



# **Guided Reading for Struggling Readers**

## **Why Use Guided Reading for Struggling Readers?**

- Small-group instruction provides a safe environment
- Students develop confidence
- Teachers can model strategies
- Judicious text selection enhances success and motivation
- Inclusive approach
- Provides opportunities for focused instruction
- Allows for flexibility of approaches

## **Modifying Guided Reading for Struggling Readers**

- Choose texts that are of high interest and not too long.
- Focus on only one or two teaching strategies per session.
- Shorten the lesson - no more than 20 min.
- Motivate the students and build up their sense of purpose by encouraging their questions and predictions.
- Explore unfamiliar vocabulary and concepts with the students before reading.
- Provide visual supports - write vocabulary, questions, or predictions on a chart.
- Model the use of specific strategies, reading behaviors, and thinking processes.
- Read parts of the text together - reduce the amount the students read alone.
- Chunk the text into smaller “bites” for silent reading.
- Encourage group support and cooperation to build understanding.
- First reading may be shared or parts read aloud by the teacher.