and fluent decoding while teaching students the skills necessary to read and comprehend and to learn from expository text. Lessons are designed to be fast-paced and interactive.</p>
<b>Phonemic Awareness</b> <b>Phonics</b> <b>Fluency</b> <b>Comprehension</b> <b>Vocabulary</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Edmentum</u></b></p> <p>Edmentum provides essential language arts, reading vocabulary and reading comprehension skills. Students encounter cross-curricular lessons that are presented within a variety of literature types: fiction, nonfiction, essays, and poetry. Students build essential comprehensive skills and develop vocabulary in math, science, social studies, and other key curriculum areas.</p>
<b>Phonemic Awareness</b> <b>Phonics</b> <b>Fluency</b> <b>Comprehension</b> <b>Vocabulary</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Ladders to Literacy</u></b></p> <p>Ladders to Literacy provide sequenced, systematic exposure to activities involving visual discrimination, phonemic awareness, letter/sound connections, word concepts, and sentence and story concepts.</p>

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**Targeted Services:**

Targeted Services is a program designed to support students who learn in different ways or at a different pace from others. By offering additional time for learning in new and fun ways in smaller learning environments, Targeted Services programs give students the opportunity to improve their social and academic skills. Targeted Services classes are taught by certified teacher 4 days/week for 90 minute sessions. Time is spent working in reading curriculum and interventions that are designed for after school programs.

**Special Education:**

Specific, individualized special education services are provided for students who meet eligibility criteria. A special education evaluation may be conducted if a team determines that appropriate, research based interventions have been attempted and classroom accommodations have been made and data continues to indicate that progress is not being made. Instruction for individuals who have met Special Education eligibility criteria is highly individualized and targeted based on student needs.

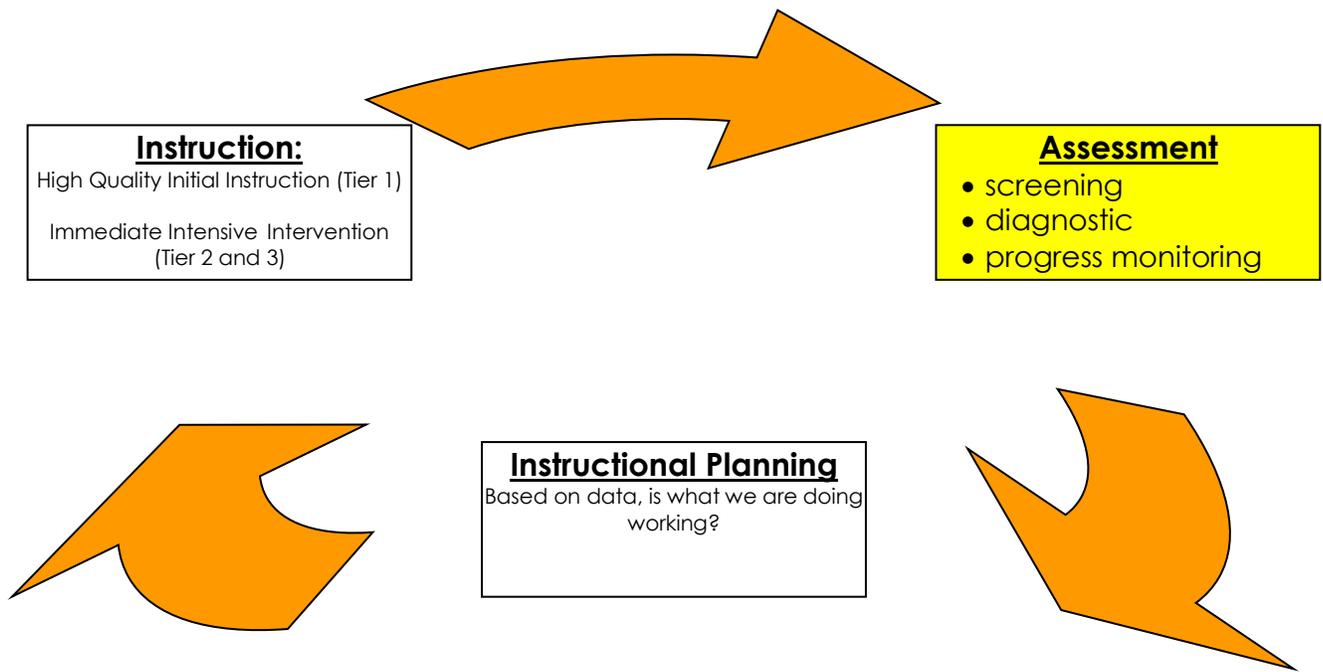
**Interventions used to support students in the area of reading:**

