

# Evaluation of Remediation Plus in the Marinette (WI) School District

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# What is Remediation Plus (R+)?

**Remediation Plus (R+), a “Response to Intervention” program, targets early elementary-level students who are struggling with reading, spelling and/or writing.**

# What is Remediation Plus (R+)?

- Provides a multisensory, systematic *phonics curriculum*
- It will be taught in 30 minute pull out blocks to 1 to 3 students by teachers trained in the program.
- The teachers will deliver 48 lesson plans reviewed in 2 days per week, approximately 50 hours of intervention.

Instruction includes:

- teaching parts of speech in a sentence
- reviewing all word types, nouns, verbs, adjectives, pronouns, etc.
- teaching students retelling of the story
- teaching students to create their own stories with proper writing instruction

# Research Questions

- Does student reading achievement improve for students receiving the R+ program compared to student not receiving the program?
- To what degree do teachers implement the program with high fidelity?
- What are teachers' attitudes toward R+ with regard to implementation and effectiveness?



# Study Design

- A Randomized Controlled Trial (the “Gold Standard”)
- Grades 1, 2, and 3 were the focus
- Intervention-eligible students at two schools (n = 90) were randomly assigned to receive R+ or the existing (“comparison”) intervention.
- Intervention-eligible students at a third school also received the existing intervention.



# Study Design

## Comparison Programs:

- Guided Reading Plus
- Reading Recovery
- Leveled Literacy Intervention



# Procedures

- Students pretested on reading aptitude/skill (20 minutes)
- Students posttested on reading skills (35 minutes)
- Teachers interviewed on experiences, satisfaction, recommendations
- Sessions observed informally to see the interventions in action

# Pretest Measures

- *Peabody Picture Vocabulary Test (PPVT-III)*: A measure of children's receptive vocabulary
- *Woodcock-Johnson III (WJ-III)* Letter-Word Identification subtest



# Posttest Measures

- *PPVT, W-J III Letter-Word ID and Word Attack, GORT-4 (Grade 1)*
- *W-J III Letter-Word ID and Word Attack, GORT-4 (Grade 2)*
- *W-J III Word Attack, GORT-4 (Grade 3)*

# Findings

- *Student achievement:*
  - Inconclusive (no significant differences)
  
- *Implementation:*
  - Strong for the first year, although one of the three teachers was reportedly less skilled

# Findings

- *Teacher Satisfaction with R+*: Extremely favorable:
- - Beneficial for children, especially those most at-risk
  - Liked phonics emphasis, structured lessons, engaging materials
  - Would be valuable by itself or in combination with other supports
  - Professional development was effective

# Findings

## Exemplary Quotes:

- *“I am sold on it [Remediation Plus]”*
- *Remediation Plus is a product that is going to be beneficial for students struggling with phonemic awareness*
- *It [Remediation Plus] works, it really works, with my third graders that really struggle, I see that they’re getting it and they will learn how to read.*

# Conclusions and Caveats

- The study was small in scope and of short duration.
- R+ students received 8 weeks less support than comparison students
- The comparison programs were research-based and generally well liked by teachers
- A longer-term study (at least 2 years) would be more conclusive

# TESTIMONIAL

**R+**  
Remediation  
Plus Systems

# RAPID READING INTERVENTION for your RTI model

“Remediation Plus has been a godsend for my intervention students as they strive toward reaching their reading goals. **All students have improved and some as much as 5 reading levels after just the first 25 lessons.** R+ has not only delivered the much needed phonological foundation but has improved student fluency and comprehension in an explicit systematic approach where students are actively engaged. As a reading teacher/interventionist for 30+ years I have tried many well known programs. I can attest that my students have surpassed their reading goals using the R+ system and it is my program of choice.”

~ Janis Olsen  
*Literacy Specialist, Marinette School District*



[www.remediationplus.com](http://www.remediationplus.com)