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Exploring Cognitively Accessible Academic Lessons for Students with Intellectual Disabilities Using the iPad

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EXPLORING COGNITIVELY ACCESSIBLE ACADEMIC LESSONS FOR
STUDENTS WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES USING THE IPAD

By

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Bachelor of Science in Special Education
University of Nevada, Las Vegas
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A dissertation submitted in partial fulfillment
of the requirements for the

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ABSTRACT

Exploring Cognitively Accessible Academic Lessons for Students with Intellectual Disabilities Using the iPad

by

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Students with intellectual disabilities often lack access to general education curricula. This is because many teachers struggle with adapting these curricula to meet the unique learning needs of these students. Technology, having the potential to facilitate access to general education curricula, has been successfully used as a tool to adapt curriculum for this population. The use of the iPad (Apple, 2010), which is easily programmed to support the unique needs of students with disabilities, is beginning to be explored as a tool for the learning and instruction of students with intellectual disabilities and results have been favorable. Further research is needed to evaluate the efficacy of using iPad (Apple, 2010) technology as a curricular support and methods for successfully incorporating this technology into instruction must also be explored.

This study focused on providing access to academic content aligned to general education content standards through the use of an iPad (Apple, 2010). Two instructional conditions were compared, traditional teaching involving paper and pencil and teaching involving iPad (Apple, 2010) technology. Data were compared to determine the effects of the intervention on the academic content knowledge, work completion, and engagement of students with intellectual disabilities. Student perceptions concerning the
use of *iPads* (Apple, 2010) as learning tools were collected and evaluated at the conclusion of the study.

The results indicated that although the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) did not have a significant effect on increasing the academic content knowledge or maintenance of knowledge over time, the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) did have a significant effect on the work completion and engagement of students with intellectual disabilities. Moreover, students participating in the study responded favorably about using the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) as a learning tool.
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Dedicated to Papa.

Thank you for all the pep talks. I love you!
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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

Significant limitations in intellectual and adaptive functioning as well as poor conceptual, social, and practical skills, tend to be universal among students identified as having an intellectual disability (ID) (Lukasson et al., 2002; Schalock et al., 2010). Limitations in memory, attention, focus, reasoning, processing, problem solving, generalization, and abstract conceptualization also are common characteristics of this population (Agran & Wehmeyer, 2005; Downing, 2010; Munde, Vlaskamp, Rullssenaars, & Nakken, 2009). These limitations can inhibit: (a) language and communication skills, (b) reading and writing skills, and (c) math skills, ultimately contributing to academic underachievement (Browder, Spooner, Ahlgrim-Delzell, Harri, & Wakeman, 2008; Ratz & Lenhard, 2013; Schuit, Segers, Balkom, & Verhoeven, 2011). However, the literature maintains that students with ID can, and do, learn academic skills with the application of direct and systematic instruction (Agran, Cavin, Wehmeyer, & Palmer, 2006; Bradford, Alberto, Houchins, Shippen, & Flores, 2006; Browder, Wakeman, Spooner, Ahlgrim-Delzell, & Algozzine, 2006; Downing, 2008). Furthermore, research indicates that these students can learn academic tasks through small group instruction (Falkenstine, Collins, Schuster, & Kleinert, 2009; Farmer, Gast, Wolery, & Winterling, 1991). Both points lend support to the belief that instruction for students with ID, including any adaptations or modifications, should be aligned to academic content and occur in typical or natural settings (Agran et al., 2006; Downing, 2010).

Despite research and federal policies (e.g., Individuals with Disabilities Education Act [IDEA, 1997], the reauthorization amendments [IDEA, 2004], the No Child Left
Behind Act [NCLB, 2001]) mandating that students with disabilities have access to
general education curricula and environments, these students continue to receive their
education in segregated and specialized classrooms (Peetsma, Vergeer, Roeleveld, &
Karsten, 2010; Smith, 2007; Williamson, McLeskey, Hoppey, & Rentz, 2006). This
segregation limits the potential for learning interactions with peers without disabilities
(Downing, 2010; Peetsma et al., 2010). Unfortunately, separate learning environments for
this population are not reflective of the general education classroom in which all students
are expected to achieve (Downing, 2010). Moreover, most of these segregated or self-
contained environments maintain lower learning expectations for these students
(Karagiannis, Stainback, & Stainback, 1996).

Current research supports that both functional and academic curricula are central
to educating and meeting the needs of students with ID (Downing, 2010). However,
instruction for these students often lacks a focus on academics (e.g., reading, writing,
math) fundamental to the mandates for general education curricular alignment (Browder
et al., 2008; Browder, Spooner, Wakeman, Trela, & Baker, 2006). This has resulted in an
increased demand for curricular modifications to facilitate greater academic as well as
functional access for students with ID (Spoonier, Dymond, Smith, & Kennedy, 2006;
Wehmeyer, 2006; Wehmeyer, Smith, & Davies, 2005).

**Access to the General Education Curriculum**

While research supports the belief that students with ID are capable of
progressing within general education curricula, barriers to access remain (Soukup,
Wehmeyer, Bashinski, & Bovaird, 2007). Students educated in self-contained settings
continue to lack access to curricula and instruction aligned to current academic content
standards (Soukup et al., 2007; Wehmeyer, Latin, Lapp-Rinker, & Agran, 2003). Typically, this occurs because: (a) educators experience difficulty identifying modifications needed to support diverse learning needs, and (b) school districts have not aligned adapted curricula to current content standards (Spooner et al., 2006). Other factors impeding student access include lack of teacher preparation, low teacher retention in the field, and the deterrent of standardized testing accountability (Spooner et al., 2006; Wehmeyer, 2006). Unfortunately, even under the best learning conditions (e.g., peer supports, curricular modifications, curricula alignment), appropriate application is infrequent and results in a lack of access to general education curricula (Lee, Wehmeyer, Soukup, & Palmer, 2010; Wehmeyer, Lattin, & Agran, 2001; Wehmeyer, Sands, Knowlton, & Kozleski, 2002).

**Curricular Adaptations for Students with Intellectual Disabilities**

Students with ID require individualized supports, curricular modifications, adapted materials, and differentiated instruction to be successful when general education curricula are used (Agran et al., 2006; Downing, 2010; Spooner et al., 2006; Wehmeyer, 2006). The research is replete with evidence-based instructional strategies and modifications that are successful with students with ID. These include teaching learning-to-learn strategies, meta-cognitive skills, task analysis, and self-determination strategies to facilitate active participation and engagement (Agran et al., 2006; Spooner, Knight, Browder, & Smith, 2011; Lee et al., 2006; Lee, Wehmeyer, Palmer, Soukup, & Little, 2008; Shogren, Palmer, Wehmeyer, Williams-Diehm, & Little, 2012). However, research indicates that teachers seldom make curricular adaptations or augmentations in self-contained classrooms and appropriately adapted curricular materials are rarely provided
(Lee et al., 2010). This restricts students with ID to curricula that are: (a) cognitively inaccessible, and (b) not aligned to the general education content standards (Lee, Soukup, Little, & Wehmeyer, 2009; Soukup et al., 2007; Wehmeyer et al., 2003). In order to generate standards-aligned curricula that are cognitively accessible for students with ID, individualized curricular adaptations are required (Wehmeyer et al., 2002). These adaptations modify the presentation and representation of information without altering content (Lee et al., 2010; Wehmeyer, Lance, & Bashinski, 2002; Wehmeyer et al., 2001).

**Theoretical Framework of Universal Design for Learning**

Research concerning the curricular limitations for students with ID focuses on the implementation of Universal Design for Learning (UDL) principles (Doyle & Giangreco, 2009; Lee et al., 2010; Wehmeyer, 2006). These principles support accessibility by providing levels of knowledge acquisition, a variety of options, and alternatives for demonstrating learning (Gordon, Gravel, & Schifter, 2009). Research indicates that UDL can impact motivation and increase student engagement (Dymond et al., 2006). The application of UDL in the creation of curricula for students with ID to eradicate learning barriers is supported in the literature (Wehmeyer, 2006; Wehmeyer et al., 2005). However, UDL, originally designed to support diverse learners in general education, requires further adaptations to meet the needs of students with ID (Edyburn, 2013). These adaptations (e.g., literacy supports, adapted materials, technology) can be implemented to support the learning limitations of these students (Downing, 2010; Wehmeyer, Palmer, Smith, Davies, & Stock, 2008; Wehmeyer et al., 2001).

Technology is a medium for incorporating UDL into the curricular adaptation process (Wehmeyer et al., 2001; Wehmeyer et al., 2008; Wehmeyer, Palmer, Smith,
Parent, Davies, & Stock, 2006). Through technology, various components of UDL (e.g., representation, expression, engagement) may be customized and used as tools to increase access, enhance instruction, and address learner limitations (Dymond et al., 2006; Edyburn, 2013; Wehmeyer et al., 2005).

**Technology and Students with Intellectual Disabilities**

The potential of technology to factor positively into the quality of life for people with ID is well established in the literature (Braddock, Rizzolo, Thompson, & Bell, 2004; Palmer, Wehmeyer, Davies, & Stock, 2012; Tanis et al., 2012). For individuals with ID, technology often serves as a bridge between their abilities and contextual demands (Wehmeyer, Tasse, Davies, & Stock, 2012). Technology also has the power to impact the educational success, socialization, and independent living skills of people with ID, when used appropriately (Palmer et al., 2012; Wehmeyer et al., 2012).

**Efficacy of Technological Use by Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities**

Overall, research confirms technology is an effective learning tool for students with ID (Wehmeyer et al., 2008; Wehmeyer et al., 2012). The use of technology to promote self-determination, literacy, vocation, and community skills has proved effective for this population (Davies, Stock, Holloway, & Wehmeyer, 2010; Mechling & O’Brien, 2010; Stock, Davies, Wehmeyer, & Lachapelle, 2011). Research exploring the use of computers (i.e., desktops, laptops, handhelds), SMARTboards, and cell phones with this population yields positive results (Bramlett, Ayres, Douglas, & Cihak, 2011; Bryen, Carey, Friedman, & Taylor, 2007; Mechling, Gast, & Thompson, 2008; Stock, Davies, Wehmeyer, & Palmer, 2008). Though in its infancy, research examining the learning implications of the iPod Touch (Apple, 2007) for individuals with disabilities has

**Access to and Utilization of Technology**

Even with the research indicating that technology contributes to a better quality of life for individuals with ID, access limitations and underutilization continue to be documented by family members, educators, and researchers, (Palmer et al., 2012; Tanis et al., 2012; Wehmeyer, Smith, Palmer, & Davies, 2004). When surveyed, individuals with ID report access barriers as a hindrance to their technology use (Carey, Friedman, & Bryen, 2005; Tanis et al., 2012). The barriers identified in the literature are cost, availability, training, maintenance, and device complexity (Stock, Davies, Davies, & Wehmeyer, 2006; Wehmeyer, 1999). In addition to extant access barriers (e.g., underutilization, technology abandonment), the belief exists that students with ID cannot or will not become proficient users of sophisticated technology (Alper & Raharinirina, 2006; Carey et al., 2005; Wehmeyer et al., 2012). This prediction often leads to technology not being placed in self-contained classrooms for these students as well as little provision of technology to these students on a school-wide basis (Wehmeyer et al., 2004).

Though usage trends for students with ID remain lower than that of the general population, surges in the use of cell phones, digital cameras, and email by people with ID are occurring (Palmer et al., 2012; Stock et al., 2011; Stock et al., 2008). In a recent survey by Tanis et al. (2012), over two-thirds of respondents with ID indicated that they used email and nearly half reported using cell phones. However, cognitively accessible
design remains an obstacle to the successful utilization of technology by this population (Palmer et al., 2012; Tanis et al., 2012; Wehmeyer et al., 2012).

**Considerations for Cognitively Accessible Technology**

Cognitive accessibility is a major hindrance to technological access and learning because the conceptual skills required to navigate and operate many technologies can be complex and confusing (Wehmeyer et al., 2008; Wehmeyer et al., 2004). Deficits in memory, attention, abstract conceptualization, and generalization along with limitations in problem solving, language, communication, and literacy skills also impact technological usage for these students (Wehmeyer et al., 2005; Wehmeyer et al., 2004).

Students with ID experience difficulty with device navigation (e.g., recalling program menus, features, and operations) and technological operations involving language, communication, or literacy skills (e.g., keyboarding, internet browsing, understanding computer terminology) (Davies, Stock, & Wehmeyer, 2001; Douglas, Ayres, Langone, Bell, & Mead, 2009; Wehmeyer et al., 2004). In addition, problem solving limitations and attention deficits prevent these students from successfully correcting technological errors (e.g., error messages, program failure, device malfunction) before losing interest or becoming distracted by other interface options (Wehmeyer et al. 2005). Other technological problems for students with ID include difficulty conceptualizing mouse-to-screen operations and a limited capacity for meaningful and sustained engagement (Davies et al., 2001; Wehmeyer et al., 2005; Wehmeyer et al., 2004).
Conceptual Framework of Universally Designed Technology

More specific to special education technology, the Universal Design (UD) principles are a framework for accessible technological design and include: (a) access for a variety of users (i.e., equitable use), (b) accommodations for a range of abilities (i.e., flexible use), (c) ease of understanding (i.e., simple and intuitive use), (d) communication of essential information (i.e., perceptible information), (e) provisions for mistakes (i.e., tolerance for error), (f) minimal effort requirements (i.e., low physical effort), and (g) provisions for independent access (i.e., size, space) (Gordon et al., 2009; Wehmeyer et al., 2008; Wehmeyer et al., 2005). Incorporating the UD principles into technological design can support learning limitations and has the potential to remove traditional barriers to general education curricula for students with disabilities (Edyburn, 2013; Gordon et al., 2009). By eliminating these barriers, technology can become a catalyst for increasing access to general education curricula for students with ID (Wehmeyer et al., 2008; Wehmeyer et al., 2006; Wehmeyer et al., 2012). While exploration of the impact of UD technology is limited, the current literature supports research in this area to increase the usage of a wide array of technologies by this population of students (Edyburn, 2013; Tanis et al., 2012).