Big 5 Area	Intervention/Description
<b>All Big 5 Areas</b>	<b><u>Fast ForWord</u></b>
<b>Phonemic Awareness</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Fast ForWord Language:</u></b></p> Develops listening accuracy, phonological awareness, and language structures and moves elementary students who are reading below grade level toward grade level reading skills.
<b>Phonics</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Fast ForWord Language to Reading:</u></b></p> Emphasizes the link between spoken and written language to guide young students to become proficient grade level readers.
<b>Phonics &amp; phonemic awareness</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Fast ForWord Reading Readiness:</u></b></p> Builds pre-reading skills, with a focus on letter recognition and naming, phonological awareness, and letter-sound associations.
<b>Phonics, phonemic awareness and vocabulary</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Fast ForWord Reading Level 1:</u></b></p> Build critical early reading skills, with an emphasis on phonemic awareness, early decoding skills, vocabulary knowledge and skills, and motivation for reading.
<b>Phonics and fluency</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Fast ForWord Reading Level 2:</u></b></p> Consolidates early reading skills, with a focus on applying phonics and decoding strategies, improving word recognition and understanding the rules for reading comprehension

<p><b>Phonics, vocabulary and comprehension</b></p>	<p><b><u>Fast ForWord Reading level 3:</u></b> Builds on the Fast ForWord Reading Level 2 by concentrating on reading knowledge and fluency, with a focus on phonology and spelling, morphological properties and complexity, syntactic complexity, vocabulary and comprehension.</p>
<p><b>Phonics &amp; Comprehension</b></p>	<p><b><u>Fast ForWord Reading Level 4:</u></b> Builds reading skills in school by applying knowledge of word origins, word forms, sentence structures, and punctuation rules to improve comprehension.</p>
<p><b>Comprehension &amp; Vocabulary</b></p>	<p><b><u>Fast ForWord Reading Level 5:</u></b> Appropriate for students in upper elementary, middle and high school. It concentrates on enhancing advanced reading comprehension skills and expanding vocabulary skills.</p>
<p><b>Fluency/Comprehension</b></p>	<p><b><u>Accelerated Reader</u></b> Students choose books or short stories to read for which there are AR tests. AR software provides comprehension tests featuring five to 20 multiple-choice questions. The student reads the book and then takes the test which gives immediate feedback in terms of the number of correct answers on the test.</p>
<p><b><u>Phonemic Awareness, Phonics, Fluency, Comprehension</u></b></p>	<p><b><u>Early Intervention in Reading (EIR)</u></b> This is program designed to provide extra instruction to groups of students at risk of failing to learn to read. The program uses picture books to stress instruction in phonemic awareness, phonics, and contextual analysis, along with repeated reading and writing. In grades K, 1, and 2, the program is based on whole-class instruction, with additional small group instruction provided to struggling readers. In grades 3 and 4, the program consists of small group instruction</p>
<p><b>Phonemic Awareness Phonics Fluency Comprehension Vocabulary</b></p>	<p><b><u>Reading Milestones:</u></b> Vocabulary, language structures, and comprehension skills are introduced in small and constantly reinforced increments. The vocabulary was drawn from several high frequency word lists (including the Dolch Basic Sight Word List). All the essential comprehension skills-literal, inferential, evaluative, and critical reading skills-are introduced and practiced in workbook activities. Chunking (the separation of phrases by several spaces) is specifically used in the first three levels to aid in processing units larger than single words. Reading Milestones begins at the most basic language level. The program introduces vocabulary, syntax, and idiomatic language in very small steps and reinforces this learning before introducing new materials.  The following levels are available for specific placement</p>

