

## The What Works Clearinghouse™

# Connecting Research and Practice to Improve Education

**W**hen choosing education products and curricula, the What Works Clearinghouse (WWC) can help busy educators and policymakers like you. The WWC is a free resource funded by the **Institute for Education Sciences (IES)** at the **U.S. Department of Education**.

The **WWC** sheds light on what works in education. For more than a decade, we have been a central and trusted source of scientific evidence on education programs, products, practices, and policies. We review the research, determine which studies meet **rigorous standards**, and summarize the findings.



### You Have Questions About What Works.

### We Can Help You Find Answers.

What does the  
WWC do?

*Answer*

Learn more.

Why does  
research matter?

*Answer*

Learn more.

What topics  
can I find?

*Answer*

Learn more.

How do I  
get started?

*Answer*

Learn more.



# WWC Publications and Resources



## Intervention Reports

Intervention reports offer clear, relevant information to help you select a program or policy, or make a program change. The reports summarize what the highest quality research says about effectiveness. You'll find details on program components, target populations, and costs.



## Practice Guides

Practice guides feature evidence-based recommendations from experts in the field. The guides target the complex problems educators face and summarize what research says about each recommendation.



## Quick Reviews and Single Study Reviews

Quick reviews assess the quality of research on a study that has received significant media attention. Single study reviews assess one research study on a program, policy, practice, or product.

Find What Works

Intervention	Type	Implementation Dates	Effectiveness Rating	Level of Evidence
Building Blocks for Math (2nd-3rd Grade)	Early Childhood Education	2008-2010	Strong	High
Expansion of Chicago School Mathematics Program to 14 Communities	Math (High School)	2008-2010	Strong	High
5th-6th Mathematics	Early Childhood Education	2008-2010	Strong	Medium to Large

## Find What Works

Find What Works is a search tool that helps you see at-a-glance what the WWC says about interventions in different subjects, grades, and student populations. You can narrow your search by specific characteristics, like grade and delivery method. Filter and sort results to focus on the information most useful for you.



## Why Does Quality Matter in Education Research?

Not all education research is equal. Identifying well-designed studies, trustworthy research, and meaningful findings to inform decisions and improve student outcomes can be tricky. That's where the WWC comes in.



## How Does the WWC Identify, Review, and Rate the Research?

We use a scientific, systematic, and comprehensive **review process**.



*Hover over each step for more information.*

Then we publish our findings in **intervention reports**, **single study reviews**, and **quick review blasts** for decision makers like you. Your time is valuable, so we include only the highest quality research. In fact, if no study meets our high standards, we let you know. Our searchable database allows you to access the information needed to make evidence-based decisions about interventions for your students.



## Want to Know More About the WWC Review Process?

The **WWC Procedures and Standards Handbook** describes our systematic review process. It also clearly outlines the procedures we use to assess research quality.



## Frequently Asked Questions

### Q: *Who operates the WWC?*

The U.S. Department of Education’s Institute of Education Sciences established the WWC in 2002. The work of the WWC is done under contract to the Department of Education by several firms with expertise in education, research methodology, and dissemination. More information about the WWC, our operations, and key staff members can be found on our [website](#).

### Q: *Does the WWC tell me which interventions are most appropriate for my state or district?*

Educators and policymakers need to consider many factors in determining whether to implement a program, policy, practice, or product. The WWC uses systematic reviews to identify rigorous research, providing educators with reliable evidence to inform their decisions. Other features (such as target population, cost, and feasibility) should also be considered. For some interventions, there is little or no research that meets WWC evidence standards. In these situations, it’s not possible to answer the question, “Does this intervention work?”

### Q: *What’s New at the WWC?*

Look for our topical features on strategies for teachers on our website. These releases focus on helping teachers access WWC material relevant to a time-sensitive or important topic.



Tips for  
Back to School



Tips for  
College Bound Students



Tips for  
Behavior Problems



Tips for  
Early Childhood  
Instruction



## Looking for More Answers?

Visit our complete list of [Frequently Asked Questions](#) for information on what we do and how we do it. Don’t see your question here or want to give us your feedback? [Contact us](#). We’re here to help!