

Evidence-Based Solutions for Improved Teaching and Learning

RTI works to improve learning at scale for all children, regardless of gender, language, socioeconomic status, or physical, cognitive, or other barriers. Our approach to teaching and learning is grounded in rigorous, evidence-based pedagogy, with a focus on creating environments that are safe and conducive to learning. We work closely with education stakeholders and governments to tailor teaching and learning curricula and materials to local contexts, while fostering sustainability and self-reliance at all levels of education systems.

Setting the Standard for Excellence

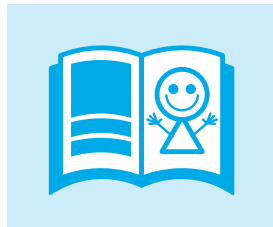
RTI leads the field in researching and documenting best teaching and learning practices in low- and middle-income countries.



What Works in Early Grade Literacy Instruction

More than a decade of experience tailoring teaching and learning approaches and taking them to scale is reflected in this compilation of RTI's best practices, which are grounded in current research and the use of the "5 Ts" (teach, text, time, test, tongue).

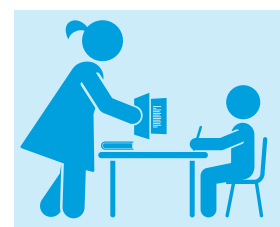
<https://www.rti.org/rti-press-publication/what-we-have-learned-past-decade>



What Works in Early Reading Materials

This paper captures practices RTI has developed and refined to put high-quality, low-cost books in the hands of teachers and students, particularly in contexts with high linguistic diversity and low operational capacity for producing and distributing instructional materials.

<https://www.rti.org/rti-press-publication/early-reading-materials>



Effectiveness of Teachers' Guides in the Global South

This report presents findings from RTI's study on the effectiveness of teachers' guides across 13 countries and 19 projects, examining different use cases and introducing a scripting index to enable comparisons of scripted guides across projects.

<https://www.rti.org/rti-press-publication/effectiveness-teachers-guides-global-south>

Our Expertise | Select Recent Project Experience

Curricula and teaching and learning materials.

RTI partners with local stakeholders to tailor curricula, teaching and learning materials, and assessment systems that are high quality, aligned across grades and content areas, responsive to the realities of local environments, and built upon teachers' knowledge and existing practices. The **USAID Okuu Keremet! Project in the Kyrgyz Republic** is increasing the supply of quality children's books, especially in the minority languages of Tajik and Uzbek. It will either adapt or develop 1,500 of these books, with more than 800 completed to date. In addition to digitizing books for the Ministry of Education and Science to host on its website, **so far Okuu Keremet!** has distributed 275,000 copies of 45 different children's books, with a goal of distributing 700,000 such books by project end. In Jordan, under the **USAID Early Grade Reading and Mathematics Initiative**, RTI introduced routines into mathematics materials that capture developmental progressions, which has contributed to notable gains in student learning.

Teacher professional development. To master new skills, teachers need more than stand-alone trainings; they need systematic, ongoing support. Such support can and should include a combination of expert instructional coaching and in-school mentoring. Through the **USAID Tusome Early Grade Reading Activity**, RTI has supported the government of Kenya to provide regular one-on-one instructional coaching to more than 70,000 teachers of grades 1–3.

Family and community engagement. Like any skill, gaining fluency in reading or mathematics requires practice, in and out of the classroom. By helping teachers to reach out to parents, RTI has helped families support their children's learning. After a social and behavior change communication initiative implemented by the **USAID Read Liberia Activity**, RTI-supported families were more engaged in helping their children learn to read, even when they experienced COVID-19 school disruptions and even a year after direct project support ended.

Social and emotional learning (SEL). SEL plays a central role in a child's academic success, well-being, and successful transition to adulthood, and is an integral component of education programming. RTI fosters SEL by prioritizing the school and classroom environment;

engaging parents and communities in supporting student's social and emotional development; and driving locally led system reforms. **USAID/Tanzania's Tusome Pamoja** activity was featured in USAID's Best Practices on Effective Soft Skills Interventions in Distance Learning for its SEL and school climate work, and the **ABC+: Advancing Basic Education** in the Philippines project prominently features SEL in all of its teaching and learning materials.

Inclusive education. Inclusive education is necessary to ensure the achievement of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, and RTI is committed to meeting the learning needs of all children. For just a few examples, under **USAID's All Children Reading and All Children Learning** projects in Cambodia, RTI used Universal Design for Learning principles to guide all curriculum materials development, screened nearly 6,000 preschool and grade 1 children for vision and hearing loss, and worked through local volunteers to help children learn Cambodian Sign Language. The **USAID Nepal Early Grade Reading Program I and II** projects helped the Government of Nepal to integrate formative assessments into its curriculum and train teachers on using formative assessments to differentiate instruction.

Beyond primary. RTI works to strengthen teaching and learning from birth through higher education. In addition to supporting pre-primary children in countries such as Kenya and Cambodia, RTI's dedication is channeled in the **USAID Uzbekistan Education for Excellence Program**, enhances instruction in computer science in grades 5–11 and English as a foreign language in grades 1–11. The **USAID Transforming the Education System for Teachers and Students in Liberia Activity** directly supports training programs in colleges and universities that generate qualified primary school teachers.

Partner with us

Jenna Bulat
Senior Director, Teaching and Learning
International Education
jbulat@rti.org
+1 919.541.6872

Learn more about our work

RTI International
www.rti.org/idg-education
Follow [@RTI_INTL_DEV](https://twitter.com/RTI_INTL_DEV)

www.rti.org/idg

RTI International is an independent, nonprofit research institute dedicated to improving the human condition. Clients rely on us to answer questions that demand an objective and multidisciplinary approach—one that integrates expertise across the social and laboratory sciences, engineering, and international development. We believe in the promise of science, and we are inspired every day to deliver on that promise for the good of people, communities, and businesses around the world. For more information, visit www.rti.org.

RTI International is a trade name of Research Triangle Institute. RTI and the RTI logo are U.S. registered trademarks of Research Triangle Institute.
RTI 14468 0422