Browns Valley Public School PreK – 6<sup>th</sup> grade **Local Literacy Plan**

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Level 1 is at preprimer - 1.0 grade level</li> <li>• Level 2 is at 1.0 - 1.5 grade level</li> <li>• Level 3 is at 1.5 - 2.0 grade level</li> <li>• Level 4 is at 2.0 - 2.5 grade level</li> <li>• Level 5 is at 3.0 - 3.5 grade level</li> <li>• Level 6 is at 4.0 - 5.0 grade level</li> </ul>
<b>Phonemic Awareness</b> <b>Phonics</b> <b>Fluency</b> <b>Comprehension</b> <b>Vocabulary</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Edmentum</u></b></p> <p>Edmentum provides essential language arts, reading vocabulary and reading comprehension skills. Students encounter cross-curricular lessons that are presented within a variety of literature types: fiction, nonfiction, essays, and poetry. Students build essential comprehensive skills and develop vocabulary in math, science, social studies, and other key curriculum areas.</p>
<b>Phonemic Awareness</b> <b>Phonics</b> <b>Fluency</b> <b>Comprehension</b> <b>Vocabulary</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Study Island</u></b></p> <p>The Study Island Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments - Series II (MCA-II) and Series III (MCA-III) Preparation Program is specifically designed to help students master the content specified in the Minnesota Academic Standards. Study Island's focus on the Minnesota Academic Standards enables students to improve their performance in all skill areas tested on the MCA-II and MCA-III in grades 2 through 8 and high school. Study Island also offers Math and Reading Skills for Kindergarten and 1st Grade</p>



**Assessment**

The Local Literacy Plan must include a process to: **assess** students' level of reading proficiency

Assessment of student progress and skill is a critical piece in determining reading proficiency. The following assessments are conducted and the individual student scores on the assessments are compared to target scores.

The following questions are asked:

**Where is** the student performing?

**Where should** the student be performing? (what is the target)

Is there a gap between where the student **is** and **should be** currently performing?

Browns Valley Elementary School utilizes three forms of assessment practices to make educational programming decisions for their students.

**Screening/Benchmarking assessments**

**Diagnostic Assessments**

**Progress Monitoring Assessments**

**Screening/Benchmarking assessments:**

Benchmarks data will be collected in the fall/winter/spring for **all** students using grade level assessment materials. Results from the assessment will be used by teachers to identify students at-risk, help individualize instruction, evaluate student progress, and serve as an accountability and communication tool for system improvement.

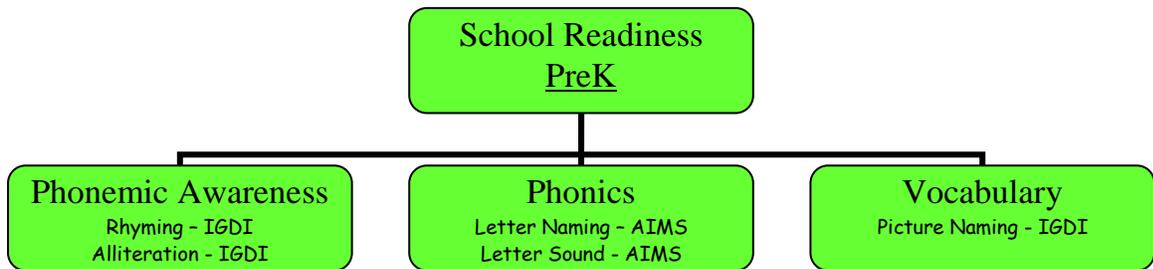
- Identify Early – Identify students not making progress quickly and accurately
- Inform Instruction – Modify instruction and evaluate effects of program changes
- Monitor Progress – Monitor progress and visually display improvement/effects of instructional methods
- Report District Growth – Demonstrate student, school, and district improvement over time
- Compare Progress – Make comparison at the student, class, grade, school, and district levels

Benchmark Screening Assessments used in the Browns Valley Area Elementary School to help determine and ensure reading proficiency:

Screener Tool	Description
<b><u>IGDI – Individual Growth and Development Indicators (PreK)</u></b>	The IGDI screening assessments are used in the PreK and early K settings to develop a benchmark of each student's

<b>and K)</b>	early literacy skills. A child’s fluency with vocabulary, rhyming and alliteration are measured using this too. Because we are measuring fluency (how quickly one can process a skill), the screening is timed.
<b><u>FAST Bridge</u></b>	FASTBRIDGE measures a child’s fluency (how quickly a skill is processed) in necessary reading skills. Fluency is very important as it informs the teacher about how quickly a child can go to his/her brain and retrieve the information necessary to complete the skill.
<b><u>NWEA – Northwest Evaluation Association (K - 6<sup>th</sup> grade)</u></b>	<p>The NWEA tests are MAP tests or <i>Measures of Academic Progress</i>. They are computerized adaptive tests. The difficulty of each question is based on how well the student answers all the previous questions. If answered correctly the test items become more difficult, if answered incorrectly, the questions become less difficult or adapt to the level of the student. The assessments are untimed.</p> <p>The tests are offered two times each year (Fall/Winter) . Students in K, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade take the MAP for Primary Grades while our 3-6 grade students take the MAP or <i>Measures of Academic Progress</i>. The results provide teachers, students and parents with a measure of student growth in achievement, and allow for more focused teaching and learning.</p>