Specific technological considerations for students with intellectual disabilities. The conceptual framework for UD technology provides a starting point for addressing the technological access needs of students with ID (Edyburn, 2013; Wehmeyer et al., 2012). However, more specific considerations are needed to facilitate cognitive accessibility. Literacy support, consistent operation, and the capacity for individualization all impact cognitive accessibility and must be considered in
technological design (Stock et al., 2006; Stock et al., 2008; Wehmeyer et al., 2006).

Using specific student characteristics in the evaluation and selection of educational and assistive technology may increase the likelihood that the technology will be cognitively accessible and successfully used (Wehmeyer, et al., 2004). Specific to students with ID, considerations for cognitively accessible technology include: (a) simple and consistent operation and navigation, (b) intuitive interfaces, (c) error tolerance, (d) flexible use features and literacy supports, (e) access to information across environments, and (f) the capacity for customization and individualization (Davies et al., 2001; Stock et al., 2006; Stock et al., 2008). These specific considerations correlate to the theoretical and conceptual frameworks of UDL and UD technology (Wehmeyer et al., 2005).

Current research describes the specific technological cognitive accessibility features (e.g., digital materials, picture-based menus, touch screen interfaces) as fundamental requisites to accessible technology for students with ID (Davies et al., 2001; Stock et al., 2006; Stock et al., 2008). With the capacity for customization, digital materials can alter characteristics such as font size, color, or background to meet individual student needs and preferences (Douglas et al., 2009; Dymond et al., 2006). As a strong support for learning and independence, the use of picture-based menus provides essential reinforcement to a user with reading problems and is essential to cognitive accessibility (Davies et al., 2001; Stock et al., 2008). Research also indicates that touch screen interfaces are more intuitive and easily accessed by users with ID (Stock et al., 2011; Stock et al., 2008). With the potential to offer a less complicated technological experience, touch screen interfaces provide the functionality of a mouse without requiring
the conceptualization of abstract spatial concepts (Davies, Stock, & Wehmeyer, 2002; Wehmeyer et al., 2005).

**The iPad as a Cognitively Accessible Tool for Students with Intellectual Disabilities**

Since its release in 2010, the iPad (Apple, 2010) has gained popularity among students, educators, and parents (Mellhuish & Falloon, 2010). In an interesting paradigm shift, school districts are investing heavily in iPad (Apple, 2010) technology, though little research supporting the efficacy of the device has been conducted (Newton & Dell, 2011). This may be due to the social popularity of the device peaking the interest of many teachers, parents, and students with disabilities (Banister, 2010; Cumming & Strnadova, 2012).

Even though the research has provided a plethora of strategies and interventions to increase access for students with ID, many technologies used with this population do not have the capacity to provide cognitive accessibility features to support the learning limitations of this population (Wehmeyer et al., 2008). However, the iPad (Apple, 2010) includes a variety of features that may directly support the learning limitations of students with ID and increase the potential for cognitive accessibility (Cumming & Strnadova, 2012; Palmer et al., 2012). These features include: (a) simple and consistent operation and navigation (e.g., touch screen, single home-button navigation, repetitive device operation through taps and gestures), (b) the capacity to limit or restrict options and prevent error (e.g. guided access, restrictions, iTunes, iCloud backup), (c) literacy supports (e.g., picture-supported icons, voice over, speak selection, audio and video playback, text-to-speech, voice recognition capabilities), and (d) the capacity for
individualization and customization to meet learner needs (e.g., font size, invert colors, home screen customization, assistive touch, downloadable applications).

While research on the efficacy of iDevice technology with students with ID is just beginning, it appears that the iPad (Apple, 2010) has the potential to support a variety of learning limitations and increase access to general education curricula (Cumming, & Strnadova, 2012; Herlihy, 2011; Kagohara et al., 2013; O’Malley et al., 2013). Continued research in this area will provide information concerning the efficacy of this technology and may have implications for classroom application (Kagohara et al., 2013; O’Malley et al., 2013).

Statement of the Problem

Students with ID lack access to both the general education curricula and technology primarily because these learning tools are cognitively inaccessible (Lee et al., 2010; Palmer et al., 2012; Spooner et al., 2006). These students, already at risk for academic underachievement, typically are not provided materials that support learning limitations or align to the general education curricula (Lee et al., 2006; Wehmeyer, 2006). Thus, it is critical to investigate possible instructional interventions to promote both curricular and technological cognitive accessibility.

This study designed and implemented an instructional intervention (i.e., curriculum adaption) for students with ID that aligned to the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) through the use of an iPad (Apple, 2010). The goals of this study were to: (a) introduce students with ID to the general education curricula, and (b) examine the impact of iPad (Apple, 2010) technology on the acquisition of knowledge by this
population. Through a comparison of two instructional groups, specific questions regarding student achievement and engagement were addressed. The specific research questions addressed by this study were:

**Research Question One.** Does the content knowledge of students (i.e., K-2, 3-5, 6-8) with intellectual disabilities increase with the use of the iPad (Apple, 2010) when compared to traditional teaching methods?

**Research Question Two.** Is the content knowledge of students (i.e., K-2, 3-5, 6-8) with intellectual disabilities better maintained with the use of the iPad (Apple, 2010) when compared to traditional teaching methods?

**Research Question Three.** Does the work completion of students (i.e., K-2, 3-5, 6-8) with intellectual disabilities differ with the use of digital worksheets on the iPad (Apple, 2010) when compared to traditional worksheets?

**Research Question Four.** Do teacher perceptions of student engagement differ with the use of the iPad (Apple, 2010) when compared to traditional teaching methods?

**Research Question Five.** For the iPad (Apple, 2010) group, what are the student attitudes and beliefs concerning using the iPad (Apple, 2010) as a learning tool?

**Significance**

Facilitating access to general education curricula for students with ID is both mandated by federal law and supported throughout the research (IDEA, 2004; NLCB, 2001; Soukup et al., 2007). However, an academic instructional focus is rarely observed in self-contained special education classrooms (Browder et al., 2006; Browder et al., 2008). As such, addressing the need and methods for academic instruction for students
with ID is critical, regardless of the environment in which services are delivered (Downing, 2010).

Determining the efficacy of the iPad (Apple, 2010) as a learning tool to teach an adapted curriculum (i.e., aligned to general education curricula) may positively impact academic achievement for students with ID (O’Malley et al., 2013). This study compared the use of an adapted curriculum, aligned to the Common Core State Standards (CCSS), taught through two instructional formats (i.e., iPad, traditional teaching) to determine the most effective method for providing students with ID access to the general education curricula. The findings of this study contribute to the research of effective instructional strategies for students with ID related to the efficacy of cognitively accessible technology (e.g., iPad) and accessing the general education curricula.

**Limitations**

The limitations of this study are:

1. Classrooms were selected through convenience sampling and may not be a true reflection of other classrooms in which students with ID are taught.

2. Instructional interventions were implemented with students with ID in self-contained special education classrooms and cannot be generalized to other disability groups or classroom types (e.g., general education, resource room).

3. The instructional interventions were implemented five days a week for four weeks. A longer intervention period may produce different results.
Summary

While technology has long been recognized as having the potential to enhance the education of students with ID, it is only recently that researchers have begun to explore the implications of iPad (Apple, 2010) technology (Kagohara et al., 2013; Palmer et al., 2012; Wehmeyer et al., 2012). Determining the efficacy of this cognitively accessible technology may result in progress for individuals with ID in the classroom, home, and community (O’Malley et al., 2013; Palmer et al., 2012; Tanis et al., 2012; Wehmeyer et al., 2012). Additionally, students with ID continue to lack access to general education curricula (Soukup et al., 2007). Thus, it is critical to begin teaching these students via instruction aligned to the general education curricula (i.e., Common Core State Standards). Using an appropriately adapted curriculum to teach this population academic content aligned to the CCSS will provide students access to a cognitively accessible version of the general education curricula. Ultimately, the goals of this study are to teach students with ID using general education curricula and increase content knowledge acquisition within those curricula. This will impact the academic achievement of students with ID and may facilitate greater independence for life.

Definition of Terms

The following list is representative of the terms used in this study. It is important to understand the use of these terms to clearly understand their meaning within the context of this study.

Academic instruction. Academic instruction consists of instruction with a focus on reading, writing, and mathematics (Browder et al., 2006).
**Software application (app).** A piece of software designed for a mobile technology device, including the iPad (Apple, 2010), which allows the user to perform specific tasks (e.g., learning, recreation, shopping). An app can be downloaded onto an iPad (Apple, 2010) or other iDevice.

**Cognitive accessibility.** Cognitive accessibility is the degree to which students with ID are able to understand the concepts of the general education curricula or the features of technology (Wehmeyer et al., 2004; Wehmeyer et al., 2005).

**Common Core State Standards (CCSS).** The Common Core State Standards (CCSS) are the nationally adopted set of academic learning standards for student education (i.e., kindergarten through grade 12) and focus on career and college readiness (National Governors Association Center for Best Practice, 2010).

**Curricular adaptation.** Curricular adaptations consist of strategies that modify curricula to better support learning limitations without altering content (Wehmeyer et al., 2002; Wehmeyer et al., 2001).

**Digital worksheet.** A digital worksheet is a digital listing of questions or tasks to be completed by students. Digital worksheets can be completed using an iPad (Apple, 2010).

**Dropbox.** Dropbox (Dropbox Inc, 2013) is an app that allows teachers to securely upload lesson fidelity videos directly from the iPad (Apple, 2010).

**iBooks.** iBooks (Apple, 2013) is an app that allows students to access the Unique Learning System (ULS) digital books on the iPad (Apple, 2010).
Intellectual disability (ID). A student who exhibits significantly below average intellectual functioning including limitations in at least two of the following areas: (a) communication skills, (b) self-care, (c) home living, (d) use of community, (e) social skills, (f) self-direction, (g) health and safety, (h) functional academics, (i) leisure, or (j) work, is present before the age of 18, and adversely affects educational performance (NAC 388.055, 2011).

iPad (Apple, 2010). The iPad (Apple, 2010) is a tablet computer with a touch screen interface. This dynamic display device is compatible with downloadable apps and is equipped with many accessibility features (e.g., touch screen, guided access) (Apple, 2010).

iPad guided access. Guided access is an accessibility feature of the iPad (Apple, 2010) that prevents students from navigating out of an active app, and can be used by an adult to disable access to app settings.

News-2-you (n2y, 2013). News-2-you (n2y, 2013) is an adapted newspaper designed for students with significant cognitive disabilities. The news-2-you (n2y, 2013) newspaper is available via the internet and app.

Notability. Notability (Ginger Labs, 2013) is an app that allows students to complete digital worksheets using the iPad (Apple, 2010).

Paper worksheet. A paper worksheet is a listing of questions or tasks to be completed by students using a pencil or writing apparatus.

Small group, direct instruction. Small group (e.g., 2-5 students), direct instruction consists of teacher-led instruction focused on reinforcement of recently taught information (Downing, 2010).
**Special education teacher.** A special education teacher is a person who holds a degree in teaching students with intellectual disabilities and currently meets the state licensure requirements to teach.

**Unique Learning System (ULS) (n2y, 2013).** The *Unique Learning System (ULS)* (n2y, 2013) is an adapted curriculum designed for students with significant cognitive disabilities. The *ULS* curriculum is aligned to the CCSS (National Governors Association Center for Best Practice, 2010).

**Whole group, direct instruction.** Instruction engaging all students, performed by a teacher (Hall, 2002).
CHAPTER TWO

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Access to general education curricula for students with ID is supported throughout the research (Soukup et al., 2007; Wehmeyer et al., 2003). However, academic instruction (i.e., aligned to general education curricula) is rarely observed in self-contained special education classrooms (Browder et al., 2008; Browder et al., 2006) and accommodations, adaptations, or modifications to the curricula are rarely applied for students with ID (Soukup et al., 2007; Wehmeyer et al., 2003). A variety of observational studies (Dymond & Russell, 2004, Lee et al., 2009; Lee et al., 2010; Soukup et al., 2007; Wehmeyer et al., 2003) have come to similar conclusions, calling for a need to utilize curricular modifications.

Researchers and educators of students with ID are exploring curricular modifications, including augmentation and adaptation, as a tool to increase academic achievement for this population (Agran et al., 2006; Browder et al., 2007). Preliminary findings support the use of teaching self-determination or learning to learn strategies, adapting content and materials, and providing task-analytic instruction to students with ID when they are participating in general education curricula (Courtrade, Browder, Spooner, & DiBiase, 2010; Jimenez, Browder, Spooner, & DiBiase, 2012; Shogren et al., 2011). Another avenue considered for exploration is the role technology can play in adapting materials and instruction to meet the needs of students with ID (Lee et al., 2006).

The literature strongly supports the use of technology as an instructional tool for students with ID (Mechling & Hunnicutt, 2011; Mechling & O’Brien, 2010). Findings
suggest that technology can be used as an effective curricular support and instructional tool (Coleman, Hurley, & Cihak, 2012). Much of this research tends to focus on using technology to enhance or increase the functional academic skills of students with ID (Hansen & Morgan, 2008; Mechling & O’Brien, 2010; Ozkan, Oncul, & Kaya, 2013) with little research examining the impact on grade-aligned instruction for this population (Mechling & Hunnicutt, 2011). Though gaining in popularity, instruction incorporating the use of technology, most specifically iDevice (i.e., iPod, iPad) technology, is not widely available to students with ID.

To date, limited research is available on the use of iDevice (i.e., iPod, iPad) technology for the instruction and learning of children with ID. However, preliminary single-case studies are promising. The iPad (Apple, 2010), equipped with accessibility features, restriction settings, intuitive interfaces, and interactive content, is being used more frequently in the research with students with disabilities. Determining the efficacy of iPad (Apple, 2010) technology as a learning tool may positively impact the academic access and achievement of students with ID (Palmer et al., 2012; O’Malley et al., 2013). Early research is promising concerning the use of technology in general and the specific use of iPads (Apple, 2010) with students with ID as a vehicle for enhancing participation in general education curricula.

**Access to General Education Curricula**

Research concerning the instruction of students with ID historically focused on functional living skills rather than academic instruction (Browder et al., 2008; Browder et al., 2006). However, educators and researchers, working with this population, have begun to explore more meaningful academic skills that have the potential for increasing
academic achievement for these students (Lee et al., 2009; Lee et al., 2010; Soukup et al., 2007). Unfortunately, many students with ID are educated in self-contained classrooms and are not exposed to general education curricula (Peetsma et al., 2007; Wehmeyer et al., 2003).

