

**Division for Learning
Disabilities
Invited Presentation
Council for Exceptional
Children
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Louisville, Kentucky
USA**

**RTI: RANDOM THOUGHTS
ON THE O'CONNOR-KLINGNER
PRESENTATION**

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WHO?

- “A healthy person is someone who hasn’t been examined thoroughly enough yet...”

Zigmond, 2007



WHEN?

- After failure to thrive in first intervention?
- After failure to thrive in second intervention?
- After failure to thrive in third intervention?
 - How long are these interventions?
 - Instead of “wait to fail” is it “wait to fail three times?”

Zigmond, 2007



WHAT FOR?

- What does it buy?
- What makes the labeling worthwhile?

Zigmond, 2007

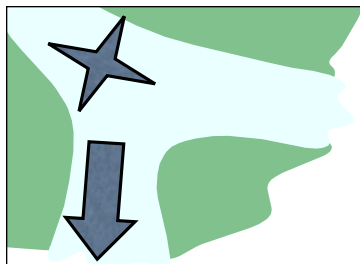


What Does it Mean to get to the end of the RTI Road?



Zigmond, 2007

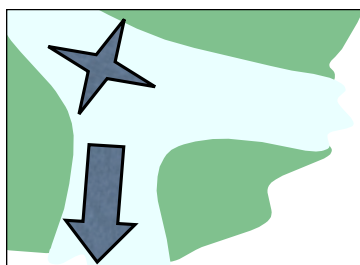




It's not the Teaching, it's the Student.

- This student did not respond to evidence-based instruction and follow-up interventions
 - *"We gave it our best shot"*
 - *Even good instruction is not good enough*
 - *No point in trying to teach THAT anymore*
- Something is *seriously wrong* with the student
 - *Diagnosis him/her as a student with a disability*
 - *Help him/her get through school*

Zigmond, 2007

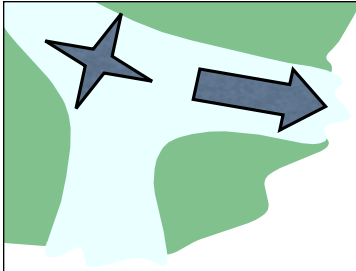


Today's Special Education Will Suffice

- Access to the general education classroom
- Access to the general education curriculum
- Modified accountability standards
 - ⇒ Full inclusion with co-teaching
 - ⇒ The safeguards/protections codified for students with disabilities

Zigmond, 2007

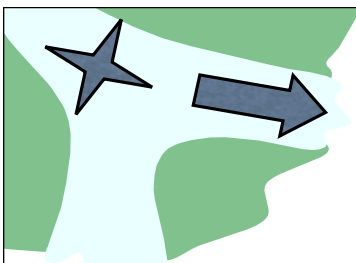




Non-Responsiveness to Good Instruction is an Indicator of a Bigger Problem

- *We haven't given it our "best shot" yet*
 - This student needs **even more instruction** than Rtl interventions provided
- *Student has many more problems than just not being able to learn the specific skills in which Rtl was used*

Zigmond, 2007



For this student:

- General education class with Mom and/or Dad making sure all the homework gets done
 - Is not enough
- General education class with a special education co-teacher there to 'help'
 - Is not enough
- Resource room for homework help and for learning some strategies
 - Is not enough

Zigmond, 2007



Give Students *More* Instruction, Not Less

Consider the documentary called *Stand and Deliver*—

Jaime Escalante taught AP Calculus to students few thought could master such high-level content. He went to extraordinary lengths to help them learn....

Zigmond, 2007



Give Students *More* Instruction, Not Less

One extra period per day
One hour before school
Two hours after school
Saturday mornings
Christmas Break
Spring Break
All summer
FOR TWO YEARS!

Zigmond, 2007



Give Students *More* Instruction, Not Less

SPECIAL EDUCATION HAS NOT TRIED THAT ROUTE, YET...

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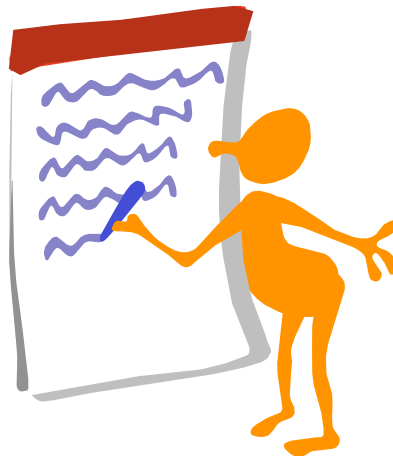


But not only MORE instruction, also *Unique* instruction

(i.e., *not* in the general education curriculum)

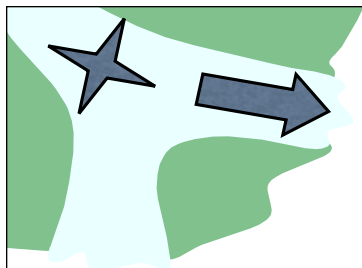
What no one else teaches

- Stuff that was never taught
- Stuff that is no longer taught
- Stuff that is not ordinarily taught



Zigmond, 2007





For Example

- ★ Teacher-pleasing behaviors
- ★ Behavior control
- ★ Learning strategies
- ★ Study skills
- ★ Test-taking skills
- ★ Social skills
- ★ Transition planning
- ★ Self-evaluation
- ★ Self-advocacy
- ★ Self-determination
- ★ How to be goal directed and strategic
- ★ How to work more independently

Etc., etc., etc.

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