**Benchmark Screenings for PreK**

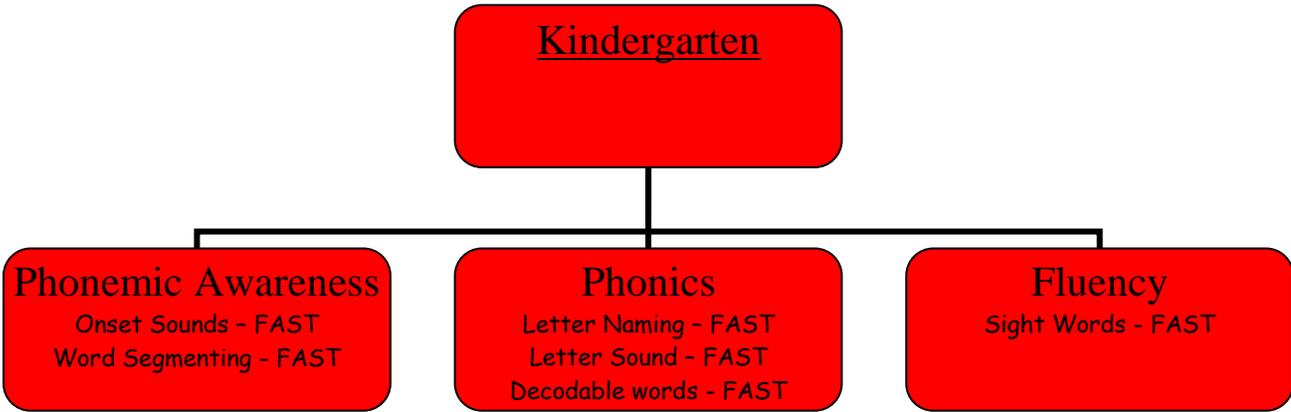


Target Scores to indicate proficiency in the skill: Students should be at or above the following scores by spring before Kindergarten to be considered “Kindergarten Ready”

<b>Big 5 Area</b>	<b>Measure</b>	<b>Target Score</b>
Phonemic Awareness	Rhyming	12

	Alliteration	8
Phonics	Letter Name	14
	Letter Sound	8
Vocabulary	Picture Naming	26

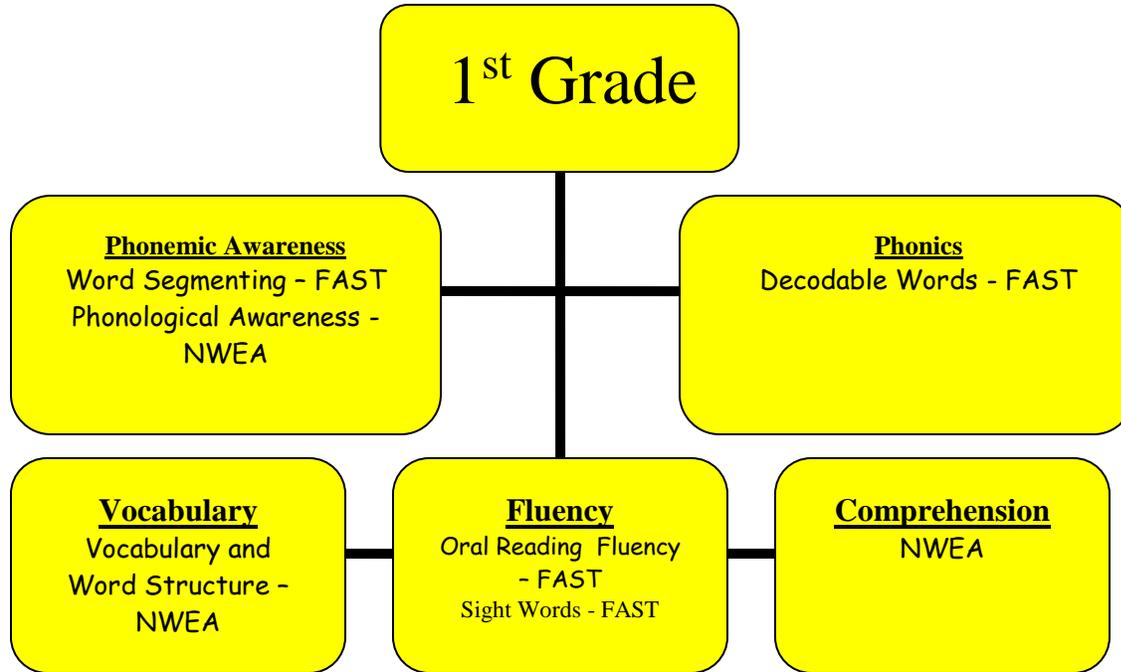
**Benchmark Screenings for Kindergarten**



