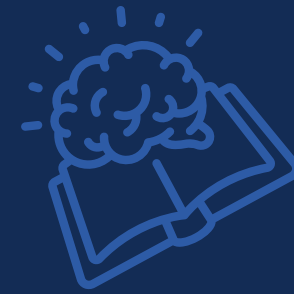




A ReadTheory Story



Instilling A Sense of Responsibility in Special Education Students Through Progress Monitoring



William Barnwell

🎓 Saugus High School

📍 Santa Clarita, CA

👤 User since 2018



The Challenge



When William Barnwell began teaching Special Education English, his students had IEPs requiring weekly progress tracking. He needed insights into their fluency, comprehension, Lexile, and Grade levels to provide appropriate texts.

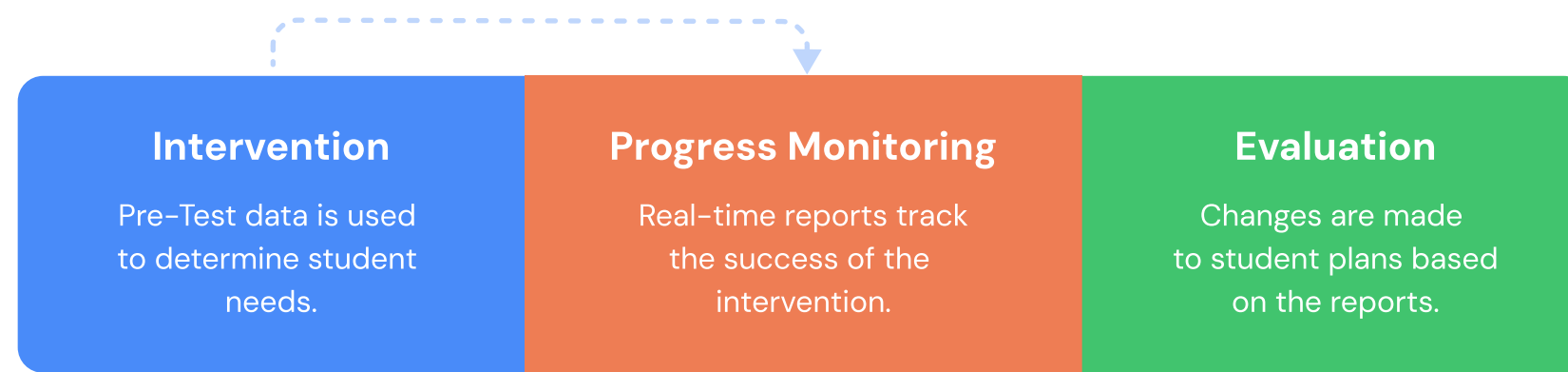
His students viewed reading as a chore, so he sought a way to help them see and get excited about their progress. Parents also wanted at-home work and easy reading materials for their children.

The Solution

After hearing William's concerns, his instructional coach recommended ReadTheory, which she had successfully used in her General Education classes. William found it ideal for progress monitoring and curriculum adjustments to meet student goals. He assigns five lessons weekly, using ReadTheory's engaging passages to break up block scheduling.

His students are motivated by creating ReadTheory booklets to track their levels and progress, fostering responsibility. **William considers ReadTheory one of the best tools available.**

Maximizing Student Data Insights with ReadTheory



With ReadTheory Premium, William generates writing prompts for assessments and shares data insights with his principal, district, and parents, ensuring everyone stays informed. He also reminds parents that students should read at least 20 minutes daily, which is easily achieved with ReadTheory's continuous passage generation. His course policies include ReadTheory expectations, which he shares with parents to encourage at-home reading.

The Impact

With emotionally challenged students, William uses ReadTheory as a flexible tool for making up missed work. He adjusts passages to their reading levels to boost self-esteem and offers them a second on-demand chance to succeed.

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“ReadTheory is more than an assignment. It’s a tool through which special education students are able to see their own growth.”

He integrates ReadTheory data into progress reports and IEP meetings to showcase student improvements, advocating its benefits within his department. As the future Department Chairperson, he plans to measure departmental growth using ReadTheory. One student, once withdrawn, now excels with ReadTheory, while another overcame initial resistance and found pride in her progress tracked in her ReadTheory booklet each week. **William fondly reflects saying, “You could see the smile on her face when she was able to see the progress she was making every week in her ReadTheory booklet.”**