Dymond and Russell (2004) studied the impact of grade and disability on the inclusion in instruction aligned to general education curricula. The purpose of the study was to evaluate general education instructional contexts for students with mild and severe disabilities. The study was conducted at an inclusion-focused elementary school. Student groupings were established based on grade level (i.e., grades 1-2, grades 3-5) and disability (i.e., mild, severe). Students with disabilities who spent more than 50% of their academic school day in the special education classroom were grouped in the severe category and students with disabilities who spent more than 50% of their day in the general education classroom were grouped in the mild category. Once the groups were established, three students from each group were selected randomly as participants. A total of 12 students (i.e., three students from each of the four groups) participated in the study.

An observational coding system was used to collect data on the following items; (a) activity of target student, (b) activity of peers without disabilities, (c) curricula, (d) instructional format, (e) partner (i.e., paraprofessional, peer), (f) location, and (g) student response. Students were observed on three occasions for 30-minutes. The observer used a time-sampling technique to record observations in one-minute cycles (e.g., one-minute of observation, one-minute of recording data).
Observational data were analyzed using descriptive statistics. Each data collection form was summarized and the frequency count for each descriptor totaled. These data were aggregated by both grade (i.e., grades 1-2, grades 3-5) and disability (i.e., mild, severe) (Dymond & Russell, 2004). The data showed significant differences among disability group in the areas of curriculum, instructional format, and partner. The data indicated that curricular adaptations were present during only 1% of the observations for students with mild disabilities, and during over 50% of the observations for students with severe disabilities (Dymond & Russell, 2004). It is important to note that the assistance of a paraprofessional was counted as a curricular adaptation and students with severe disabilities interacted significantly more (i.e., 79% of the observations) with paraprofessionals than did the students with mild disabilities (Dymond & Russell, 2004). In fact, the students with severe disabilities were rarely included in the general education classroom without adult assistance and either a paraprofessional or special education teacher provided most of the instruction individually for these students.

Dymond and Russell (2004) concluded that curricular modifications were essentially nonexistent for students with mild disabilities though sometimes used with students with more significant disabilities in the form of adult assistance. They suggested that longitudinal research is needed to determine the lasting impact of grade and disability on inclusionary practices. They recommended replication of this study in other inclusion-focused elementary schools in order to generalize the findings.

Employing an observational study, Wehmeyer, Lattin, Lapp-Rincker, and Agran (2003) examined the extent to which students with ID had access to general education curricula. Thirty-three middle school students with ID participated in the study. Much
like the Dymond & Russell (2004) study, these students were categorized into two groups based on the amount of exposure they had to the general education setting. Students who participated in at least one general education class were categorized as having access to the general education classroom and students who participated in classrooms solely for students with disabilities were classified as not having access to the general education classroom.

The students were observed in the classrooms they regularly attended and the observations were coded by both subject (i.e., language arts, functional academics, life skill instruction, social studies/history, math, science/health, computer/typing, speech, art/music) and environment (i.e., special education, general education). Each student was observed for a 15-minute period, for a minimum of eight occasions. Access to general education curricula was examined using an observational coding sheet that recorded the following situations: (a) all students working on a task aligned to district standards, (b) all students working on a task not aligned to district standards, (c) a target student working on a task aligned to the IEP, (d) accommodations being provided to the target student working on a task aligned to district standards, (e) a target student working on a similar or adapted task aligned to district standards, and (f) a target student working on a task that augments the curriculum. During the 15-minute observations, the students were observed for 20 seconds and data recorded for 10 seconds. This process was repeated so that each 15-minute observation cycle included 30 observation intervals.

Analysis of the data included calculating the number of observation intervals and conducting an analysis of variance (ANOVA) on student access to general or special education environments. The data indicated that students who received instruction in the
general education classroom were engaged in tasks aligned to general education curricula during 90% of the observational intervals. The students who were observed in special education classrooms engaged in tasks related to general education curricula during only 50% of the observational intervals (Wehmeyer et al., 2003). Overall, students who participated in inclusive settings (e.g., general education) engaged in tasks aligned to general education curricula for 40% more of the observational intervals than students in self-contained settings. Additionally, the findings indicated that during only 2.78% of the observational intervals were the students with ID provided some type of curricular adaptation (Wehmeyer et al., 2003).

Wehmeyer et al. (2003) maintained that the results of this study indicated that students with ID, who have access to the general education classroom, are more likely to receive instruction aligned to the general education curricula. They concluded that the findings suggest that general education curricula should be expanded to include a variety of instructional methods in order for students with ID to demonstrate knowledge. Recommendations for further research included the creation of instructional methods and strategies to provide students with ID access to general education curricula within the special education setting, suggesting that access could occur outside of the general education classroom.

In a follow-up observational study, Soukup, Wehmeyer, Bashinski, and Bovaird (2007) conducted a study to ascertain the impact of various classroom variables (i.e., supplementary aids and services, curricular modifications, education and assistive technology, adult and peer support) on the general education curricular access of students with ID. The purpose of the study was to expand the findings of Wehemeyer et al. (2003)
by measuring specific variables related to curricular access. Nineteen elementary students participated in the study and seventeen were classified as having ID. Each participant’s teacher was interviewed and information collected on the student’s needed level of support and the percentage of time they spent in the general education environment (Soukup et al., 2007). Based on this information, students were: (a) assigned a support score ranging from 1 (no support needed) to 5 (full physical support needed), and (b) assigned to a group based on the time they spent in the general education environment, ranging from high inclusion (75 - 100% of time spent in general education) to low inclusion (0 - 50% of time spent in general education).

The students were observed during science or social studies lessons and a total of three 20-minute observations were conducted. A computer-based time sampling data collection program (Access CISSAR) was used to collect data on the variables previously examined by Wehmeyer et al. (2003). The variables studied included: (a) engagement in a task aligned to a general education standard, (b) engagement in a task aligned to a grade level standard, (c) engagement of peers on a task aligned to a general education standard, (d) engagement of peers on a task aligned to a grade level standard, (e) engagement on a task aligned to an IEP goal, (f) provision of accommodations, (g) provision of curricular adaptations, (h) provision of curricular augmentations, and (i) environment (i.e., special education, general education).

Data were analyzed using a general linear mixed model and fixed and random effects obtained (Soukup et al., 2007). The results indicated that students who spent 50 – 100% of their instructional time in the general education environment worked on tasks aligned to grade level standards (during 60% of observations). Conversely, students who
spent less than 50% of their instructional time in the general education classroom were never observed working on tasks aligned to a grade level standard. The students who participated more in the general education environment were provided more accommodations than participants who had minimal participation in the general education environment. Additionally, students who spent most of their instructional time outside of the general education classroom were more likely to be working on tasks aligned to IEP goals (during 58% of observations), while participants who spent most of the their instructional time in the general education environment were less likely to be working on tasks aligned to IEP goals (during 10% of observations) (Soukup et al., 2007).

Soukup et al., (2007) concluded that students who receive a majority of instruction outside of the general education environment experience instruction and IEP goals that do not align to general education standards. They also maintained that their findings were similar to the findings of Wehmeyer et al. (2003) in that students with ID are less likely to have access to general education curricula if their instruction takes place in the special education or self-contained setting. They recommended three practices for improving access to general education curricula: (a) students with ID should be educated alongside their peers without disabilities, (b) students with ID should be included in the same seating pattern as their peers without disabilities, and (c) one-on-one instruction should be provided when working with students with ID. They also suggested further investigation of various accommodations (e.g., assistive and instructional technology) to examine potential learning supports for students with ID.
Lee, Soukup, Little, and Wehmeyer (2009) designed a study to identify and explore instructional and ecological variables impacting general education curricular access for students with ID. The purpose of this study was to evaluate the extent to which the student and teacher variables forecast access to general education curricula. Nineteen elementary students, seventeen of which were classified as having ID, participated in the study. Prior to the study, each participant’s level of support needs were determined by their teachers using the *Supports Intensity Scale (SIS)* (Thompson, Bryant, Campbell, Craig, Hughes, Rotholz, et al., 2004) and all students were categorized as having moderate to heavy support needs (Lee et al., 2009).

The identified students were observed on three 20-minute intervals during science or social studies instruction. Of the observations conducted, 65.7% were during instruction in the general education environment, 28.7% were conducted during instruction in special education settings, and 5.6% occurred in areas outside of the classroom (e.g., library, hall) (Lee et al., 2009). Similar to Soukup et al. (2007), a computer program (MS-CISSAR) designed to collect time-sampled observational data during 60-second intervals was used. Data were collected on: (a) engagement in a task aligned to a general education standard, (b) engagement in a task aligned to a grade level standard, (c) engagement of peers on a task aligned to a general education standard, (d) engagement of peers on a task aligned to a grade level standard, (e) engagement on a task aligned to an IEP goal, (f) provision of accommodations, (g) provision of curricular adaptations, (h) provision of curricular augmentations, and (i) environment (i.e., special education, general education). During the observations, points were assigned for each
observed variable (e.g., 1 point if a curriculum modification was observed) and totaled to provide an overall access score.

The data were analyzed using a repeated measures observational design with multilevel modeling and simple regression computed. The findings indicated that teacher focus negatively impacted access to general education curricula. Teachers removed their focus from students with ID during instruction aligned to grade level standards. The data also showed that general education teachers were less likely to focus on students with ID when tasks aligned to their IEP goals were being taught. Additionally, the behaviors of students with ID were observed to be less favorable during tasks that were increasingly difficult and aligned to grade level standards.

Lee et al. (2009) concluded that the manner in which students with ID and their teachers interact are “strong predictors of access” to general education curricula (Lee et al., 2009, p.40) and the interactions are influenced by the classroom environment (i.e., difficulty of task, setting, degree of disability). Lee et al. (2009) suggested that educators must provide supports (i.e., curriculum adaptations, modifications, augmentation) to more successfully engage students with ID in complex academic tasks. They recommended further research to determine the types of curricular modifications and interventions to best support the needs of students with ID when they participate in general education curricular activities.

Lee, Wehmeyer, Soukup, and Palmer (2010) conducted a study to replicate their previous research and extend knowledge on the impact of curricular modifications on the academic progress of students with disabilities. Forty-five high school students, who received both special education services and core content instruction within the general
education environment, participated in this study. In a replication of the Soukup et al. (2007) study, the teachers were asked to determine each student’s level of support using a likert-type scale prior to the study. The students were observed during one of their core content classes within the general education classroom (i.e., science, math, English, social studies).

Once again, a computer-based time sampling data collection program (Access CISSAR) was used. Data were collected on variables previously explored by Wehmeyer et al. (2003), Soukup et al. (2007), and Lee et al. (2009) with specific attention paid to the presence of curricular modifications (e.g., adjusted readability of text, modification of content, use of technology). Each student was observed for a total of 30-minutes. Data, examining the role of curricular modification on the student progress within general education curricula, were analyzed using a multilevel regression. Data evaluating student behavior as a function of the availability of curricular modifications were analyzed using both descriptive statistics and an ANOVA (Lee et al., 2010). The findings indicated significant differences between the participants who were provided curricular modifications and those who were not provided modifications. The presence of curricular modifications had a positive effect on the academic engagement of the students, as they were more likely to respond academically and be engaged in tasks linked to content standards and less likely to require behavioral re-direction (Lee et al., 2010).

Lee et al. (2010) concluded that the results of this study indicated the importance of providing curricular modifications to support the academic progress of students with disabilities in general education curricula. They maintained that curricular modifications are effective in enhancing access to general education curricula for students with
disabilities. Lee et al. (2010) recommended that additional teacher and support staff training on appropriate methods to provide curricular modifications to better facilitate access to general education curricula be implemented.

Students with ID require curricular modifications in order to progress within general education curricula (Dymond & Russell, Lee et al., 2009, Lee et al., 2010, Soukup et al., 2007, Wehmeyer et al., 2003). Effective academic instruction is paramount to the success of this population and there is an increasing need to provide supports (i.e., curriculum adaptations, modifications, augmentation) to more successfully engage students with ID in more complex academic tasks (Lee et al., 2009, Soukup et al. 2007). Unfortunately, curricular modifications, most specifically adaptations to academic content, are rarely present despite the fact that they are considered a best practice (Dymond & Russell, 2004, Lee et al., 2009, Wehmeyer et al., 2003). Though current focus is on including students with ID in the general education setting to increase access to general education curricula, Wehmeyer et al. (2003) argue that a student with ID could have access to general education curricula while participating in a special education setting if the curriculum was appropriately adapted. Further investigation is needed to determine the types of curricular modifications and instructional interventions (e.g., technology) that will best support the needs of students with ID when they participate in general education curricula (Lee et al., 2010, Wehmeyer et al., 2003).

**Providing Curricular Modifications to General Education Curricula**

The literature is replete with evidence that students with ID are often excluded from access to general education curricula (Dymond & Russell, 2004; Soukup et al., 2007). As a result, educators are asking for curricular adaptations to facilitate greater
academic access for these students (Lee et al., 2009; Lee et al., 2010; Soukup et al., 2007). Unfortunately, applications of curricular adaptations to general education curricula are infrequent and inconsistently applied for students with ID (Lee et al., 2009; Lee et al., 2010). However, recent research supports a variety of strategies that can be effective in increasing participation in general education curricula for this population (Lee et al., 2010).

In a study designed to investigate the effects of an empirically evaluated instructional model on the academic learning of students with ID in the middle school setting, Agran, Cavin, Wehmeyer, and Palmer (2006) used the Self-Determined Learning Model of Instruction (SDLMI). The goal of the study was to evaluate the use of SDLMI on academic skill performance aligned to general education curricula. Three middle school students with ID participated in the study. Participating students were receiving some content instruction in a general education classroom.

Each student, with help from their special education teacher or special education assistant, identified both a curricular area and a student-directed strategy. Curricular areas were aligned to the general education content standards of the student’s grade level. The curricular areas chosen were: (a) practicing scientific inquiry, (b) understanding different types of maps, and (c) learning about the organ systems of the body. The selected student-directed strategies included: (a) self-instruction, (b) self-monitoring, and (c) goal setting. Instruction for each student was designed to embed the student’s selected learning strategy. One special education teacher and two special education assistants were trained to collect data. Data were collected two to four times per week. The types of data collected were: (a) frequency of correct responses, and (b) percent of correct responses to
content test questions. Though data differed across participants, all data were converted into percentages for comparison (Agran et al., 2006).