Target Scores to indicate proficiency in the skill:

Big 5 Area	Measure	Fall Target	Winter Target	Spring Target
<b>Phonemic Awareness</b>	Onset Sounds	13	16	16
	Word Segmenting	7	28	31
<b>Phonics</b>	Letter Name	24	44	53
	Letter Sound	8	27	48
	Decodable Words		5	12
<b>Fluency</b>	Sight Words		11	26

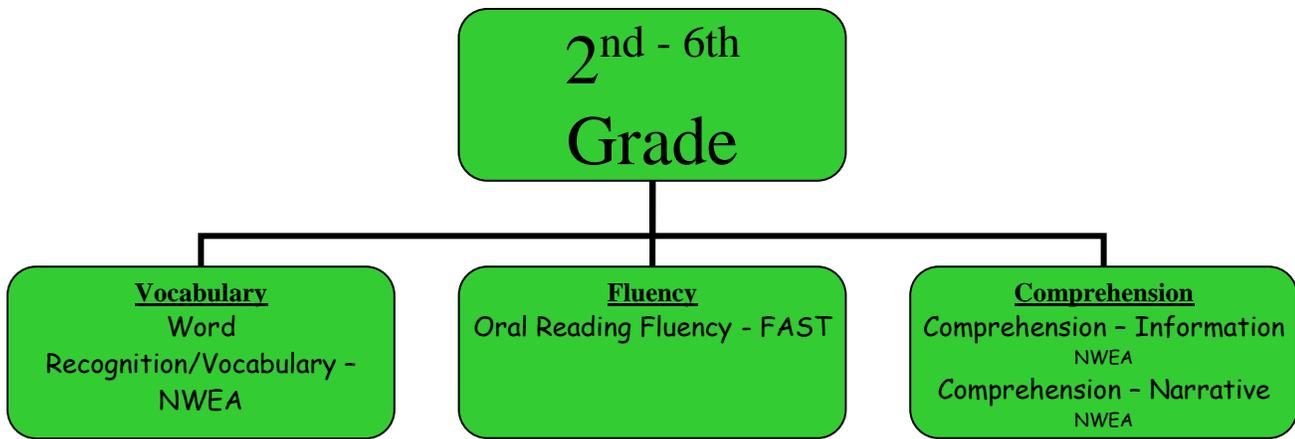
# Benchmark Screenings for 1<sup>st</sup> Grade



Big 5 Area	Measure	Screener	Fall Target	Winter Target	Spring Target
<b>Phonemic Awareness</b>	Word Segmenting	FAST	28	32	33
	Phonological Awareness	NWEA	Avg	Avg	Avg
<b>Phonics</b>	Decodable Words	FAST	8	20	33
<b>Vocabulary</b>	Vocabulary/Word Structure	NWEA	Avg	Avg	
<b>Fluency</b>	Oral Reading Fluency	FAST		22	52
	Sight Words	FAST	25	56	72
<b>Comprehension</b>	Comprehension	NWEA	Avg	Avg	Avg

### NWEA overall Reading Scores

	Fall Target	Winter Target	Spring Target
Reading	160.7	171.5	177.5



Big 5 Area	Measure	Grade	Fall Target Score	Winter Target	Spring Target
<b>Vocabulary</b>	Word Recognition/Vocabulary	2-6	Avg*	Avg*	
<b>Fluency</b>	Oral Reading Fluency	2	63	97	116
	Oral Reading Fluency	3	100	122	135
	Oral Reading Fluency	4	125	144	158
	Oral Reading Fluency	5	142	158	167
	Oral Reading Fluency	6	151	166	181
<b>Comprehension</b>	Comprehension-Informational	2-6	Avg*	Avg*	
	Comprehension-Narrative	2-6	Avg*	Avg*	

