



## FAQ

**Question:** What is *Fusion Reading*?

**Answer:** *Fusion Reading (FR)* is a comprehensive, research-based reading intervention program for grades 6-12. The flexible, multi-year program provides struggling adolescent students the skills they need to become fluent, competent, and confident readers. Students learn to read award-winning books that are relevant to their lives and the problems they face, and provide skill-building practice of the concepts they are learning in the classroom.

**Question:** Is *Fusion Reading* Aligned to Common Core State Standards?

**Answer:** *Fusion Reading* is a reading intervention program designed to teach students the basic skills and strategies necessary so that they can return to grade-level, common core classwork. An overview of how *Fusion Reading* is correlated to the CCSS for Language Arts and Literacy is available along with correlations for grades 6 to 12.

**Question:** How are the novels used in *Fusion Reading* and can other novels be substituted?

**Answer:** The *Fusion Reading* program uses a selection of novels from the Bluford Series as well as other high-interest novels chosen for their content. The efficacy of the program is based on using these selected novels. In some cases, the novels *Freak the Mighty* and *Rebounding* have been substituted for *Coach Carter*.

**Question:** Is this program research-based? Are there efficacy studies that can be shared?

**Answer:** This program is based on over 30 years of research through the University of Kansas Center for Research on Learning (KUCRL), a well-known reading research university. The individual strategies comprised in *Fusion Reading* focus on teaching students to comprehend written text by (a) paraphrasing, (b) summarizing, (c) clarifying, (d) predicting, (e) recognizing complex words, (f) increasing reading fluency, and (g) learning new vocabulary. The research base on the efficacy of these strategies is considerable with more than 20 research studies completed (e.g., see Schumaker & Deshler, 1992; Schumaker & Deshler, 2006 for reviews). An efficacy report is available upon request.

**Question:** Which parts of the program are consumable?

**Answer:** The three student texts are consumable.

**Question:** Are there decoding skills built into the program?

**Answer:** Yes, the Bridging Strategy includes extensive decoding work for students in need of word level intervention.

**Question:** How many teachers would be needed to drive effective program outcomes?

**Answer:** An effective program can have one teacher. The ratio of students to teachers that is returning the best results is 12-15 students per teacher per instructional period. In essence, one teacher can effectively teach about 60-75 students if they have 60 minute periods and teach 4-5 *Fusion Reading* classes per day.

**Question:** Have the results shown increased attendance rates for students using *Fusion Reading*?

**Answer:** Greater student satisfaction with reading instruction has been identified by program participants. Teachers who have been using the program report attendance is good and less “chronic absenteeism.”

**Question:** What Professional Development options are available for *Fusion Reading*?

**Answer:** Professional Development is highly recommended for this program to make sure that the skills and strategies are implemented with fidelity. With the purchase of the *Fusion Reading* Teacher Materials, teachers receive an online Professional Development module (Establish the Course) that will introduce the program and get them started. Additionally, 10 online Professional Development modules are available with a 2-year or 6-year subscription for purchase. Onsite Professional Development and Implementation packages are available for purchase.

**Question:** What is contained in the classroom library? Are these required for the program?

**Answer:** The classroom library contains 69 books including the Jamestown Critical Reading Program (*Outer Edge, Wild Side, Critical Reading, Above & Beyond*, plus teacher guides), *Timed Readings Plus* in Literature, Science, Social Studies, and Math. These books are

not required but provide struggling adolescent readers a library of high-interest, non-fiction books to explore. The range of reading levels spans from elementary to high school.

**Question:** **What assessment options are offered with *Fusion Reading*?**

**Answer:** Many districts use Group Reading and Diagnostic Evaluation (GRADE), the Test of Silent Contextualized Word Reading Fluency, or the Terra Nova to indicate students that could benefit from *Fusion Reading*. The assessment system of *Fusion Reading* has been embedded in the overall course, each instructional unit, and daily instruction of skills and strategies. Specific instructional units offer their own pre-test and post-test assessments to provide constant student evaluation. Teachers use the results of the pre-test measures for instructional decisions involving placement of students with learning partners, determination of appropriate level passage practice materials, and to show student growth and mastery of unit material.

**Question:** **Is Fluency assessed within *Fusion Reading*?**

**Answer:** Yes. Beginning in the Bridging Unit, students practice oral reading fluency on a regular basis and progress is monitored there as well.

**Question:** **How are the Bluford Series novels used in *Fusion Reading*? Can the novels be substituted?**

**Answer:** The *Fusion Reading* program uses a selection of novels from the Bluford Series as well as other high-interest novels chosen for their content. The efficacy of the program is based on using these selected novels. *Freak the Mighty* or *Rebounding* may be substituted in place of *Coach Carter*.

**Question:** **What Lexile ranges are represented in The Prediction Strategy, The Summarization Strategy and The Bridging Strategy?**

**Answer:** Prediction: 690L-1190L; Summarization: 680L-1190L; Bridging: 620L-1150L

**Question:** **Are there any Apps available for use with this program?**

**Answer:** Yes. The Vocabulary Process App is available in the iTunes store.