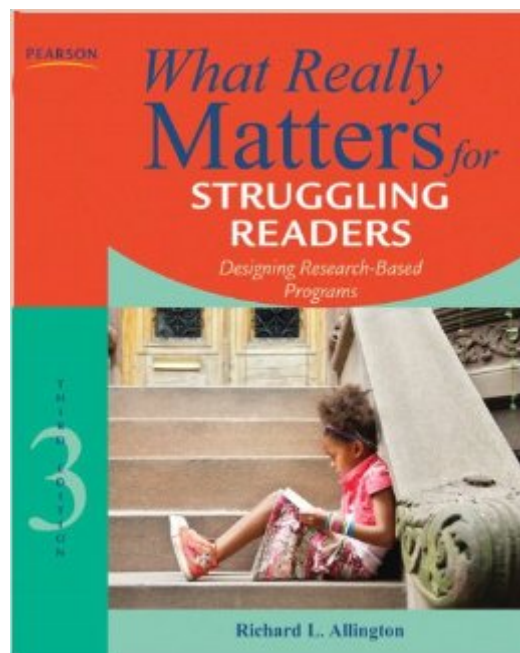


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# What Really Matters For Struggling Readers: Designing Research-Based Programs (3rd Edition) (What Really Matters Series)



## Synopsis

A part of the What Really Matters series, the Third Edition of What Really Matters for Struggling Readers examines the increasing amount of research demonstrating that we can teach every child to read. Using non-technical summaries, nationally recognized scholar and author Dick Allington delivers a concise and balanced introduction to reading remediation and intervention programs; showing teachers how to use a variety of best practices with children who are struggling readers in order to transform them into proficient readers. This new edition includes new findings on reading achievement and instruction, reading volume as it relates to reading proficiency, reader-text match, fluency development, comprehension strategies and instruction for struggling readers. Its emphasis is on explaining what the research says, why it works and how to use this information to provide intensive, expert reading instruction for all children. The continued focus on helping teachers design reading remediation and intervention programs around well-established reality and research-based components is framed within the confines of the No Child Left Behind Act. Written by authors you know and trust, each of the books in the What Really Matters series offers a succinct presentation of what matters most when teaching different aspects of the reading process. With a thought-provoking, rich presentation, Dick Allington explores complex issues teachers of reading face in today's classrooms and brings each of the topics to life. These brief and inexpensive books are written in a lively narrative with clear organization, exceptional pedagogy, and special features. Their friendly design and compact size make the books accessible, convenient, and easy-to read.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This is a MUST READ for all reading teachers, administrators and teachers. Dick is not an "ivory tower" researcher, but one who is out in classrooms observing and talking with kids and teachers. This book is a simple guide to make EVERY school reading program successful - IF teachers will follow the advice offered. Kids learn to read by reading, so let them read. The book itself is an easy read. My copy is highlighted in 3 colors and looks like a rainbow with the wealth of information it offers. Go DO IT!

I bought the book in search of ways to help my 6 year old overcome apparent reading difficulties. This book is so well grounded on scientific findings rather than hearsays. Yet it also provides guidelines for tutoring struggling readers and pointers to various resources. After reading this book, I realized that my child had the typical word-by-word problem described in the book, most likely due to interrupting corrections to his pronunciation. This book taught me how essential it is to use books of the right level and the right way to tutor a struggling reader. I put what I learned into practice during a recent vocation and saw great improvement even just after one week. Now my son no longer feels frustrated when asked to read, rather he starts to enjoy reading. I really wish that my son's teacher had read this book, but I am glad I found it. This book really makes me in awe of the power of knowledge gained through serious scientific research. I recommend it wholeheartedly to parents and teachers alike.

Richard Allington has done a masterful job of combining research in an easy to read and an understandable format. Not only WHAT he has to say is important, but (unlike other researchers that write so technically they're hard to read)HOW he says it is so down to earth and easy to read and understand. What he has to say in this book is so important for every teacher to read and implement in their classroom. I am a literacy consultant for our district, and most of the other consultants all own and love this book. This would be a great book for staff development, study groups, or any teacher that would like to improve their teaching.

How beneficial you will find this book depends on your background. If you are a parent, teacher, or college student trying to learn about basic research on reading, then this book is for you. This book

gave me a nice review, but if you are familiar with the original research, you may want to skip this as something you already know. Allington presents education and cognitive psychology research in a way that is informative and makes it easy for anyone to understand. Due to my background in cognitive psychology, I've read a lot of the original research on which this book is based. I think Allington gives a good overview of other people's research, while still giving his own take on the information. He does not discredit research, but makes you aware of the limitations of some experimental designs. Reading research is a relatively new field, most of which has occurred in the last fifteen to twenty years. Some results may seem obvious now, but may not have been a decade ago. Also, even if you think something is true, you always have to test it using a good experimental design. Allington's summaries allow you to decide for yourself if you accept the experimental conclusions. I also think Allington did a good job of making practical suggestions that incorporates the research, so you can use it in the classroom or at least make informed decisions. That is probably most people's purpose for reading this book-practical applications. I like that there is more and more of a collaboration between teachers and researchers. This book is a good stepping stone to that end. I hope Allington continues to upgrade this book and write more like it.

This book has changed my classroom. Books are everywhere. Talk about books is ongoing and vital. I had no idea how little time my students spent in reading until I read this book. Now my kids are reading a lot more and enjoying it more too. My instruction is literature focused and students are reading for homework every night. I get buy in from parents and kids and results on assessments because I use what really matters. The research is there, all we have to do is use it and everything changes.

This book has helped me so much with the struggling readers in my 2nd grade classroom. It is user-friendly, and based on real-life teaching situations. Ideas for comprehension have improved my students understanding of the story by leaps and bounds. My classroom library is now organized and leveled, and much easier for the students to enjoy, and to find books at their levels. It also helped me realize which books needed to be removed for now. Some books look like they're an easy read, but the word usage can be up to 9th grade! This is the best teaching resource I have read in the last year!

This book was one of the required texts for a Master's Level course I took on "Reading Diagnosis". As a middle school Reading Teacher, I employ many of the strategies written about in this textbook.

I also recommend this easy-to-read book to all parents and tutors. It will change the way you approach struggling readers. Most techniques and interventions can be used with any student of any age/grade level. It is a "must read" for all classroom teachers, preservice teachers and Teacher Trainers! Enjoy! :)

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