\* Avg. = (21-40 percentile)

**NWEA target scores**

Grade	Measurement	Fall Target	Winter Target	Spring Target
2	Reading	174.7	184.2	188.7
3	Reading	188.3	195.6	198.6
4	Reading	198.2	203.6	205.9
5	Reading	205.7	209.8	211.8
6	Reading	211.0	214.2	215.8

**Diagnostic Assessments-**

When screening assessments indicate below target or below average results, further assessments will be used to further diagnose and target the challenging areas of reading.

**Available Diagnostic tools include:**

**Phonemic Awareness**

- √ Phonological Awareness Continuum of Complexity
- √ Phonological Awareness Skills Inventory
- √ Word Segmenting (FASTBridge)
- √ Onset-Sounds

**Phonics**

- √ Visual Discrimination Continuum of Complexity
- √ Phonics Survey
- √ Letter-Naming Fluency; Letter-Sound Fluency (FASTBridge)
- √ Decodable Words (FASTBridge)

**Fluency**

- √ CBM-R
- √ Sight Words

**Comprehension**

- √ NWEA Des Cartes

**Vocabulary**

- √ NWEA Des Cartes

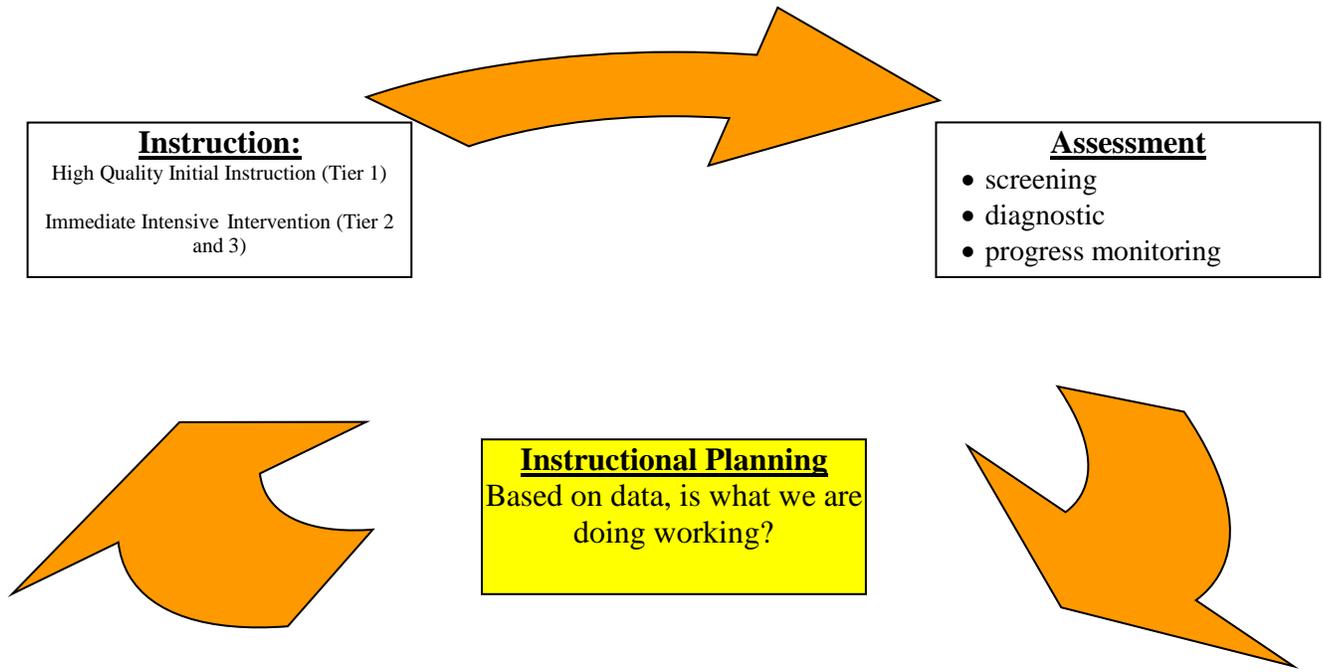
**Progress Monitoring-**

This is the process in determining and ensuring that what we are doing is working.