A multiple baseline across subjects design was used to examine the effects of the intervention and included baseline, intervention, and maintenance phases. During baseline, all participants were observed in the general education environment and data were collected on the target behavior prior to receiving instruction. Additionally, the student-directed learning strategies were explained and participants selected a strategy to use. After baseline, the intervention phase of the study was initiated. The SDLMI, a problem-solving model, teaches students to self-regulate, set goals, develop action plans, and self-evaluate performance was used as the intervention for this study. The students received structured training on their selected student-directed strategy. Training included modeling and demonstration of examples and non-examples by the trainer, student performance of the strategy with trainer cues, and independent student performance. During the training phase, the students were observed in the general education classroom and once criteria of 80% correct responding were reached, the participants moved into the maintenance condition (Agran et al., 2006). Maintenance data were collected one to two times per week for two to three months.

The data were analyzed by converting the number of correct responses into a percentage for comparison across phases. It was reported that all students established stable patterns during baseline, increased their performance using the student-directed strategy during the intervention, and maintained the behaviors at acceptable levels during the maintenance phase. During the intervention, Student A’s performance mean was 67%, Student B’s performance mean was 87%, and Student C’s performance mean was
Throughout the maintenance phase, Student A increased performance with a mean of 85%, Student B increased performance with a mean of 99%, and Student C increased performance with a mean of 80% (Agran et al., 2006).

Agran et al. (2006) maintained that the results indicate that the participants were able to learn, maintain, and increase performance in content material aligned to general education curricula using a student-directed strategy. They concluded that students with intellectual disabilities can obtain academic skills aligned to general education standards when those curricula are augmented with strategies that promote self-monitoring, self-instruction, and goal setting. They recommended further investigation into strategies and instructional techniques to facilitate the learning of general education curricula by students with intellectual disabilities.

In a follow-up study designed to examine the relationship of using the *Self-Determined Learning Model of Instruction* (SDLMI) on access to general education curricula, Shogren, Palmer, Wehmeyer, Williams-Diehm, and Little (2012), replicated and extended the work of Agran and colleagues (2006). The purpose of the study was to expand the research on the effects of SDLMI implementation on academic goal attainment. The participants included 312 high school students with learning and intellectual disabilities. Students were divided into two groups (i.e., treatment, control) with the treatment group receiving the intervention (i.e., implementation of the SDLMI).

The teachers participating in the treatment group received training on the implementation of the SDLMI prior to baseline. During baseline, all students were observed during instruction and an access score was calculated. The intervention, consisting of the implementation of the SDLMI, lasted for the remainder of the school
year for the treatment group (Shogren et al., 2011). At the end of the intervention phase, access scores were recalculated for students in both groups (i.e., treatment, control).

Once again, a computer-based data collection system (Access CISSAR) was used. Data were collected through observations during instruction. Each student was observed twice (i.e., during baseline, at the end of the intervention phase), for a total of 60-minutes. The data (i.e., student access scores during baseline and intervention) were analyzed using multilevel model and fixed and random estimates obtained. The findings, when compared across groups (i.e. treatment, control), indicated that student access scores increased when the SDLMI was used to augment instruction. The implementation of the SDLMI had a positive effect on access to general education curricula for students with ID (Shogren et al., 2011).

Shogren et al. (2011) concluded that the results of the study indicated that students with ID increased their access to general education curricula when the SDLMI was implemented to augment the curricula. They maintained that the SDLMI was effective in supporting the needs of students with ID when they were engaging in general education learning. Shogren et al. (2011) recommended that future research explore strategies for supporting students with ID within the general education classroom.

Using a multiple probe across participants design, Browder, Trela, and Jimenez (2007) evaluated the effects of using a task-analytic teaching method with adapted grade-level materials on the academic responding of students with ID. The purpose of the study was to use this instructional strategy and measure the effects on the acquisition of literacy skills for students with ID. The participants were: (a) three middle school teachers of students with ID, and (b) six middle school students with ID who were unable to read
(Browder et al., 2007). The study took place during reading instruction within the self-contained setting and included pre-baseline, baseline, and intervention phases.

The pre-baseline phase consisted of observations to determine the level of literacy instruction taking place prior to training. Following the pre-baseline phase, the teachers received training and adapted novels (i.e., picture-supported summaries of grade level literature) to use with their students with ID. During the intervention phase, task analyses were provided to the teachers to use as lesson plan templates as they began teaching with the adapted materials.

The data were analyzed by: (a) recording the number of steps on the task analysis that the teachers completed across conditions (i.e., baseline, intervention), and (b) recording the number of independent and accurate student responses during the literacy lessons. These data were graphed and visual inspection used to interpret the results. The results indicated that: (a) the teachers followed the task-analytic lessons with increasing fidelity, and (b) the students increased the number of academic responses when the task-analytic instruction and adapted materials were used.

Browder et al. (2007) concluded that the task-analytic instructional method was an effective lesson delivery format for students with ID. They maintained that this instruction paired with appropriately adapted lesson materials positively affected both the academic responding and participation in grade level literature for students with ID. Browder et al. (2007) recommended that future research using this instructional method be conducted in other academic areas (e.g., science, social studies, math). They also suggested that this methodology be expanded to include examination of the effect on the reading comprehension skills of students with ID.
Courtrade, Browder, Spooner, and DiBiase (2010) designed a study to explore the use of a task-analytic instructional approach to teach scientific inquiry to students with ID. The purpose of the study was to examine the effects of task-analytic instruction on the acquisition of scientific inquiry skills for students with ID. Participants included: (a) four middle school teachers of students with ID, and (b) eight middle school students with ID. The study took place in self-contained classrooms and included a pre-baseline, baseline, and intervention phases.

During pre-baseline, the teachers participated in a one-day training that included an overview of middle school science curriculum. Following the pre-baseline, the baseline phase consisted of observing teachers and students a total of three times during science instruction of lessons that were created by the teachers without any feedback regarding the intervention (i.e., task analysis of lesson components). During the intervention phase, the teachers were provided an instructional that included a fidelity checklist (i.e., task analysis) and training manual of lesson components, a videotaped model of an inclusive science lesson, and an opportunity, during training, to develop and receive feedback on a science lesson (Courtrade et al., 2010).

The data were analyzed for both teachers and students by calculating the total number of accurately completed steps on the task analysis (i.e., number of lesson components correctly implemented by teachers, number of inquiry skills independently completed by students). These data were compared across baseline and intervention conditions. The results indicated that the use of the task-analytic instructional method had a positive effect on teacher lesson delivery, as more lesson components were included when task-analytic methods were used. Additionally, students with ID increased the
number of inquiry skills independently completed when task-analytic instruction was applied.

Courtrade et al. (2010) concluded that training teachers to employ task-analytic instruction increased meaningful student participation in science lessons. They maintained that the results showed a positive functional relationship between training teachers to use task-analytic instruction and student participation in science instruction (i.e., aligned to general education curricula). Courtrade et al. (2010) recommended that future research be conducted to measure the effects on both the acquisition of academic concepts and the generalization of skills of students with ID.

Employing a single subject multiple probe design, Jimenez, Browder, Spooner, and DiBiase (2012) examined the effects of peer-mediated instruction on the scientific responding of students with ID. The purpose of this study was to explore peer-mediated instruction as a possible option for including students with ID in general education science instruction. The participants were: (a) six middle school general education students, and (b) five middle school students with ID. The study was conducted during science instruction in the general education setting and included a baseline phase, an intervention phase, and maintenance probes.

The baseline phase consisted of probing students with ID on concepts from the upcoming science units as well as providing training to the general education students who served as peer instructors. During the intervention phase, instruction began on the science units and the general education students (peer instructors), implemented a time-delay procedure (i.e., gradually increasing wait time between responses) for the science vocabulary and concept statements related to the unit lessons. Once the students with ID
showed mastery (i.e., correctly responding to two of the eight probes) of the unit concepts, maintenance probes were conducted. The maintenance probes allowed students with ID an opportunity to continue to demonstrate mastery of the previously learned material.

The data were analyzed by calculating the total number of accurate responses during the science lessons and compared across baseline and intervention conditions. The findings indicated that the use of peer-mediated instruction had a positive effect on the academic responding of students with ID participating in science lessons within the general education setting. All of the students with ID increased their number of independent and accurate responses. Additionally, students without disabilities reported that they enjoyed the intervention and would like to serve as a peer instructor with other students with disabilities.

Jimenez, Browder, Spooner, and DiBiase (2012) concluded that the use of peer-mediated instruction positively influenced both knowledge acquisition of scientific vocabulary and concepts, and access to general education curricula. They maintained that implementing peer-mediated in the general education setting was effective in increasing participation of the students with ID. Jimenez, Browder, Spooner, and DiBiase (2012) recommended replication of this study in other academic subjects (e.g., math, social studies).

Though many students with ID are not exposed to the general education curricula, evidence suggests that inclusion is possible with the appropriate instructional strategies and curricular modifications (Lee et al., 2010). Augmentation of the curricula by increasing self-determination skills as well as providing both task-analytic or peer-
mediated instruction have proved successful in facilitating access to general education curricula (Agran et al., 2006; Courtrade et al., 2010; Jimenez et al., 2012; Shogren et al., 2011). Researchers continue to maintain that adapting materials and curricula to meet the unique learning needs of students with ID is best practice (Browder et al., 2007). Recently, research on curricular adaptation for students with ID has begun to focus on the promising role technology can play in promoting access to universally designed materials (Lee et al., 2006).

**Technology Use to Provide Access to General Education Curricula**

The exploration of technology as a tool to enhance the instruction of students with ID is gaining popularity in the literature (Mechling & O’Brien, 2010; Ozkan, Oncul & Kaya, 2013). Research concerning the use of computers to enhance instruction has shown favorable results for students with ID (Hansen & Morgan, 2008). Incorporating technology, more specifically computers, in the instruction of students with ID has increased engagement, skill capacity, and functional academic achievement (Coleman, Hurley, & Cihak, 2012; Hansen & Morgan, 2008; Ozkan, Oncul, & Kaya, 2013). The use of technology to enhance grade-aligned academic achievement, though limited, is also promising (Mechling & Hunnicutt, 2011).

Hansen and Morgan (2008) designed a study to evaluate the effects of computer-based instruction on the acquisition of grocery shopping skills. The purpose of the study was to determine if computer-based instruction was an effective means for teaching purchasing skills to students with ID. The participants were three high school students with ID who scored low (0-40%) on a pre-test to assess purchasing skills. The study occurred in a high school computer lab with weekly probes taking place at a local grocery
store. A multiple baseline across participants design inclusive of a baseline phase, a treatment phase, a generalization phase, and a maintenance phase was used (Hansen & Morgan, 2008).

A five-step purchasing task analysis was developed that included: (a) checkout stand selection, (b) placing items on the conveyor belt at the checkout stand, (c) correctly purchasing items, (d) requesting a paper or plastic bag, and (e) collecting change, receipt, and groceries. This task analysis was used in both computer-based assessments and weekly grocery store probes. Each step was counted as 20% of the overall score and student scores were graphed for visual analysis during all phases of the study (Hansen & Morgan, 2008). The baseline phase consisted of grocery store probes during which no feedback was provided to the students. Next, the intervention (i.e., computer-based instruction) was introduced and data collected on both computer-based assessment and weekly grocery store probes. During the generalization phase, grocery store probes were conducted at unfamiliar grocery stores in the area. The maintenance probe was conducted for each student 30-days after the intervention concluded (Hansen & Morgan, 2008).

Data were collected on both computer-based assessments and weekly grocery store probes using the 5-step task analysis. The results indicated that the use of computer-based instruction had a positive effect on the acquisition of grocery purchasing skills for the students with ID as all students significantly increased the number of correct steps from baseline to intervention. The students also were able to generalize the purchasing skills to other grocery stores and maintained those skills during the 30-day probe. The students and their parents rated their purchasing skills prior to and at the conclusion of
the study. Both the students and parents rated student purchasing skills higher at the conclusion of the study (Hansen & Morgan, 2008).

Hansen and Morgan (2008) concluded that the use of computer-based instruction was effective at teaching purchasing skills to students with ID. In addition, the intervention was helpful in enhancing the generalization of purchasing skills across a variety of grocery stores. They maintained that the use of computer-based instruction could be an effective tool for teaching community skills to students with ID. Hansen and Morgan (2008) recommended future research to examine the effects of computer-based instruction on other purchasing skills (i.e., purchasing different quantities of items, purchasing items of different values).

Mechling and O’Brien (2010) designed a study to evaluate the effects of computer-based video instruction on the acquisition of public bus transportation skills for students with ID. The purpose of the study was to determine whether computer-based video instruction was an effective means for teaching transportation skills. The participants were three young adults (i.e., ages 19-20 years) with ID who attended a transition-focused program. The study was conducted in a classroom, with generalization probes occurring on a bus route within the community. A multiple probe across participants design was used (Mechling & O’Brien, 2010).

Prior to the intervention, each student’s ability to correctly request a stop on a bus route was evaluated. The students were directed to take the bus to a specified location, but received no additional feedback. Next, landmarks (i.e., signs, business locations) were identified as cues for requesting a stop and computer-based video modeling introduced to teach the students when to request a bus stop using the landmarks as cues.
The computer-based video modeling instruction landmarks mirrored the community bus route landmarks used during generalization probes. Two to three computer-based video instruction sessions occurred and were followed by generalization probes on a bus route within the community (Mechling & O’Brien, 2010). This cycle (i.e., computer-based video modeling sessions followed by a probe on a community bus route) was repeated several times with each participant.

Data were collected on the percentage of correct responses during computer-based video modeling sessions and generalization probes within the community. These data were graphed and inspected visually. The results indicated that computer-based video modeling sessions had a positive effect on the acquisition of public bus transportation skills of the students with ID. The students were able to generalize these skills to actual bus routes within the community and maintain the skills after the conclusion of the computer-based video modeling sessions (Mechling & O’Brien, 2010).

