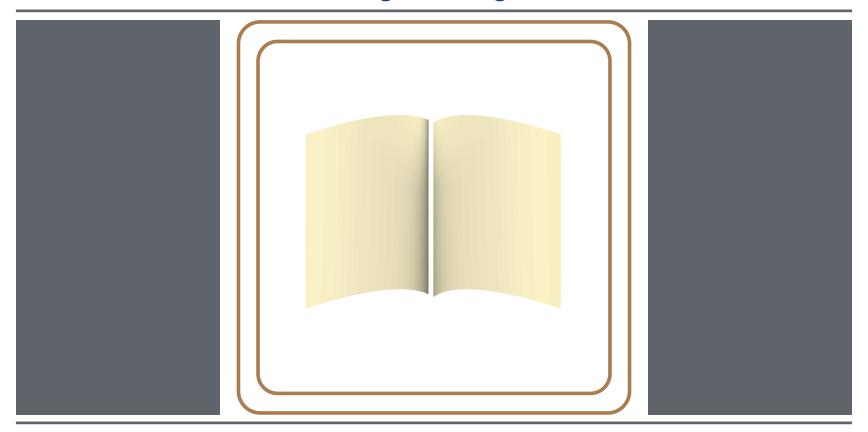


Self-Assessment: Reading Throughout the Content Areas



Middle School Matters Institute
An initiative of the George W. Bush Institute in partnership with
The Meadows Center for Preventing Educational Risk



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ABOUT THE SELF-ASSESSMENT



Before developing specific implementation goals, educators must take stock of which research-based practices are already in place and which practices are lacking or need improvement. This template guides users through a self-reflection process for **reading** practices implemented throughout all content areas. Users should follow these steps for **each principle**.

INSTRUCTIONS

- Step 1: Convene a Middle School Matters Leadership team and set aside 1-2 hours for the self-assessment.
- Step 2: Gather all available data (see page 4).
- **Step 3: Assess current instructional practices,** using data gathered in step 2, and indicate which instructional traits are implemented: a) consistently, b) inconsistently, or c) not at all.

Consult the MSM Field Guide for more information:

https://greatmiddleschools.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/3a FieldGuide Reading July19.pdf

Step 4: Summarize assessment results and determine the level of implementation according to the rubric (adapted from Fixsen, Naoom, Blase, Friedman, & Wallace, 2005).

- 1. No Implementation: No evidence of implementation.
- 2. Exploration: Willingness to implement, but little to no evidence of actual implementation. May be in planning stage.
- 3. Initial Implementation: Evidence indicates that implementation has begun but is largely inconsistent.
- 4. Full Implementation: Strong evidence of implementation of all or most of the traits and practices.
- 5. Sustainability: Strong evidence of implementation with processes in place for continued implementation in the future.

NEXT STEPS: GOAL SETTING AND ACTION PLANNING

After conducting this self-assessment, select a few key principles to focus on for the upcoming school year. Using the MSMI Action Plan Template (https://greatmiddleschools.org/resources/action-plan-templates/), develop measurable goals with specific action steps and deadlines for each chosen principle.

Self-Assessment: Reading Throughout the Content Areas
Applicable Content Areas: ELA, science, social studies; math (predominantly vocabulary instruction)

Date:	ate: School District							
Participating tec	am members:							
Sources of D	ATA:							
STATE/DISTRICT	Curriculum							
Teacher Editi	ions of ELA, math, science, and social studies	curricula						
Scope and s	sequence of ELA, math, science, and social st	udies curricula						
State standa	ards for ELA, math, science, and social studies							
SCHOOL/TEACH	HER INSTRUCTIONAL DELIVERY							
Range of les	sson plans for ELA, math, science, and social s	studies classes						
☐ Walk-through	h or classroom observations for ELA, math, sci	ence, and social studies classes						
□ Notes from a	department team meetings or grade level team	n meetings						
List of profes	sional development sessions provided or atter	nded over the past year						
☐ Description of	of intervention groups/intervention classes, inc	cluding schedule and curriculum						
STUDENT DEMO	GRAPHIC AND PERFORMANCE DATA							
Demographi	ics, including number of English learners and s	students in special education						
Course pass	sing rates for ELA, math, science, and social st	rudies						
Scores from	state assessments and end-of-course assessme	ents						
Scores from	standardized achievement tests							
Scores from	interim assessments and/or curriculum-based	assessments						
List of studen	nts receiving intervention and their progress wi	thin those interventions						

