First Grade and Second Grade Title I Reading Program

Jessica Lapinski is our Title I reading specialists that is paid with Title I funds. She spends the morning in our first-grade Title I reading program and the afternoon in our second-grade Title I reading program. We have 18 first-grade students that receive Title I reading services and 18 second-grade students that receive Title I reading services. The reading specialist provides intense decoding instruction for these 36 students every day and works with six students at a time. Jessica was trained at the Allegheny Intermediate Unit’s Reading Achievement Center. Some additional first-grade and second-grade children receive the same intense decoding instruction as these students but are taught by one of our other reading specialists. This reading specialist was previously paid with Title funds but is now paid with District funds since our Title I money was cut. The remaining first-grade and second-grade children receive their decoding instruction from their classroom teacher.

Screening

All first-grade and second-grade students are screened using the Reading Achievement Center’s screening tool which includes pseudo words for decoding, sight words, and a fluency check (second grade).

Assessments

Students are given the same assessments as the other first-grade and second-grade students. The grade level team has revised the assessments from the Houghton Mifflin Journeys series to meet our needs. The first-grade and second-grade teachers have also created progress monitoring assessments to periodically check on the progress of the students. These assessments include pseudo words, decodable words, sight words, and fluency checks.

Curriculum

We use the Houghton Mifflin Journeys series as a resource as well as Accelerated Reader, Reading A-Z, and other online sources. Our teachers provide a wide variety of reading text to meet the individual needs of our students. Our teachers also implement research-based strategies as well.