Mechling and O’Brien (2010) concluded that computer-based video modeling was an effective tool for teaching students with ID public bus transportation skills. They maintained that this instructional method also was an efficient means of providing the instruction in lieu of actual community instruction, which they argued could be expensive and time consuming. Mechling and O’Brien (2010) recommended that future research evaluate more complex public bus transportation tasks (i.e., multiple locations, transferring routes, handling unexpected events) and explore more innovative technologies (e.g., portable technological devices) that could be used to provide cues in real time.
Mechling and Hunnicutt (2011) designed a study to evaluate the effects of computer-based video self-modeling on the receptive understanding of prepositions of students with ID. The purpose of the study was to determine whether computer-based video self-modeling was an effective means for teaching prepositions to students with ID. The participants were three elementary students with ID. The study took place in a self-contained classroom for students with ID. A multiple probe across participant design was used that included computer-based video self-modeling sessions and generalizations probes (i.e., positioning of objects, positioning of self) (Mechling & Hunnicutt, 2011).

The experimental condition began with probes to evaluate the students’ knowledge of prepositions by placing objects according to the targeted preposition (e.g., object placed under the table, object placed next to the student). Following object placement sessions, probes sessions were conducted in which the student was instructed to position him or herself according to the targeted preposition (e.g., student sits under the table, student sits next to the teacher). The object and self placement probes were followed by computer-based video self-modeling instruction during which the students viewed videos of themselves correctly placing themselves or objects according to the targeted preposition pairs. This cycle was repeated across targeted preposition pairs (i.e., in front of/behind, in/next to, on/under).

Data were collected on the percentage of correct responses across the three pairs of prepositions and graphed across experimental conditions (i.e. object placement, self placement, computer-based video self-modeling). These data were inspected visually. The results indicated that computer-based video self-modeling had a positive effect on the receptive understanding of prepositions by the students. The students increased their
ability to correctly place themselves or objects according to the targeted preposition after the computer-based video self-modeling sessions (Mechling & Hunnicutt, 2011).

Mechling and Hunnicutt (2011) concluded that computer-based video self-modeling was an effective tool for teaching prepositions to students with ID. They maintained that instruction using computer-based video self-modeling could be used to teach a variety of language-based skills to students with ID. Mechling and Hunnicutt (2011) recommended that future research evaluate the expressive understanding of prepositions and other language-based concepts for this population.

Coleman, Hurley, and Cihak (2012) designed a study to compare the effects of teacher-directed and computer-assisted instruction on the acquisition of functional sight words by students with ID. The purpose of the study was to determine the most effective and efficient method for teaching functional sight words to students with ID. The participants were three elementary students. The study took place in a self-contained classroom for students with ID and an alternating treatment design inclusive of two instructional conditions (i.e., teacher-directed, computer-assisted) was used (Coleman, Hurley & Cihak, 2012).

During baseline, all students were assessed on their recognition of 40 functional words (i.e., words found in recipes) and eleven unknown words were selected for use during the intervention. The intervention phase consisted of alternating treatments (i.e., teacher-directed instruction, computer-assisted instruction). During the intervention phase, the students participated in alternating phases of teacher-directed instruction of the unknown words (i.e., flashcards) and computer-assisted instruction of the unknown words (i.e., Powerpoint). Following the intervention, instruction on the unknown words
continued in the preferred instructional condition (i.e., the instructional condition in which 90% criterion was reached in the fewest number of trials) until 90% accuracy of word reading was established across three sessions. Next, the picture cues on the flashcards and *Powerpoint* were removed and the condition resumed until 90% accuracy was reached across three sessions. The generalization probes were conducted in which students read the words and performed a task associated with the words (e.g., making a snack) while the number of words used correctly were recorded using a task analysis.

Data were collected on the number of functional words read correctly and results calculated for each student across sessions and conditions. These data were visually inspected. The results indicated that both teacher-directed and computer-assisted instructions were effective at teaching functional words to students with ID. However, the teacher-directed condition seemed more efficient as the number of trials to reach criterion was less than the computer-assisted condition. The students increased their ability to correctly read functional sight words across conditions (i.e., teacher-directed instruction, computer-assisted instruction) (Coleman, Hurley, & Cihak, 2012).

Coleman, Hurley, and Cihak (2012) concluded that both teacher-directed and computer-assisted instruction could be used to teach functional words to students with ID. They maintained that instruction, involving technology, might be effective in teaching a variety of skills to students with ID. They recommended that future research focus on the use of computer-assisted instruction to teach other functional academic tasks (i.e., money skills, community survival words) to students with ID.

Ozkan, Oncul, and Kaya (2013) designed a study to evaluate the effects of computer-based instruction on teaching students with ID what emergency service to call
in an emergency situation. The purpose of the study was to determine if computer-based instruction would be effective in teaching students with ID what emergency service to call in a given situation and recalling the corresponding telephone number for the appropriate service. The participants were five elementary and middle school students with ID. The study took place in self-contained classrooms for students with ID. A multiple probe design inclusive of baseline probes, intervention, and maintenance probes was used (Ozkan, Oncul, & Kaya, 2013).

During the initial probes (3 sessions), the students were presented with a scenario (e.g., who do you call if you fall off your bike and break your leg) and were asked to identify the correct emergency service (e.g., ambulance). Following these probes, intervention began and consisted of the introduction of a computer program that presented an emergency scenario and asked the students to identify the appropriate emergency service (e.g., police, fire, medical). Maintenance probes were conducted at four, eight, and twelve weeks after the intervention and mirrored the initial probes (Ozkan, Oncul, & Kaya, 2013).

Data were collected on the percentage of correct responses for each student and graphed across conditions. These data were visually inspected. The results indicated that computer-based instruction was effective at teaching the appropriate emergency service and corresponding phone number to the students with ID. The data also indicated that the students maintained these skills at four, eight, and twelve weeks, suggesting that students with ID could discern which emergency service to call for a specific situation (Ozkan, Oncul, & Kaya, 2013).
Ozkan, Oncul, and Kaya (2013) concluded that computer-based instruction was effective at teaching the appropriate emergency service to contact in a specific emergency situation to students with ID. They maintained that computer-based instruction could favorably contribute to enhancing the safety and quality of life of these students. Ozkan, Oncul, and Kaya (2012) recommended that future research focus on the use of computer-based instruction to teach other functional daily living skills to this population.

Current research supports the use of computer-based instruction as an effective instructional method (Coleman, Hurley, & Cihak, 2012; Ozkan, Oncul & Kay, 2012). Though limited, the research concerning the impact of computer technology on the academic learning of children with ID is promising (Mechling & Hunnicutt, 2011), but further research is needed. With much of the research focusing on functional or daily living skills, more research is needed to examine the implications of technology on grade-aligned academic skills.

**iDevice Technology to Provide Access to General Education Curricula**

Technology, considered a curricular adaptation, is gaining popularity in educational settings (Edyburn, 2013). Current iDevice (i.e., iPad, iPod) research shows positive implications for instructional use with students with disabilities, including students with ID (Cumming & Strnadova, 2012). Research on the impact of iPad (Apple, 2010) technology is limited, but encouraging (O’Malley et al., 2013). The iPad (Apple, 2010) may have the capacity to support learning for students with ID of its accessibility and interface features are: (a) more intuitive (i.e., interactive, guided access), (b) easy to use (i.e., touch screen), (c) customizable to support individual student needs (e.g., display
settings, restrictions, accessibility features), and (d) engaging (Burton et al., 2013; Hart & Whalon, 2012; O’Malley et al., 2013).

Hammond, Whatley, Ayres, and Gast (2010) conducted a study designed to measure the effects of video modeling on a student with ID learning to use an iPod (Apple, 2007). The purpose of this study was to use a video modeling strategy to teach students with ID how to independently use an iPod (Apple, 2007) to search for music, photos, and videos. Three middle school students with ID, who received their education in self-contained classrooms and had a history of using visual schedules, participated in the study. The study took place within a self-contained classroom during independent work time. Task analyses were developed on how to access: (a) music, (b) videos, and (c) photos. Tasks were video taped and the students viewed the videos during intervention sessions. Sessions were conducted four times a week for 15-minutes (Hammond et al., 2010).

A multiple probe design including initial probe trials, video modeling sessions, and maintenance probe trials were conducted. Data were collected during the initial probe trial on each student’s ability to select the required stimuli (i.e., videos, photos, music) to ascertain if the participant could navigate the iPod (Apple, 2007). Once it was determined that the students were able to navigate the iPod (Apple, 2007), video modeling sessions began. Participants were shown video clips modeling iPod (Apple, 2007) navigation to movies, music, or photos and probes immediately followed to address recall of the steps in the task analyses. Once a student could successfully navigate the steps in the task analysis, maintenance probes were conducted to determine if they had maintained the iPod (Apple, 2007) navigation skills (Hammond et al., 2010).
Data were calculated by recording the number of correct (i.e., student initiated) steps in the task analysis. A percentage of completed steps was calculated by dividing the number of correct steps by the total number of steps in the task analysis and multiplying by 100. In addition, social validity data were collected upon the conclusion of the study using surveys completed by adults familiar with the participants. These adults reported that the students demonstrated an increasing ability to independently navigate an iPod (Apple, 2007).

Hammond et al., (2010) maintained that the results of this study indicated that students with ID can learn to navigate iPods (Apple, 2007). They also concluded that the iPods (Apple, 2007) engaged the students as they all expressed “pride in their learning and excitement at the prospect of having and using a piece of technology their same-age peers in regular education often used” (Hammond et al., 2010, p. 536). They recommended that future research be focused on: (a) the generalization of technological skills to new or upgraded technology (e.g., next generation iPod, iPad), and (b) modifying settings of the iPod (Apple, 2007) to further control task selection.

In a follow-up study, Kagohara, Sigafoos, Achmadi, van der Meer, O’Reilly, and Lancioni (2011) evaluated the effects of video modeling (VM) on the capacity of students with ID capacity to independently use the iPod (Apple, 2007). The purpose of the study was to use the video modeling strategy to teach the students to independently use an iPod (Apple, 2007) to search for and listen to music. Three high school students with ID, who received their education in special education schools for students with disabilities, participated in the study. The study took place within the self-contained classroom. An 8-step task analysis was developed that included the steps needed to access and listen to
music on the *iPod* (Apple, 2007). Tasks were video taped and loaded onto the *iPod* (Apple, 2007).

A delayed multiple probe design including baseline, intervention (i.e., video modeling), fading, and follow-up phases was used. During the baseline phases, the participants were given the *iPod* (Apple, 2007) and instructed to turn it on and listen to music. No prompting was provided and the number of steps in the task analysis completed accurately and independently were recorded (Kagohara et al., 2011). During the intervention (i.e., video modeling) phase, the students watched a video illustrating the steps to access and listen to music on the *iPod* (Apple, 2007). They were then given the *iPod* (Apple, 2007) and instructed to access and listen to music. Each student was given 10-seconds to complete each step and steps completed accurately and independently were recorded. The fading phase followed in which the video was not shown to the students. Similar to the intervention phase, the students were then given the *iPod* (Apple, 2007) and instructed to access and listen to music and had 10-seconds to complete each step. The data collected was accuracy and independence in completing the steps. During the follow-up sessions (i.e., 4 and 9 weeks after intervention), the students were given the *iPod* (Apple, 2007) and instructed to turn it on and listen to music. No prompting was provided and the number of steps in the task analysis that were completed accurately and independently were recorded (Kagohara et al., 2011).

The results were calculated by recording the number of accurate and independently performed steps in the task analysis. A percentage of completed steps were calculated by dividing the number of correct steps by the total number of steps in the task analysis and multiplying by 100. The results indicated that the percentage of steps
completed accurately and independently increased for all participants from baseline to the intervention phases. The skills were maintained, even with the fading of the intervention, and the students were able to successfully and independently access music during the follow-up sessions (Kagohara et al., 2011).

Kagohara et al., (2011) maintained that the results of this study indicated that students with ID have the potential to independently learn new skills with the use of video modeling on iPods (Apple, 2007) (Kagohara et al., 2011). They also concluded that the iPod (Apple, 2007) provided an avenue for the students to engage in activities similar to their same-age peers and may encourage inclusion by providing individuals with ID opportunities to “share common interests with others” (Kagohara et al., 2011, p. 2991). They suggested that future research be conducted to replicate the intervention (i.e., video-modeling using the iPod) with more difficult skills.

Employing a single subject ABAB reversal design, Hart and Whalon (2012) evaluated the effects of video self-modeling (VSM) using an iPad (Apple, 2010) on the academic responding of a student with Autism (ASD) and ID. The purpose of the study was to employ a non-stigmatizing technology in an effort to better engage the student in science-focused academic discussions. The participant was a high school student with ASD and ID who spent less than 40% of the academic school day in the general education environment. When the student spent time in the general education or resource setting, he was supported by one-on-one assistance (Hart & Whalon, 2012). The study took place during science instruction within the resource room setting and included a baseline phase, intervention phase, a return to baseline condition, and a second intervention phase.
The initial baseline phase consisted of six sessions, 25-minutes each, over a period of two weeks and measured the student’s unprompted academic responses. Following baseline, the first intervention phase consisted of twenty sessions, 25-minutes each, over a period of five weeks. During the intervention phase and prior to teacher-led discussion, the student viewed a short one-minute video of himself answering content questions on the iPad (Apple, 2010). A return to baseline condition followed the intervention in which the iPad (Apple, 2010) and VSM videos were removed from the instructional condition. The second baseline lasted a total of eight, 25-minute each, sessions over two weeks. A return to intervention phase followed and the iPad (Apple, 2010) and VSM videos were used for six additional 25-minute sessions (Hart & Whalon, 2012).

The data were analyzed by collecting frequency counts on the total number of unprompted academic responses across all conditions. The results indicated that the iPad (Apple, 2010) paired with the VSM videos had a positive effect on the amount of unprompted academic responses from the student (Hart & Whalon, 2012). When he viewed videos of himself engaging in the target behavior prior to teacher-led discussion, the frequency of accurate academic responses (i.e., response associated to the content objectives) increased. Increases of 4% were observed during the first baseline phase and increased to 6% during the second baseline phase. Increases of 24% were observed during the first intervention phase and increased to 42% during the second intervention phase (Hart & Whalon, 2012).