Principle 1: Establish school wide practices for enhancing reading for understanding within all content area instruction.

Consistently	Inconsistently	Not at All	Practice 1: Identify key words for learning, teach at least two words per class every day, and review one word from previous instruction.
			a) Teachers select words in a unit that are high priority and high utility, and these words are taught explicitly throughout the course of the unit.
			b) Every day, teachers teach at least two words related to the lesson topic and review one word from previous instruction.
			c) Teachers use vocabulary maps to teach key words. Maps include the key word, a picture of the word, a student-friendly definition, and an example of how the word can be used.
			d) Teachers demonstrate the relationships between words using a concept map.
			e) Teachers provide multiple exposures to words through various tasks, including writing and discussion.
			f) Teachers provide additional support to English learners who need help mastering academic vocabulary (e.g., compare, analyze).
Consistently	Inconsistently	Not at All	Practice 2: Instruct students to ask and answer questions while they read to monitor comprehension and learning.
			a) Teachers think aloud and model asking and answering questions while reading to demonstrate the strategy to students.
			b) Teachers have students ask and answer questions while reading to monitor their comprehension.

Principle 1: Establish school wide practices for enhancing reading for understanding within all content area instruction.

Consistently	Inconsistently	Not at All	Practice 3: Teach students to comprehend the relationships among ideas using graphic organizers.
			a) Teachers select graphic organizers that match the structure of the information students need to learn.
			b) Teachers show students how to select or design appropriate graphic organizers.
			c) Teachers explain the format of each new graphic organizer and model how to complete it, using information and vocabulary from the text.
			d) Students practice using graphic organizers and receive feedback before using them independently.
Insert Total	Insert Total	Insert Total	Current Level of Implementation
		<u></u>	Level 1: No Implementation
			Level 2: Exploration
			Level 3: Initial Implementation
			Level 4: Full Implementation
			Level 5: Sustainability

Principle 2: To	Principle 2: Teach word-meaning strategies within content area classes.			
Consistently	Inconsistently	Not at All	Practice 1: Provide explicit instruction for important words.	
			a) Teachers identify key academic or concept words students need to learn to master key ideas and concepts.	
			b) Teachers introduce these key vocabulary words within the context of what the students are learning along with a picture, video, or demonstration to make the words vivid.	
			c) Teachers discuss with students what a key word means and what it does not mean.	
			d) Teachers explore with students the different meanings of words in multiple contexts. This is especially important to improve word learning for English language learners.	
			e) Teachers reference key academic vocabulary throughout the lesson and over time during the instructional unit.	
			f) Students use key academic vocabulary appropriately in their speaking and writing.	
Consistently	Inconsistently	Not at All	Practice 2: Provide instruction in word-learning strategies.	
			a) Teachers instruct students in the component morphemes (prefixes, roots, and suffixes) common for the content area and how they contribute to the meaning of words.	
			b) Teachers guide students to use morphemes to infer the meaning of untaught vocabulary in subject-matter text.	
			c) Teachers provide students opportunities to apply learned morphemes to words used in different content areas.	
			d) Students use morphemes to independently determine the meaning of unfamiliar words.	
			e) Teachers instruct students in strategies such as mnemonic word association and picture association to remember the meaning of new words.	
			f) Students apply mnemonic or picture association strategies to independently recall the meaning of new words.	

