6-12 Identifying Student Needs Through a Comprehensive Assessment System - Course Companion

Literacy Academy on Demand

The Course Companion is designed to allow participants to capture notes, reflections and action steps as they work through the course. Additionally, the Course Companion contains a list of all extra resources listed in the course. Each section of the Course Companion is linked to a corresponding section of the course.

Consider this Scenario:

Based on classroom performance and results on Ohio's State Tests in English Language Arts, the teachers at Main Middle School know that many of their students struggle with reading. They have spent time analyzing the questions on the English Language Arts test and have tried to support their students with study skills and test practice questions. However, they haven't seen any improvement in student performance. The teachers and the administrators know there is a problem, but they aren't sure how to determine what the root cause is or where to start.

Can you relate to the above scenario? In what ways are your challenges in literacy instruction similar or different?

What do we know about students' reading difficulties in the older grades?

Notes:

Identifying Student Needs with Dr. Joan Sedita (Video):

Notes:

Resources:

Browse the information provided on AdLit about literacy assessments at the secondary level. After reviewing, write down a list of what assessments are currently in place in your setting and what may need to be added.

Course Reflection:

1. Consider the students who struggle with reading in your setting. Do you know what their specific literacy skill needs are? Is a system in place to identify the specific skills or areas of need?

2. What are some next steps you can take to review your current assessment system and determine if any changes need to be made?

The following resources are listed in the course:

1. Adolescent Literacy: Addressing the Needs of Students in Grades 4-12 (Joan Sedita) provides an overview of the critical needs of adolescent learners in grades 4-12 and the components that schools and districts can implement.
2. Assessments to Guide Adolescent Literacy Instruction (Center on Instruction) provides additional information on the key elements of a comprehensive assessment plan to improve literacy instruction for adolescents.
3. The Academic Screening Tools Chart from the Center for Intensive Intervention can be used to learn more about evidence-based screening tools.
4. Review the Screening Implementation Toolkit from the National Center on Improving Literacy for tools and resources to support selection of a universal screener and best practices for universal screening.
5. Browse the information provided on AdLit about literacy assessments at the secondary level.