Hart and Whalon (2012) concluded that the use of the iPad (Apple, 2010) and VSM were effective in increasing the frequency of accurate academic responding by the
student with ID and autism. They maintained that pairing evidence-based strategies (i.e., VSM) with innovative technology (i.e., iPad) positively affected the academic responding of the students. In addition, the student’s teacher completed a social validity checklist that indicated the intervention (i.e., iPad) was easily implemented and beneficial to the student (Hart & Whalon, 2012). Hart and Whalon (2012) recommended a replication of this study with students of different ages and in different settings (i.e., general education environments).

Using a multiple-baseline-across-participants design, Burton, Anderson, Prater, and Dyches (2013) examined the effects of VSM using an iPad (Apple, 2010) on the academic math skills of students with ASD and ID. The purpose of the study was to determine if a relationship existed between the use VSM on an iPad (Apple, 2010) and participant performance of mathematics objectives (i.e., money word problems). The participants were four middle school students (i.e., one with ASD, two with ASD and ID, one with ID) who were taught in a self-contained classroom (Burton et al., 2013). The study took place in the self-contained classroom during math instruction and included baseline, intervention, and post-intervention phases.

Prior to the study, academic math skills (i.e., reading story problems involving money) were assessed and five VSM videos per student were created based on their present skills and anticipated curricular targets related to Common Core State Standards (CCSS). All videos were available for viewing on the iPad (Apple, 2010). Task analyses were developed to measure student accuracy. The teachers recorded the number of steps completed correctly and converted that number to a percentage. The teachers also
recorded the number of times the participants accessed the VSM video on the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) to aid in tasks.

During the baseline phase, each student was presented five story problems and told to read and follow directions. No additional instruction or feedback was given and the percentage of accurate steps in the task analysis was calculated for each student. The *iPad* (Apple, 2010), with VSM videos, was introduced during the intervention phase. The students were able to view themselves working through the steps of the word problems and could rewind, pause, or fast-forward as needed while they completed a similar word problem on paper. During the intervention phase, the students completed five word problems and their performance was recorded by calculating a percentage of accurate steps in the task analysis. Post-intervention consisted of six phases in which the VSM videos on the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) were gradually removed until each student was required to solve five word problems without the support of the VSM videos on the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) (Burton et al., 2013).

The data were analyzed visually with special attention paid to changes in level and trends across phases (Burton et al., 2013). Averages of correct responses were calculated for baseline, intervention, post-intervention, and compared across conditions. The data indicated that the use of VSM videos on the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) resulted in a functional relationship between the dependent variable (percentage of correct responses) and the independent variable (VSM) as evidenced by a systematic change in student performance (Burton et al., 2013).

Burton et al. (2013) maintained that the results of this study indicated that the use of the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) was a means of providing VSM videos to students with ASD.
and ID to positively impact students’ accuracy and independence during multi-step mathematics tasks. They concluded that this instructional strategy, paired with the innovative technology (i.e., iPad), supported both learning and access to general education curricula. They suggested further research replicate this intervention across settings and students of varying ages. Additionally, they recommended future research examine the effects of the iPad (Apple, 2010) on academic instruction (i.e., science, reading, writing) (Burton et al., 2013).

O’Malley, Jenkins, Wesley, and Donehower (2013) studied the impact of the iPad (Apple, 2010) on the increase in basic math fluency (i.e., simple addition and subtraction) for students with Autism (ASD) and ID. The purpose of the study was to investigate the effects of a math application using an iPad (Apple, 2010) on the learning of basic math fluency. Ten middle school students with moderate to severe ID or ASD participated in the study. The study was conducted in a special education school within a self-contained classroom and included two baseline and intervention phases.

The study lasted four weeks used a single-case ABAB design. Prior to the study, pretest data were collected on basic math skills of the students. During the initial baseline phase, the students completed a paper and pencil, timed, simple addition and subtraction test consisting of 20 problems. In the intervention phases, iPads (Apple, 2010) with timed, simple addition and subtraction math applications (apps) were used and the participants completed 20 problems. A return to baseline (i.e., timed, paper and pencil assessment) condition was followed by a return to intervention (i.e., iPad with math app) condition, and a posttest was completed.
The data were analyzed both visually and statistically. Dependent $t$-tests were used to compare means between phases. Visual inspections of data points were used to determine effect by noting differences in level and trend. The data indicated that: (a) the iPad (Apple, 2010) was an effective instructional tool, and (b) the iPad (Apple, 2010) and math app had a positive impact on the learning of students with ASD and ID. Pre and posttest data indicated a significant increase in basic math fluency and visual inspection showed an increase in the number of accurately answered problems per minute during the intervention phases.

O’Malley et al. (2013) concluded that the iPad (Apple, 2010) could be an effective instructional tool for student with disabilities. Additionally, they asked both teachers and parents about the use of the iPad (Apple, 2010) and both groups agreed that the iPad (Apple, 2010) was an innovative, effective, and appropriate learning and instructional tool for students with ASD and ID. They suggested that future research examine the integration of iPad (Apple, 2010) technology into academic curricula for students with ASD or ID.

Current research, while initial in nature, supports the use of the iPad (Apple, 2010) as an instructional tool. Though limited, the research concerning effect of iPad (Apple, 2010) technology on the learning of children with ID is promising (Burton et al., 2013; Hart & Whalon, 2012; O’Malley et al., 2013), and given the rapid expansion of iPad (Apple, 2010) technology in school districts (Mellhuish & Falloon, 2010; Newton & Dell, 2011), further research is needed. With much of the research focused on the use of the iPad (Apple, 2010) as a vehicle for displaying video interventions, other instructional interventions should be explored.
Summary

The literature highlights a need to improve the current practices of supporting access to general education curricula for students with ID. In particular, the research is beginning to focus on technology as a catalyst for change (Lee et al., 2010; O’Malley et al., 2013; Wehmeyer et al., 2003). Educators indicate that students with ID find technology to be engaging (Burton et al., 2013; Hart & Whalon, 2012; O’Malley et al., 2013), however most of the research involving technology has focused on enhancing functional skills rather than the academic skills of students with ID (Hansen & Morgan, 2008; Mechling & O’Brien, 2010; Ozkan, Oncul, & Kaya, 2013). In addition, the majority of technology research for this population focuses on the use of computers (Coleman, Hurley, & Cihak, 2012; Hansen & Morgan, 2008; Mechling & Hunnicutt, 2011; Mechling & O’Brien, 2010; Ozkan, Oncul, & Kaya, 2013), while limited research exists on the use of more innovative technologies (e.g., iPod, iPad) that may have the capacity to better support students with ID (Hammond et al., 2010; O’Malley et al., 2013).

This study was designed to: (a) develop an instructional method that supported access to general education curricula for students with ID, and (b) evaluate the effectiveness of the iPad (Apple, 2010) on the academic instruction of students with ID. This study compared academic instruction using traditional teaching methods to academic instruction using iPads (Apple, 2010). Data were compared on four measures: (a) student acquisition of content knowledge, (b) student maintenance of content knowledge, (c) student work-completion, (d) teacher perceptions of student engagement,
and (e) consumer (i.e., student) satisfaction to evaluate the effects of the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) on the learning of students with ID.
CHAPTER THREE

METHODOLOGY

Though access to general education curricula is essential to the academic achievement of students with intellectual disabilities (ID) and mandated by federal law (IDEA, 2004; NCLB, 2001; Soukup et al., 2007), an academic instructional focus is rarely observed in self-contained special education classrooms (Browder et al., 2006). Research suggests that both adapted curricula and cognitively accessible technology can support the learning limitations of students with ID (Lee et al., 2010, Palmer et al., 2012). However, research involving students with ID and iPad (Apple, 2010) technology is in its initial stages (Kagohara et al., 2013).

This study compared academic instruction using traditional teaching methods to academic instruction using iPads (Apple, 2010). The participants were elementary and middle school students with ID. Although both interventions were designed to increase student knowledge, the two interventions were compared on four measures: (a) student acquisition of content knowledge, (b) maintenance of content knowledge, (c) student work-completion, and (d) teacher perceptions of student engagement. Consumer (i.e., student) satisfaction data were collected and analyzed for the iPad (Apple, 2010) group only.

Fourteen self-contained classrooms for students with ID were identified and randomly assigned to either the experimental (iPad) or control (traditional teaching) group. Seven classrooms used the Unique Learning System (ULS) (n2y, 2013) curriculum via traditional teaching methods and seven used the ULS (n2y, 2013) curriculum and iPads (Apple, 2010). All teachers were trained on the ULS (n2y, 2013) curriculum prior
to implementation. Copyright permission to use all materials was obtained (see Appendix A).

Students in both intervention groups received daily instruction using the *ULS* (n2y, 2013) curriculum for 50-minutes, five days a week for a total of four weeks. Data were collected pre and post-intervention using an *ULS* (n2y, 2013) monthly checkpoint assessment related to content knowledge (see Appendix B) and the results compared across instructional groups (i.e., *iPad*, traditional teaching). Maintenance data were collected through re-administration of the *ULS* (n2y, 2013) monthly checkpoint assessment two weeks after instruction ended (see Appendix B). Student work completion data were collected using a checklist (see Appendix C) and compared across instructional groups (i.e., *iPad*, traditional teaching). Teacher perception data concerning student engagement were collected post-intervention using a survey (see Appendix D) and compared across instructional groups (i.e., *iPad*, traditional teaching). Data examining student attitudes and beliefs concerning the use of the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) for learning were collected post-intervention via questionnaire for the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) group only (see Appendix E).

**Research Questions**

This research study was designed to answer five primary research questions. They are:

**Research Question One.** Does the content knowledge of students (i.e., K-2, 3-5, 6-8) with intellectual disabilities increase with the use of the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) when compared to traditional teaching methods?
It was predicted that *iPad*-based instruction would result in increased student knowledge of content when compared to traditional teaching methods.

**Research Question Two.** Is the content knowledge of students (i.e., K-2, 3-5, 6-8) with intellectual disabilities better maintained with the use of the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) when compared to traditional teaching methods?

It was predicted that students would demonstrate improved maintenance of content knowledge in the *iPad*-based instructional group when compared to the traditional teaching group.

**Research Question Three.** Does the work completion of students (i.e., K-2, 3-5, 6-8) with intellectual disabilities differ with the use of digital worksheets on the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) when compared to traditional worksheets?

It was predicted that the use of *iPad*-compatible worksheets would result in increased student work completion when compared to traditional worksheets.

**Research Question Four.** Do teacher perceptions of student engagement differ with the use of the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) when compared to traditional teaching methods?

It was predicted that teachers would report a higher level of engagement by students participating in instruction with the *iPads* (Apple, 2010) when compared to students in the traditional teaching group.

**Research Question Five.** For the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) group, what are the student attitudes and beliefs concerning using the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) as a learning tool?

It was predicted that students with intellectual disabilities would report satisfaction with using the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) as a learning tool.
Participants

Students participating in this study attended elementary (ages 5-11) and middle schools (ages 12-14) in a large urban school district located in the Southwestern United States. Prior to participation in the study, parents signed an informed consent form (see Appendix F) and students signed a student assent form (see Appendix G). The consent forms were available in both English and Spanish. The assent form was picture-supported to enhance cognitive accessibility for the students. The students who did not assent or for whom parental consent was not obtained were allowed to participate, but their data was not included in this study.

Students with Intellectual Disabilities

Students who participated in this study were identified by a multidisciplinary team as having an intellectual disability or developmental delay and received services in a self-contained special education classroom for students with this classification. Self-contained classrooms were targeted for this study, as a majority of students with ID are educated in this environment in the targeted school district. Typically, these classrooms have between five and twelve students. A total of 72 students with ID participated in this study. According to the Nevada Administrative Code, a student is classified as having an intellectual disability if they exhibit a significantly below average intellectual functioning including limitations in at least two of the following areas: (a) communication skills, (b) self-care, (c) home living, (d) use of the community, (e) social skills, (f) self-direction, (g) health and safety, (h) functional academics, (i) leisure, or (j) work (NAC 388.055, 2011).
**Students assigned to the iPad group.** Students enrolled in classrooms assigned to the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) group were taught using the *ULS* (n2y, 2013) curriculum and completed worksheets on the *iPad* (Apple, 2010). They completed a paper version of the pre, post, and maintenance assessments related to content knowledge (see Appendix B). Students in this group also completed a questionnaire related to attitudes and beliefs about using the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) for learning at the completion of this study (see Appendix E). The questionnaire was picture-supported to enhance cognitive accessibility. A total of 41 students with ID participated in the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) group (see Table 1).
Table 1

Demographics of Students (iPad Group)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristics</th>
<th>Primary K-2</th>
<th>Intermediate 3-5</th>
<th>Secondary 6-8</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gender</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td></td>
</tr>
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<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>African American</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latino</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian/ Pacific Islander</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Students assigned to the traditional teaching group. Students enrolled in classrooms assigned to the traditional teaching group were taught using the *ULS* (n2y, 2013) curriculum via traditional teaching methods and completed worksheets using paper materials. They completed a paper version of the pre, post, and maintenance assessments related to content knowledge (see Appendix B). A total of 31 students with ID participated in the traditional teaching group (see Table 2).
Table 2

*Demographics of Students (Traditional Teaching Group)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristics</th>
<th>Primary K-2</th>
<th>Intermediate 3-5</th>
<th>Secondary 6-8</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gender</strong></td>
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<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>African American</td>
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<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latino</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian/ Pacific Islander</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>15</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Teachers

Fourteen licensed special education teachers participated in this study. All teachers signed an informed consent form prior to participation (see Appendix H). The teachers were randomly assigned using the app, Group Builder (Paradise Cay Software, 2012), to one of two instructional groups (i.e., iPad, traditional teaching).