Principle 2: To	Principle 2: Teach word-meaning strategies within content area classes.			
Insert Total	Insert Total	Insert Total	Current Level of Implementation	
			Level 1: No Implementation	
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Principle 3: A	Principle 3: Activate and build appropriate background knowledge for understanding text content.			
Consistently	Inconsistently	Not at All	Practice 1: Instruct students to use text to support answers.	
			a) Teachers activate and/or build appropriate background knowledge prior to having students read a text.	
			b) Teachers provide students with an anticipatory statement based on key concepts to consider prior to reading to stimulate their thinking and make them aware of their prereading understanding and beliefs.	
			c) Teachers instruct students to consider whether they can locate text-based support for their positions and elaborate on why statements they select could or could not be supported.	
			d) Students read and locate additional or novel text evidence to support their opinion or to answer a question.	
			e) Students focus their attention on key concepts while reading and ignore interesting, but insignificant, details.	
Insert Total	Insert Total	Insert Total	Current Level of Implementation	
			Level 1: No Implementation	
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			Level 4: Full Implementation	
			Level 5: Sustainability	

Principle 4: T	Principle 4: Teach students to use reading comprehension strategies while reading complex text.			
Consistently	Inconsistently	Not at All	Practice 1: Instruct students to generate questions while reading to build comprehension.	
			a) Students generate questions at regular intervals while reading to think about what is being communicated and how it relates across paragraphs.	
			b) During reading students generate level 1 questions, which can be answered in one word or one sentence. Answers to these questions can be found word-for-word in the text.	
			c) During reading students generate level 2 questions, which can be answered by looking in more than one place in the text and putting information together. Answers to these questions require one or more sentences.	
			d) During reading students generate level 3 questions, which can be answered by connecting information in the text to something the reader has experienced or learned previously. This can include connections across two or more texts.	
Consistently	Inconsistently	Not at All	Practice 2: Instruct students to generate main ideas at regular intervals in a text.	
			a) Students generate main idea statements at regular intervals in a text (e.g., for single or multiple paragraphs) by following three steps.	
			b) Students identify the key "who" or "what" that is the focus of the paragraph or section.	
			c) Students determine the most important information about what the key person, place, or thing has, is, or does that is related to the main idea.	
			d) Students succinctly state the "who" or "what" and the most important information about the "who" or "what" in a sentence as the main idea.	

Principle 4: To	Principle 4: Teach students to use reading comprehension strategies while reading complex text.			
Insert Total	Insert Total	Insert Total	Current Level of Implementation	
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			Level 3: Initial Implementation	
			Level 4: Full Implementation	
			Level 5: Sustainability	

Principle 5: P	Principle 5: Provide intensive reading interventions to students with reading problems.			
Consistently	Inconsistently	Not at All	Practice 1: Identify students who are two or more grade levels behind in reading and provide daily reading intervention.	
			a) The school uses a diagnostic reading assessment to identify students in need of intervention and the source(s) of a student's reading difficulty.	
			b) The school has an intervention system in place for trained professionals to provide identified students with approximately 50 minutes per day of supplemental instruction focused on the students' instructional needs.	
			c) Trained professionals implement research- and evidence-based interventions specific to the area of need, based on the diagnostic assessment.	
Insert Total	Insert Total	Insert Total	Current Level of Implementation	
			Level 1: No Implementation	
			Level 2: Exploration	
			Level 3: Initial Implementation	
			Level 4: Full Implementation	
			Level 5: Sustainability	

Principle 6: Guide students during text-related oral & written activities that support the interpretation, analysis, and summarization of text.