Progress monitoring is a scientifically based practice that is used to assess students' academic performance and evaluate the effectiveness of instruction. Progress monitoring is implemented with all students who are receiving any Tier II or Tier III support in the area of reading. The tools used to monitor a student's progress are designed to show growth over a short amount of time, therefore, students' growth can be monitored on a weekly/biweekly/monthly basis. Data is shared weekly/biweekly/monthly with parents and teachers and educational decisions are made, ongoing, based on the data.

To implement progress monitoring, the student's current levels of performance are determined and goals are identified for learning that will take place over time. The student's academic performance is measured on a regular basis (weekly or monthly). Progress toward meeting the student's goals is measured by comparing expected and actual rates of learning. Based on these measurements, teaching is adjusted as needed. Thus, the student's progression of achievement is monitored and instructional techniques are adjusted to meet the individual students learning needs.

<b>Intervention Program</b>	<b>Frequency of Progress Monitoring</b>	<b>Data reported to teachers and parents</b>
Minnesota Reading Corps	Weekly	Weekly
ADSIS	Weekly	Weekly
Title 1	Every 2 weeks	Every 2 weeks
Special Education	Monthly	Monthly



**Instructional Planning**

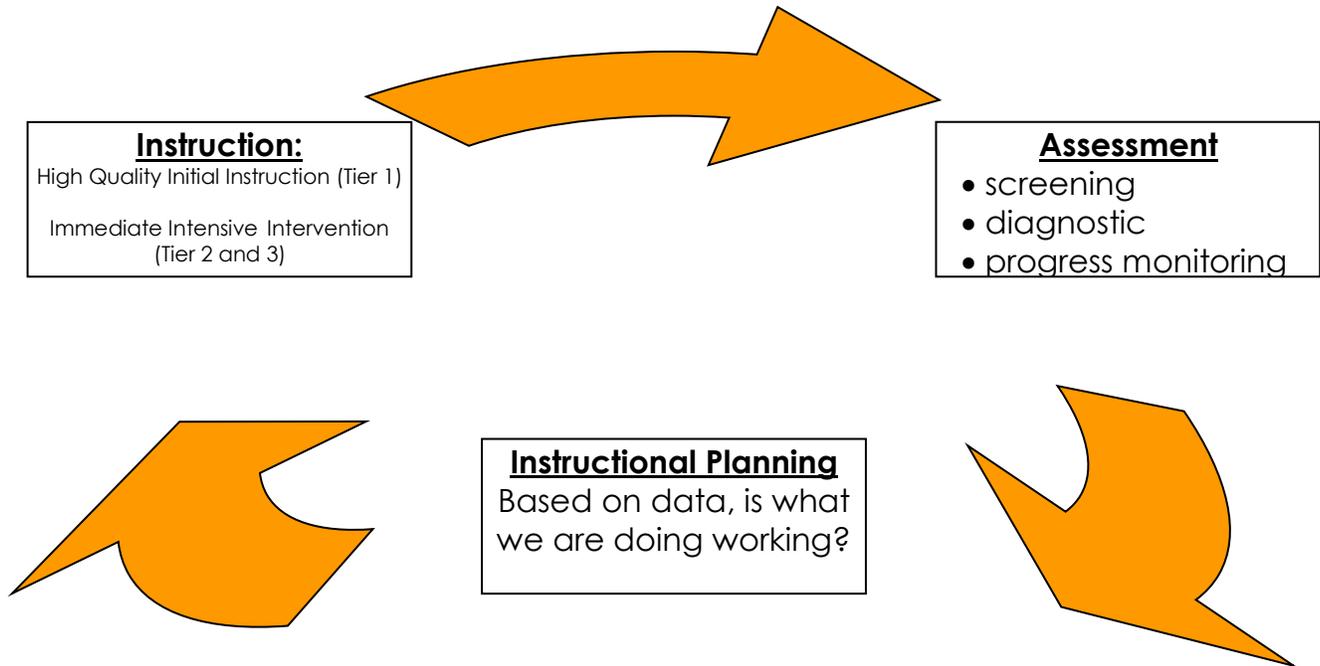
When data indicates that a student is not meeting target or gaining skills needed to be a proficient reader, planning is done and a targeted intervention is put into that child's day to ensure that progress will be made.