Teachers assigned to the iPad group. Teachers assigned to the iPad (Apple, 2010) group attended a three-hour training on the ULS (n2y, 2013) curriculum. This training included a brief tutorial of the iPad (Apple, 2010) device (e.g., features, implementation). At this training, the teachers practiced teaching ULS (n2y, 2013) lessons using the iPad (Apple, 2010) and received feedback in accordance with the teaching fidelity checklist used in the study (see Appendix I). Teachers assigned to the iPad (Apple, 2010) group were responsible for ULS (n2y, 2013) lesson implementation using the iPad (Apple, 2010). Daily lessons were videotaped to assess instructional fidelity. The teachers were responsible for videotaping these lessons using the provided iPad (Apple, 2010) and uploading these videos to a secured Dropbox account (i.e., via Dropbox app) for assessment. The teachers also administered the assessments (i.e., pre, post, maintenance) and completed a work completion checklist for each student (see Appendices A & C). Teachers in this group completed a post-intervention survey concerning student engagement (see Appendix D) (see Table 3).
Table 3

Demographics of Teachers (iPad Group)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristics</th>
<th>Primary K-2 Teachers</th>
<th>Intermediate 3-5 Teachers</th>
<th>Secondary 6-8 Teachers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gender</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Education       |                      |                           |                        |
| Licensed: Special Ed. | 2             | 2                         | 3                      |
| Licensed: ID    | 1                    | 2                         | 3                      |

**Teachers assigned to the traditional teaching group.** Teachers assigned to the traditional teaching group attended a three-hour training on the *ULS* (n2y, 2013) curriculum. At this training, the teachers practiced teaching lessons and received feedback in accordance with the teaching fidelity checklist used in the study (see Appendix I). Teachers assigned to the traditional teaching group were responsible for teaching lessons from the *ULS* (n2y, 2013) curriculum using traditional teaching methods.
and paper materials. Daily lessons were videotaped to assess instructional fidelity. The teachers were responsible for videotaping these lessons using the provided iPad (Apple, 2010) and uploading these videos to a secured Dropbox (Dropbox Inc, 2013) account (i.e., via Dropbox app) for assessment. The teachers administered the assessments (i.e., pre, post, maintenance) and completed a work completion checklist (see Appendices A & C) for each student. Teachers in this group were required to complete a post-intervention survey concerning student engagement (see Appendix D) (see Table 4).
Table 4

Demographics of Teachers (Traditional Teaching Group)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristics</th>
<th>Primary K-2 Teachers</th>
<th>Intermediate 3-5 Teachers</th>
<th>Secondary 6-8 Teachers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gender</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Education       |                      |                           |                        |
| Licensed: Special Ed. | 3               | 2                         | 2                      |
| Licensed: ID    | 2                    | 2                         | 2                      |

Teacher Fidelity Observer

The teacher fidelity observer scored the recorded daily lessons (downloaded from participating teachers) using the teaching fidelity checklist (see Appendix I). Corrective feedback was provided to individuals whose lesson fidelity fell below 100%. Lessons were scored daily for fidelity.
**Interrater Observer of Teacher Fidelity**

One assistive technology specialist with technological experience conducted reliability checks for teacher fidelity in this study. The interrater observer of teacher fidelity randomly selected 25% of the videotaped lessons and rescored the teaching fidelity checklist (see Appendix I). The interrater observer of teacher fidelity was trained on the required data collection instruments. The percentage of agreement was calculated using the following formula: \[ \frac{\text{agreements}}{\text{agreements} + \text{disagreements}} \times 100 = \text{percentage agreement} \].

**Interrater Scorer**

An assistive technology specialist with technological experience conducted the reliability checks for data collected in this study. The interrater scorer randomly selected 25% of the pre, post, and maintenance measures and rescored the assessments. The interrater scorer was trained on all data collection instruments. The percentage of agreement was calculated using the following formula: \[ \frac{\text{agreements}}{\text{agreements} + \text{disagreements}} \times 100 = \text{percentage agreement} \].

**Setting**

This study was conducted in fourteen self-contained special education classrooms in a large urban school district. Consent for access to this school district had been received prior to implementation (see Appendix J). The schools selected for this study represent the economic, cultural, ethnic, and linguistic diversity of the school district. The self-contained classrooms selected for this study were located on elementary and middle
school campuses. The principal at each school signed a school access consent form (see Appendix K).

**Classrooms**

The fourteen self-contained special education classrooms participating in this study provided educational services to students with intellectual disabilities and developmental disabilities. The primary focus of instruction in these classrooms was on functional academics (e.g., self-help skills, communication, daily living skills). Students assigned to these classrooms spent more than 80% of their school day in the self-contained classroom setting. Classrooms were selected using convenience sampling (i.e., based on availability and administrative permission). Each of these classrooms had one 50-minute period of daily reading instruction and the study was conducted during this period.

**Instrumentation**

In an effort to answer the research questions, assessment instruments were used to collect data in the following areas: (a) acquisition of knowledge (i.e., general education content), (b) knowledge maintenance, (c) student work completion, (d) teacher perceptions of student engagement, and (e) student attitudes and beliefs about using the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) for learning. A description of each of the data collection materials is included below.

**Pretest, Posttest, and Maintenance Assessments**

For this study, pretest, posttest, and maintenance assessments were used to assess content knowledge (see Appendix B). These data were compared across instructional
groups (i.e., iPad, traditional teaching). Assessment scores were calculated using the following formula: (number correct/12 X 100 = percent of questions correct).

The assessments used in this study are included in the Unique Learning System (ULS) (n2y, 2013) curriculum. All students (regardless of instructional group) took the paper version of the pre, post, and maintenance assessments. The assessments (i.e., pre, post, maintenance) contained questions aligned to instructional targets of the ULS (n2y, 2013) lessons and were administered individually. Assessments consisted of six questions that assessed the depth of knowledge relating to the first four cognitive domains of Bloom’s taxonomy (i.e., remembering, understanding, applying, analyzing) (Anderson et al., 2000; Pohl, 2000). Two questions assessed recall and recognition (i.e., remembering), two questions assessed interpretation (i.e., understanding), one question assessed transfer of knowledge to new situations (i.e., applying), and one question assessed the break down of information into parts (i.e., analyzing) (n2y, 2013). The questions were read aloud by the teacher and the student selected an answer from a field of three choices.

**Student Work Completion Checklist and Data-Collection Form**

Participating teachers tracked student work completion via the work completion checklist (see Appendix C). Each teacher checked off completed worksheets for both instructional groups, recording the total number of worksheets completed by each student. Data were compared between instructional groups (i.e., iPad, traditional teaching). Only worksheets that were 100% completed were recorded.

**Teacher Perceptions of Student Engagement Survey**

Participating teachers completed a post-intervention survey (see Appendix D). The survey consisted of three questions designed to assess teacher perceptions of student
engagement. Teachers selected the answer that best represented their perception of student engagement during the study. Survey data were compared between instructional groups (i.e., iPad, traditional teaching).

**Student Attitudes and Beliefs Questionnaire**

Students participating in the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) group completed a post-intervention questionnaire (see Appendix F). The questionnaire assessed student attitudes and beliefs about using the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) for learning. The questionnaire used a Likert-type scale to measure student opinions regarding the use of the *iPad* (Apple, 2010). Teachers read each statement aloud and students ranked their agreement with the statements using a picture-supported scale of 1-3, with 1 representing agree and 3 representing disagree.

**Materials**

Several materials were required for the implementation of this study. These materials were: (a) *iPads* (Apple, 2010), (b) the *ULS* (n2y, 2013) curriculum, (c) the *News-2-you* (2013) newspaper (i.e., digital, paper), (d) the *Notability app* (Ginger Labs, 2013), (e) the *iBooks app* (Apple, 2013), and (f) the *Dropbox app* (Dropbox Inc, 2013). A description of each of these materials is included below.

**iPads (Apple, 2010)**

A total of 84 *iPads* (Apple, 2010) were provided by Assistive Technology Services Department of the participating school district. The *iPads* (Apple, 2010) were programmed with the *News-2-you* (2013) *app*, *Notability app* (Ginger Labs, 2013), *iBooks app* (Apple, 2013), and *Dropbox app* (Dropbox Inc, 2013) for training and
instructional materials. Each classroom in the iPad (Apple, 2010) instructional group received five iPads (Apple, 2013) at the beginning of the study. Each classroom assigned to the traditional teaching group received five iPads (Apple, 2010) upon conclusion of this study. All participating classrooms received a separate iPad (Apple, 2013) to record and upload lessons to assess teaching fidelity. This iPad (Apple, 2013) was turned in and all information and data erased at the conclusion of the study.

**The Unique Learning System Curriculum (n2y, 2013)**

This study implemented a cloud-based adapted curriculum. The *Unique Learning System (ULS) (n2y, 2013)* curriculum is aligned to the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) and is designed for students with significant cognitive disabilities. All classrooms have access to the ULS (n2y, 2013) online curriculum and each teacher created an individual login to access lessons and instructional materials (see Appendix L). These materials were used during the study. Copyright permission was granted to use these materials in this study (see Appendix A).

**News-2-you Newspaper (2013)**

This study incorporated the *News-2-you (n2y, 2013)* newspaper. The *News-2-you (n2y, 2013)* newspaper is a picture-supported newspaper adapted for students with significant cognitive deficits and aligned to the instructional targets of the ULS (n2y, 2013) curriculum. The newspaper includes six activity sheets (i.e., game page, review, crossword puzzle, picture-suduko, think page) that focus on social studies, comprehension, and writing. This study utilized the *News-2-you newspaper (n2y, 2013)* in two versions (i.e., paper, *app*). The content of both versions was identical and students in both groups (i.e., *iPad*, traditional teaching) were given ten-minutes daily to work on
the material. Copyright permission was granted to use these materials in this study (see Appendix A).

**Traditional newspaper.** Students participating in the traditional teaching group were given a paper copy of the *News-2-you* (n2y, 2013) newspaper with paper worksheets (see Appendix M). Each day, the teachers read the newspaper in small groups of two-to-five students. Students would then work for ten minutes with the paper newspaper and a pencil. At the end of each day, teachers collected the *News-2-you* (n2y, 2013) packets and recorded completed work on the work completion checklist (see Appendix C).

**iPad (Apple, 2010) app newspaper.** Students participating in the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) group accessed the *News-2-you* (n2y, 2013) newspaper via *iPad app* (Apple, 2010) (see Appendix N). Each day, the teachers read the newspaper via the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) in small groups of two-to-five students. Students would then work for ten minutes with the digital newspaper. Students would press the play button to read the pages of the newspaper and select answers on the activity sheets via touch. At the end of each day, teachers would login to the *News-2-you app* (n2y, 2013) to view each student’s work and record completed work onto the work completion checklist (see Appendix C). Students were trained on the *News-2-you* (n2y, 2013) *app*.

**Notability (Ginger Labs, 2013)**

Students in the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) group used the *Notability app. Notability* (Ginger Labs, 2013) is a digital note-taking app that allowed students to complete *ULS* (n2y, 2013) worksheets using the *iPad* (Apple, 2010). Students were trained on the use of *Notability* (Ginger Labs, 2013).
**iBooks (Apple, 2013)**

Students in the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) group used the *iBooks* app. *iBooks* (Apple, 2013) allowed students digital access to *ULS* (n2y, 2013) books. These books were incorporated into the *ULS* (n2y, 2013) lessons and were used throughout the study. Students were trained on the use of *iBooks* (Apple, 2013).

**Dropbox (Dropbox Inc, 2013)**

Teachers in the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) group used the *Dropbox* (Dropbox Inc, 2013) app. *Dropbox* (Dropbox Inc, 2013) allowed teachers to securely upload lesson fidelity videos directly from the *iPad* (Apple, 2010). Teachers were trained on the use of *Dropbox* (Dropbox Inc, 2013).

**Training**

All participating teachers as well as students participating in the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) group received targeted training. Additionally, the interrater observer and interrater scorer received training specific to their roles in the study.

**Unique Learning System Curriculum Training**

In order to ensure fidelity of the two interventions, participating teachers attended a three-hour training on the *Unique Learning System (ULS)* (n2y, 2013) curriculum specific to their assigned instructional group (i.e., *iPad*, traditional teaching).

**Teachers assigned to the traditional teaching group.** Teachers assigned to the traditional teaching group received training on how to implement the *ULS* (n2y, 2013) curriculum using paper materials. The training focused on the following topics: (a) website navigation, (b) lessons and materials, and (c) data collection. During the training,
all teachers practiced various tasks required in the *ULS* (n2y, 2013) curriculum (e.g., completing the *ULS* student profile, *ULS* lesson delivery, assessment administration) (see Appendix O). Participants were required to reach 100% accuracy in the presentation of lesson components as outlined in the teaching fidelity checklist (see Appendix I).

Teachers were also trained on how to use the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) to videotape and upload lessons to the secured *Dropbox* (Dropbox Inc, 2013) account for assessment.

**Teachers assigned to the iPad group.** Teachers assigned to the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) group received training on how to implement the *ULS* (n2y, 2013) curriculum using the *iPad* (Apple, 2010). The training focused on the following topics: (a) *ULS* (n2y, 2013) website navigation, (b) lessons and materials, and (c) data collection. During the training, all teachers practiced various tasks required in the *ULS* (n2y, 2013) curriculum (e.g., completing the *ULS* student profile, *ULS* lesson delivery, assessment administration) (see Appendix P). Participants were required to reach 100% accuracy in the presentation of lesson components as outlined in the teaching fidelity checklist (see Appendix I). A brief tutorial of the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) device was provided. This tutorial focused on: (a) *iPad* (Apple, 2010) controls and navigation, (b) *iPad* (Apple, 2010) accessibility features (e.g., *Guided Access*), and (c) required apps (i.e., News-2-you *app*, *iBooks*, *Notability*, *Dropbox*). At the conclusion of this tutorial, teachers were given an opportunity to practice each task using the *iPad* (Apple, 2010). Participants were required to demonstrate 100% accuracy in (a) identifying *iPad* (Apple, 2010) controls, and (b) enabling and disabling *Guided Access* (see Appendix P). Teachers were also trained on how to use the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) to videotape and upload lessons to the secured *Dropbox* (Dropbox Inc, 2013) account for assessment.
Student Training

Students assigned to the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) instructional group received a total of 50-minutes (10 minutes per day for 5 days) of in-class training on the *iPad* (Apple, 2010). This training, administered by the teacher, taught students how to use the basic *iPad* (Apple, 2010) controls (e.g., home button, touch screen), the *News-2-you app* (n2y, 2013), the *iBooks app* (Apple Inc, 2013), and the *Notability app* (Ginger Labs, 2013) (see Appendix Q). Students were required to demonstrate that they were able to touch the screen and select an object independently to 100% accuracy to participate in this study.

