

The *SLANT* System[®] for Structured Language Training

The *SLANT* System[®] is a structured literacy professional development program based on scientific research in the field of reading instruction. The program is supported by systematic and explicit teaching materials that incorporate multisensory instructional techniques and emphasize the structure of the English language. Training in The *SLANT* System[®] provides teachers with a knowledge base of English language structure that can be applied to the teaching of reading at all grades and levels. Using *SLANT*[®] alongside an elementary general education reading program, knowledgeable *SLANT*[®] teachers can provide more explicit instruction in decoding, word attack and spelling than is generally provided in many literature-based reading programs. *SLANT*[®] materials can be used to supplement general education instruction providing extended opportunities to understand and practice important decoding, word attack and spelling strategies. At a middle school level, the teacher's knowledge about syllable division, morphology and spelling rules can again supplement instruction in typical reading and language arts classes, allowing more students to access the general curriculum.

For students needing Tiers 2 & 3 instructional support, *SLANT*[®] instruction and materials provide effective intervention. Students identified as needing instruction in decoding and word attack (vs. comprehension) strategies are appropriate for instruction using *SLANT*[®] methodology and materials. During the training year, teachers learn how to adapt the program to the individual needs of their students, and how to integrate students back into the general education curriculum when they are ready. *SLANT*[®] materials are not leveled by readability, instead they are written to be 100% decodable based on the teaching sequence. For this reason they can be used at any grade level.

Progress monitoring of students using *SLANT*[®] can be accomplished in several ways, depending on a student's level of intervention support and school preference. Teachers can use standardized curriculum based measures such as DIBELS or AIMSweb, or they can progress monitor within the program using *SLANT*[®] materials. During the training year, teachers learn how to use student data to keep track of progress, as well as using the *SLANT*[®] Phonics Survey to monitor growth within the program.