Consistently	Inconsistently	Not at All	Practice 1: Foster discussion among small groups of students.
			a) Teachers encourage reading for understanding by providing students with opportunities to return to the text multiple times to explore, discuss, and revise their understanding.
			b) Teachers foster discussion among small groups of students to activate relevant background knowledge, set a purpose for reading, and relate new information to what was discussed by the group.
			c) Students participate in small-group reading activities that activate their background knowledge, set a purpose for reading, and relate new information to what was discussed as a group (e.g., reciprocal teaching – see Field Guide for more details).
Consistently	Inconsistently	Not at All	Practice 2: Instruct students in how to summarize text.
			a) Teachers model the following steps for summarizing text:
			1. List all the main ideas
			Underline the most important term or phrase in the main idea (cross out any less significant information)
			3. Combine related terms or phrases into sentences
			4. Number the sentences in an order that makes sense
			5. Write a complete paragraph containing these ordered sentences
			6. Revise and edit the paragraph to finalize the summary
			b) Teachers model the steps for summarizing text multiple times with different types of text until students are ready to summarize in collaborative groups or independently.
			c) Teachers provide students with opportunities to work collaboratively on summaries of expository text (e.g., reciprocal teaching).
			d) Students follow the steps to summarize text in collaborative groups.
			e) Students follow the steps to summarize text independently.

Principle 6: Guide students during text-related oral & written activities that support the interpretation, analysis, and summarization of text.

Consistently	Inconsistently	Not at All	Practice 3: Enhance text understanding through teacher-guided conversations.
			a) Teachers have students actively engage with text and stimulate students to think about the text from the perspective of others.
			b) Teachers provide opportunities for students to answer questions in a lively teacher-led discussion.
			c) Teachers provide students with several distinct goals for reading and several probing questions that facilitate students' success in reaching these goals.
			d) Teachers select an engaging text that is either narrative or expository.
			e) Teachers ensure students have adequate background knowledge to understand the text.
			f) Teachers identify key ideas and concepts prior to reading to support understanding and deep thinking about text.
			g) Teachers instruct students to grapple with ideas while reading and evaluate how well an author communicated particular ideas.
			h) Teachers instruct students to watch for bias or lack of representation of alternate views in text.
			i) Students share what they are reading through discussion focusing on understanding the text—not on the discussion per se.
			j) Teachers direct discussion through questions such as "What is the author trying to tell us?" and "Why do you think the author is saying that?"
			k) Teachers guide students in learning that the text is a relevant but inadequate source of all information.

Principle 6: Guide students during text-related oral & written activities that support the interpretation, analysis, and summarization of text. Insert Total Insert Total Insert Total Current Level of Implementation Level 1: No Implementation Level 2: Exploration Level 3: Initial Implementation Level 4: Full Implementation Level 5: Sustainability

Principle 7: N	Principle 7: Maximize opportunities for students to read and connect a range of texts.			
Consistently	Inconsistently	Not at All	Practice 1: Provide an advanced organizer of all of the key ideas and key words to better prepare students to read text.	
			a) Teachers provide students with an advanced organizer of the key idea and key words related to what they will read.	
			b) Teachers present (e.g., orally, on the board, through a handout) and discuss key words and proper nouns prior to reading, so that students understand the terms and are more likely to comprehend what they read.	
			c) Students use the advanced organizer to understand vocabulary, reduce distractions by insignificant details, correct misconceptions, and focus on comprehending what they read.	
Consistently	Inconsistently	Not at All	Practice 2: Read for a specified amount of time (e.g., 3 minutes) and then provide a prompt for student response.	
			a) Teachers provide daily opportunities for students to read and respond to text (multiple intervals of 3–4 minutes of reading and 1–2 minutes of responding).	
			b) Students read and respond to text in writing using either predetermined prompts or a learning log or respond orally by talking with a partner for approximately 1 minute.	
Consistently	Inconsistently	Not at All	Practice 3: Have students participate in partner reading.	
			a) Teachers create reading partners by pairing a stronger reader and a slightly weaker reader.	
			b) Teachers provide opportunities for students to take turns reading to a partner the same passage.	
			c) Students read in partners, with the stronger reader going first and then the weaker reader.	
			d) Students write about the main idea, answer a question, or summarize text after partner reading to aid comprehension.	