**RTI - Problem Solving Team**

Browns Valley Elementary school has a functioning problem solving team which consists of all classroom teachers, the title 1 teacher and the special education teacher. This team meets monthly to discuss appropriate programming for children who are falling behind academically or struggling with behavioral issues.

After Fall Benchmarking, the team meets to place students based on data, in interventions. By synthesizing FAST, NWEA, EIR and MCA-III data together, the team makes Tier 2 intervention placements for all students who are determined below target. Students then begin working in Tier 2 interventions with an interventionist using a scientifically based reading intervention (as described above). Outside diagnosis of dyslexia of insufficient convergence will be included in the planning and educational programming decisions to best meet the needs of each student.

The ongoing process continues. **Instruction** is followed by **assessment**. The data from the assessment is analyzed and **instruction is planned** and then put into place.



**Parental Involvement:**

All Parents are provided a copy of their child's screening scores (IGDI's, FASTBridge, NWEA) bi-annually at Parent Teacher Conferences. If, prior to a conference, a child's data indicates a need for an intervention, the parent will receive a personal contact from the child's teacher, describing the data that indicates the need for that intervention and the programming that will take place for that child. Parents will also receive resources from the classroom teacher which will include helpful strategies and ideas for working on reading skills at home.

At Browns Valley Elementary, an educational team consists of parents/guardians, the child, and the teacher. Each member of the team has specific responsibilities and expectations:

**The Parent(s)/Guardian(s) is/are expected to:**

1. Make sure that their child attends school regularly, is on time, and is prepared to learn.
2. Ask what skills their child is learning in each class.
3. Engage in activities with their son/daughter that continues his/her classroom learning at home.
4. Check that written and study homework is completed each day.
5. Attend school activities and programs that are displays and/or applications of what their child is learning in school

6. Communicate frequently with their child's teacher, through notes, conferences, telephone conversation or email about how well their child is doing.

**The Student is expected to:**

1. Come to school on time and be ready to learn.
2. Pay attention to his/her teachers and family when they are helping with school work.
3. Write down homework assignments and make sure to bring home the books and materials needed to do them.
4. Complete homework and remember to bring it to class.
5. Ask for help from teachers and family members when it is needed.
6. Show parents work and tests, returning them with their signatures, if their teachers request it.

**The Teacher is expected to:**

1. Provide quality teaching and model behaviors for students and their families.
2. Communicate frequently with families about their students' progress.
3. Recognize that all students learn differently and employ varied instruction strategies.
4. Use technology as an assessment and teaching tool.
5. Provide frequent feedback to students about their academic progress and participation
6. Participate in meaningful professional development to enhance instruction skill

**Professional Development**

Quality teachers are the single greatest determinant of student achievement. In order to remain informed and up-to-date on new research on how children learn, emerging technology tools for the classroom, and new curriculum resources, providing opportunities for teachers to learn is essential.

**Professional Development Opportunities:**

Based on staff needs assessments, our Professional Development plan is determined.

**EL training:**

The Browns Valley school district currently has no EL population and therefore is intentionally placing Professional Development resources in areas of current priority.

**Workshop Opportunities:**

Staff members are required to seek funding from the staff development fund to attend workshops and trainings outside of the school district. A staff development committee is in place to grant permission for attendance.

**Summer Training Opportunities:**

The Midwest Special Education Cooperative, of which Browns Valley Schools is a member, provides various literacy training opportunities throughout the summer for the staff (PreK-12, Title 1, Paraprofessionals, etc) of all member districts. The opportunities are provided at no charge to the attendees and attendees are provided a monetary stipend for attending. Recent training in which

Browns Valley Staff has attended include:

- Best Practices in Early Literacy (K-1)
- Best practices in Literacy Instruction (2-6)
- PALS (K-PALS, 1<sup>st</sup> grade PALS, PALS 2-6<sup>th</sup>)
- Content Area Reading Strategies
- SEEDS of Emotional Development
- Using Data to Drive Instruction
- Response to Intervention
- LETRS training

**Professional Development Needs:**

Based on the analysis of current literacy practices at Browns Valley Elementary School, it was determined that further professional development is needed in the areas of:

- Targeting instruction to meet the Tier 2 needs of students
- Tier 2 Interventions
- Research based reading interventions
- Flexible Grouping