Teaching Resources: 
A Guide for Teachers

Students work in the online Reading Plus program to build essential comprehension skills that form the foundation for proficient reading. These skills align with rigorous standards for reading and English Language Arts.

To supplement students’ online work in Reading Plus, printable skill-building materials are freely available to educators. These materials can be used in conjunction with online Reading Plus lessons, or as standalone resources to support student growth.

How are the resources organized?

All resources are presented in skill-building packages grouped by comprehension standard. Every standard includes multiple comprehension skills.

Materials are divided into two curriculum levels:

- **Basic**: For students reading independently at a 2nd-grade to 5th-grade level.
- **Intermediate**: For students reading independently at a 6th-grade level or higher.

*Note that 2nd-grade and 3rd-grade readers typically need adult support when completing these resources.*
What resources are included?

Skill-building packages for every comprehension skill include three types of resources:

- **Skill Practice Worksheets** provide teaching pages and practice pages. This helps students learn about a specific skill and then apply what they have learned.

- **Skill-Based Writing Prompts** help students deepen their understanding of the texts they read while strengthening the valuable literacy skill of expressing their ideas in writing.

- **Graphic Organizers** serve as a support in generating ideas and sharing them in a more visual format.

Resources can be downloaded as complete packets or as individual resources.

How can I use Reading Plus data in conjunction with these resources?

Teachers whose students currently utilize Reading Plus can draw on Reading Plus data to inform skill-building instruction. Reading Plus reports clearly identify students’ specific comprehension strengths and weaknesses, based on their work in Reading Plus. These actionable reports are available for whole classes or for individual students.

Teachers can click on the **Skills** button in the Management System to access all skills-related reports.
Idea #1: Respond to Class-Wide Areas of Need

The Class Skill Summary Report can support teachers in identifying class-wide trends and needs.

For example, this class would benefit from focusing on the comprehension skills associated with Standard #5: Text Structure. Standard #5 includes three comprehension skills: Examining Text Structure, Examining Sequence of Events, and Examining Genre.

- During Week One the skill of focus could be Examining Text Structure:
  - **Monday**: Skill Practice Worksheet, Lesson 1
  - **Tuesday**: Skill Practice Worksheet, Lesson 2
  - **Wednesday**: Skill Practice Worksheet, Lesson 3
  - **Thursday**: Assign students to read from a fictional text and respond to a Skill-Based Writing Prompt of your choosing.
    - Offer the Graphic Organizer to support the thinking and writing process.
  - **Friday**: Assign students to read a non-fiction text and respond to a Skill-Based Writing Prompt of your choosing.

Refer to the **Totals** row of the Class Skill Summary Report to inform the skills of focus for a whole class over a series of weeks.

**Tip:** Consider utilizing the Reading Plus Rubric for Grading Writing to evaluate your child’s work.
Idea #2: Provide Differentiated Instruction to Groups of Students

The *Class Skill Support Report* identifies students who are struggling with specific comprehension skills. This information can help teachers differentiate skill-building instruction, based on need.

Refer to the *Subskill* column to see if multiple students in the class are struggling with the same skill(s) and provide groups of students with the resources they need to improve.

Idea #3: Focus on an Individual Student’s Needs

The *Student Skill Support Report* clarifies the comprehension skills with which an individual student is struggling. This can inform a fully personalized plan for supplemental skill-building instruction.

To access the *Student Skill Support Report*:

1. Click the green *Students* button and select the student. You can use the search field to type the student’s name.
2. Click the *Skills* button in the upper right.
3. Click the *Support* tab.

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4 800-READ-PLUS: 800-732-3758 | READINGPLUS.COM/TEACHING-RESOURCES
My students DO NOT currently use Reading Plus. How do I use these resources?

Idea #1: Follow a Sequential Progression

Consider taking your students through a progression that will help strengthen skills in a sequential manner, one standard/skill at time.

For example, you may choose to focus on one comprehension skill per week, beginning with the skills associated with Standard #1, Close Reading.

- During Week One, the focus skill would be **Identifying Explicit Details**.
  - **Monday**: Skill Practice Worksheet, Lesson 1
  - **Tuesday**: Skill Practice Worksheet, Lesson 2
  - **Wednesday**: Skill Practice Worksheet, Lesson 3
  - **Thursday**: Assign your students to read a fictional text and respond to a Skill-Based Writing Prompt.
    - Offer the Graphic Organizer to support the thinking and writing process.
  - **Friday**: Assign your students to read a non-fiction text and respond to a Skill-Based Writing Prompt.

- During Week Two, the focus skill would be **Drawing Conclusions and Making Inferences**, and so forth.

**Tip**: Consider utilizing the Reading Plus Rubric for Grading Writing to evaluate your child’s work.

**Tip**: Ensure you are selecting resources from the appropriate curriculum level(s), based on your students’ current independent reading level.
Idea #2: Attend to a Typical Area of Need

Reading Plus research shows that students at all grade levels across the United States struggle with comprehension skills associated with **Standard #5: Text Structure**. Therefore, you may choose to embark on a three-week intensive designed to give your students a boost in strengthening these skills.

- For example, during Week One, your students would complete the range of activities associated with **Examining Text Structure**, one activity per day, Monday–Friday. (Please see the recommended schedule above.)

- During Week Two, your students would focus on **Examining Sequence of Events**.

- During Week Three, the target skill would be **Examining Genre**.

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**5: Structure**

**Examining Text Structure**

**Basic (for students reading between a 2nd and 5th grade level)**

- Complete instructional packet
- Skill Practice Worksheet, Lesson 1
- Skill Practice Worksheet, Lesson 2
- Skill Practice Worksheet, Lesson 3
- Skill-Based Writing Prompts
- Graphic Organizer

**Intermediate (for students reading at a 6th grade level or higher)**

- Complete instructional packet
- Skill Practice Worksheet, Lesson 1
- Skill Practice Worksheet, Lesson 2
- Skill Practice Worksheet, Lesson 3
- Skill-Based Writing Prompts
- Graphic Organizer

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**Tip:** Ensure you are selecting resources from the appropriate curriculum level(s), based on your students' current independent reading level.