Principle 7: Maximize opportunities for students to read and connect a range of texts.					
Insert Total	Insert Total	Insert Total	Current Level of Implementation		
			Level 1: No Implementation		
			Level 2: Exploration		
			Level 3: Initial Implementation		
			Level 4: Full Implementation		
			Level 5: Sustainability		

Principle 8: Organize students into collaborative groups for reading tasks.					
Consistently	Inconsistently	Not at All	Practice 1: Implement collaborative groups with strategic reading practices to improve student outcomes.		
			a) At least twice per week, teachers provide structured opportunities for students to collaborate with peers on Collaborative Strategic Reading (CSR) strategies: preview text, click when a word is understood, clunk when a word is difficult to understand, get the gist of the text, generate and answer questions, and summarize the text.		
			b) Teachers assign students to CSR roles (i.e., leader, clunk expert, gist expert, question expert) and rotate students' roles regularly.		
			c) Teachers circulate, listen to student participation, read student-learning logs, and provide clear and specific feedback for improvement and application of strategies during collaborative group activities.		
			d) Students collaborate with peers to preview text, identify clicks and clunks, get the gist, and summarize text.		
			e) Students assume different roles (i.e., leader, clunk expert, gist expert, question expert) in collaborating with peers on comprehending text.		
			f) Students complete a learning log as a record of the key information for each of the reading strategies (brainstorm, clunks, gist, question, predict, review) during Collaborative Strategic Reading.		
Consistently	Inconsistently	Not at All	Practice 2: Implement team-based learning to clarify, apply, and extend understanding of text and content.		
			a) Teachers form heterogeneous groups (teams) of 4-5 students to engage in a deeper examination of text.		
			b) Teams meet at least once every 10 days.		
			c) Before TBL, teachers introduce key vocabulary words and activate students' background knowledge.		
			d) During TBL, teachers pose a complex question designed to guide students' content learning from text and lead a discussion about the complex question.		

Principle 8: Organize students into collaborative groups for reading tasks.					
Consistently	Inconsistently	Not at All	Practice 2: Implement team-based learning to clarify, apply, and extend understanding of text and content.		
			e) During TBL, students read text collaboratively.		
			f) While students read, teachers monitor teams and check students' understanding.		
			g) After reading, teachers introduce a TBL Knowledge Application activity designed to consider different perspectives, solve problems, or present conclusions.		
			h) During TBL Knowledge Application, students work collaboratively on the assigned task, referring to the text and gathering textual evidence to support their answers, decisions, and conclusions.		
			i) At the end of TBL Knowledge Application, student teams prepare simple presentations to share their answers, decisions, and conclusions.		
			j) To close TBL Knowledge Application, teachers lead discussion of the complex question a final time.		
Insert Total	Insert Total	Insert Total	Current Level of Implementation		
			Level 1: No Implementation		
			Level 2: Exploration		
			Level 3: Initial Implementation		
			Level 4: Full Implementation		
			☐ Level 5: Sustainability		

Principle 9: Discontinue using practices that are NOT associated with improved outcomes for students.				
Consistently	Inconsistently	Not at All	Practice 1: Take stock of all of the instructional practices and models that teachers are currently implementing and determine whether they are necessary and associated with improved outcomes for students.	
			a) Schools have a system for monitoring the effectiveness of all teachers' reading instructional practices.	
			b) School leaders and teachers review student outcome data to determine effectiveness of reading instructional practices.	
			c) Practices that do not improve student outcomes are discontinued and replaced with research- and evidence-based instructional practices.	
Insert Total	Insert Total	Insert Total	Current Level of Implementation	
			Level 1: No Implementation	
			Level 2: Exploration	
			Level 3: Initial Implementation	
			Level 4: Full Implementation	
			Level 5: Sustainability	