Interrater Observer of Teacher Fidelity Training

One assistive technology specialist attended a two-hour training session that provided an overview of the *ULS* (n2y, 2013) lesson plans and materials as well as instruction on the use of the teaching fidelity checklist (see Appendix I). During this training, the interrater observer of teacher fidelity was given an opportunity to practice using the teacher fidelity checklist and sample lessons. These checklists were reviewed and corrective feedback provided. Training concluded after interrater agreement reached 100% as calculated by the following formula \[\text{percent of teacher fidelity agreement} = \frac{\text{agreements}}{\text{agreements} + \text{disagreements}} \times 100\]. Additionally, the interrater observer of teacher fidelity attended a *ULS* (n2y, 2013) curriculum training.

Interrater Scorer Training

One assistive technology specialist served as the interrater scorer and rescored 25% of the pretest, posttest, and maintenance assessments. The interrater scorer attended a two-hour training session on the data collection instruments used in this study (i.e., pre, post, and maintenance assessments). The interrater scorer reviewed a scoring
demonstration for each instrument and then scored two of the assessments. The interrater scorer’s scores were compared to data collected during the pretesting phase. Training concluded after interrater agreement with the pre-test data reached 100% as calculated by the following formula \[\text{percent of interrater agreement} = \frac{\text{agreements}}{\text{agreements} + \text{disagreements}} \times 100\].

**Design and Procedures**

This study was conducted over a nine-week period and consisted of three phases. These phases included selection, preparation, and intervention. See Figure 1 for a diagram of the phases.

**Figure 1**

*Phases of the Study*
Phase One

In phase one, schools were recruited for the study. Meetings were arranged with the executive director of special education for the participating school district to explain the study and obtain support for the research. Once support was obtained at the district level, school principals were contacted to solicit school sites. Elementary and middle schools with self-contained programs for students with intellectual disabilities were the foci for this study and principals of these schools were contacted via email. Fourteen classrooms were secured for participation. Consent was obtained from participants (i.e., teacher, students) and parents of participants.

Teacher consent. Informed consent forms were distributed to teachers of students with ID (see Appendix H). A description of the study including the training and data collection requirements was provided in writing to each teacher. Consent was obtained prior to the first training.

Parental consent. Informed consent forms were distributed to parents of students with ID (see Appendix F). A letter describing the study and a consent form was sent home with each student. Letters were available in English and Spanish. All students in the classroom participated in this study, but only data from students whose parents provided a signed consent form were analyzed.

Student participants. Students in this study were: (a) identified as having an intellectual disability or developmental delay, (b) had an individualized education plan (IEP) in the state of Nevada, and (c) attended a self-contained program for students with ID. Parents reviewed the study with their child and student assent for participation was obtained (see Appendix G).
Phase Two

Phase Two included providing training to teachers, the interrater observer of teacher fidelity, and the interrater scorer. Training specific to the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) also was provided to students assigned to the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) group. Teachers completed a *ULS* (n2y, 2013) student profile for each student during this phase to determine the level of instructional and assessment materials to use with each student.

**Teacher training.** All participating teachers attended a three-hour training on the *ULS* (n2y, 2013) curriculum specific to their assigned instructional group (i.e., *iPad*, traditional teaching). Training consisted of a review of the lesson and data collection materials used during the study (see Appendix O). Seven of the classroom teachers (randomly assigned to the *iPad* group) received a tutorial of the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) (e.g., device controls and navigation, accessibility features, required apps) (see Appendix P).

**Interrater observer training.** The interrater observer of teacher fidelity attended a two-hour training at which she learned to use the fidelity checklist and *ULS* (n2y, 2013) lesson materials. During this training, the interrater observer of teacher fidelity had an opportunity to practice using the teaching fidelity checklist (see Appendix I). Additionally, the observer attended a three-hour *ULS* (n2y, 2013) curriculum training with the teachers.

**Interrater scorer training.** The interrater scorer attended a two-hour training focused on the pre, post, and maintenance assessments. Opportunities for the interrater scorer to practice scoring each instrument were provided. Additionally, the scorer attended a three-hour *ULS* (n2y, 2013) curriculum training with the teachers.
**Student training.** Students assigned to the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) group were trained by their teachers to use the *iPad* (Apple, 2010). The training focused on the *News-2-you* (n2y, 2013) *app*, *iBooks app* (Apple, 2013), and *Notability app* (Ginger Labs, 2013) (see Appendix Q).

**Completion of Unique Learning System student profiles.** All participating teachers completed a *ULS* (n2y, 2013) student profile for each of their students. This profile contained a series of student-centered questions that teachers answered independently. This profile was specifically designed to provide guidance to the teacher on the appropriate material and assessment adaptations to be utilized during lesson implementation. Upon completion of the *ULS* (n2y, 2013) student profile, each student was assigned a differentiation level (i.e., level 1, level 2, level 3) that corresponded to the lesson materials that were most appropriately adapted for that individual.

**Phase Three**

Phase three of this study took place over the course of six weeks. This phase consisted of administering pretests, the instructional intervention, posttests, and maintenance assessments. This phase also included the post-intervention survey and questionnaire.

**Pretest.** A paper version of the pretest from the *ULS* (n2y, 2013) curriculum was given to each student, regardless of instructional group, on the first day of Phase Three. This assessment was used to measure the content knowledge of all students prior to instruction. This assessment, consisting of six questions, was read to each student. The students selected their answer choice from a field of three choices (see Appendix B).
**Instructional implementation.** Once pretesting was completed, teachers began implementing *ULS* (n2y, 2013) lessons (see Appendix L). All lessons were provided to teachers based on instructional grouping (i.e., lessons provided on paper or lessons provided digitally on the *iPad*) and structured in a 50-minute period. The 50-minute lesson period included 15-minutes of whole group instruction and 30-minutes of small group instruction (e.g., 3 groups, 10-minutes per group). During whole group instruction, students were provided differentiated lesson materials (i.e., *ULS* books, worksheets) based on information gathered from the *ULS* (n2y, 2013) student profile (i.e., student differentiation level). Content of the lesson materials was identical but divided into three differentiation levels (i.e., independent, supported, participation) and aligned to the CCSS, more specifically reading for informational text standards. After whole group instruction, students were divided into smaller groups and received 10-minutes of instruction on the *News-2-you* newspaper (n2y, 2013) and completed corresponding worksheets. Each teacher recorded the number of completed worksheets on the worksheet completion checklist daily (see Appendix C). This structured lesson format was implemented for four weeks. Students in the traditional teaching group participated in lessons and completed worksheets using paper materials while students in the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) group participated in lessons and completed worksheets using the *iPad* (Apple, 2010). Fidelity of instruction was monitored via videotaped lessons on a daily basis to ensure accurate implementation of the interventions.

**Posttest and maintenance assessment.** Following the four-week instructional implementation of the *ULS* (n2y, 2013) lessons, a paper version of the posttest was administered to all students (see Appendix B). After two weeks of no instructional
intervention (maintenance phase), the maintenance assessments were administered following the same pretest and posttest format for all participants.

**Post-intervention teacher survey.** Following the posttest, all teachers completed an online survey regarding their perceptions of student engagement (see Appendix D). This survey asked a series of questions designed to analyze teacher perceptions of student engagement.

**Post-intervention student questionnaire.** After the implementation of the intervention and the collection of all related data, students assigned to the iPad (Apple, 2010) group were asked to complete a post-intervention questionnaire (see Appendix E). The questionnaire was designed to assess student attitudes and beliefs concerning using the iPad (Apple, 2010) as a learning tool. This questionnaire was picture-supported to enhance cognitive accessibility for participating students.

**Data Collection**

Data were collected throughout the study in order to answer the research questions. Data collection forms related to: (a) pre, post, and maintenance assessments, (b) work completion, (c) teacher perceptions of student engagement, (d) student attitudes and beliefs about using the iPad (Apple, 2010) as a learning tool, and (e) teacher fidelity to the intervention were used.

**Pre, Post, and Maintenance Assessments**

The pre, post, and maintenance assessments were collected for both instructional groups (i.e., iPad, traditional teaching) using assessments included in the Unique Learning System (ULS) (n2y, 2013) curriculum (see Appendix B). These data were
entered into SPSS for analysis and compared within and between instructional groups (i.e., iPad, traditional teaching).

**Work Completion**

Work completion data were collected using a checklist for both instructional groups (i.e., iPad, traditional teaching) (see Appendix C). These data were entered into SPSS for analysis and compared across instructional groups (i.e., iPad, traditional teaching).

**Teacher Perceptions of Student Engagement**

Teacher perceptions of student engagement were collected post-intervention via an online survey (see Appendix D). Responses were entered into SPSS for analysis and compared across instructional groups (i.e., iPad, traditional teaching).

**Student Attitudes and Beliefs**

Data concerning student attitudes and beliefs about using the iPad (Apple, 2010) as a learning tool were collected post-intervention through questionnaire (see Appendix E). Responses were entered into SPSS for analysis and evaluated.

**Teacher Fidelity Data**

Teacher fidelity data were collected using the teaching fidelity checklist (see Appendix I). At the end of each lesson, teacher fidelity was determined using the following formula \( \frac{\text{lesson components implemented appropriately}}{\text{lesson components implemented appropriately} + \text{lesson components implemented inappropriately}} \times 100 = \text{percent of teacher fidelity} \). This information was communicated to teachers daily.
Interrater Reliability

Interrater reliability was calculated for the scoring of pre, post, and maintenance assessments and the student and teacher satisfaction questionnaires. Interrater reliability was calculated by comparing the original data collection with the interrater observers’ data collection using the following formula [agreements/(agreements + disagreements) X 100 = percent of reliability].

Treatment of Data

Data from the pre, post, and maintenance measures were used to answer the following questions:

Research Question One. Does the content knowledge of students (i.e., K-2, 3-5, 6-8) with intellectual disabilities increase with the use of the iPad (Apple, 2010) when compared to traditional teacher methods?

Analysis: In order to determine if significant differences exist between the iPad (Apple, 2010) group and the traditional teaching group, a 2 (group) X 2 (measure) mixed-model ANOVA was used to compare groups. Alpha was set at .05.

Research Question Two. Is the content knowledge of students (i.e., K-2, 3-5, 6-8) with intellectual disabilities better maintained with the use of the iPad (Apple, 2010) when compared to traditional teacher methods?

Analysis: In order to determine if significant differences exist between the iPad (Apple, 2010) group and the traditional teaching group, an Independent t-test was used to compare groups. Alpha was set at .05.
Data from the work completion checklist were used to answer the following question:

**Research Question Three.** Does the work completion of students (i.e., K-2, 3-5, 6-8) with intellectual disabilities differ with the use of digital worksheets on the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) when compared to traditional worksheets?

**Analysis:** In order to determine if significant differences exist between the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) group and the traditional teaching group, an Independent *t*-test was used to compare groups. Alpha was set at .05.

Data from the post-intervention survey were used to answer the following question:

**Research Question Four.** Do teacher perceptions of student engagement differ with the use of the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) when compared to traditional teaching methods?

**Analysis:** In order to determine if significant differences exist between the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) group and the traditional teaching group, an Independent *t*-test was used to compare groups. Alpha was set at .05.

Data from the teacher and student questionnaires were used to answer the following questions:

**Research Question Five.** For the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) group, what are the student attitudes and beliefs concerning using the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) as a learning tool?

**Analysis:** In order to examine student attitudes and beliefs about using the *iPad* (Apple, 2010), descriptive analyses were used.
CHAPTER FOUR
RESULTS

The literature highlights a need to improve the support for accessing general education curricula for students with intellectual disabilities (ID) and research supports technology (i.e., iPad) as a catalyst for this change (Lee et al., 2010; O’Malley et al., 2013; Wehmeyer et al., 2003). Recently, the use of the iPad (Apple, 2010) as an instructional tool is emerging as a potential support to access general education curricula for these students (Burton et al., 2013; Hart & Whalon, 2012; O’Malley et al., 2013).

However, more research is needed to explore the instructional impact of the iPad (Apple, 2010) in specific curricular areas (e.g., reading, math for students with ID (Burton et al., 2013; Hart & Whalon, 2012; O’Malley et al., 2013).

The purpose of this study was to explore the efficacy of iPad (Apple, 2010) technology on the teaching and learning of students with ID. This study examined the learning of academic content aligned to the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) using traditional teaching methods (i.e., paper, pencil) compared to the use of the iPad (Apple, 2010). Additionally, the study measured student engagement through a teacher perception questionnaire and work completion across instructional groups (i.e., iPad, traditional teaching). Student perceptions of the iPad (Apple, 2010) as a learning tool were examined for the students assigned to the iPad (Apple, 2010) group. Seventy-two students with ID and fourteen special education teachers participated in the study (see Tables 1, 2, 3 and 4).

Classrooms were randomly assigned to one of two instructional groups (i.e., traditional teaching, iPad). Seven classrooms used the Unique Learning System (ULS)
(n2y, 2013) curriculum using traditional teaching methods and seven classrooms used the ULS (n2y, 2013) curriculum and iPads (Apple, 2010). Prior to the implementation of ULS (n2y, 2013) lessons, all students completed a pretest designed to measure prior knowledge of lesson objectives (see Appendix B). Students in both intervention groups received daily instruction using the ULS (n2y, 2013) curriculum for 50-minutes, five days a week for a total of four weeks. Students in the experimental group ($n = 41$) received their instructional materials on the iPad (Apple, 2010) while students in the control group ($n = 31$) received paper instructional materials. Teachers recorded the number of worksheets each student completed throughout the intervention (see Appendix C). Fidelity observations were conducted and scored daily (see Appendix I).

Following the four weeks of instructional intervention, the students completed a posttest that measured their knowledge of lesson objectives (see Appendix B). No instructional intervention occurred for two weeks. At the conclusion of the instructional intervention, a maintenance assessment, focused on student knowledge retention of the lesson objectives, was completed (see Appendix B). All teachers completed a post-intervention survey to measure their perceptions of student engagement. The students who participated in the iPad (Apple, 2010) group completed a questionnaire to examine their attitudes and beliefs concerning the use of the iPad (Apple, 2010) as a learning and instructional tool.

**Teacher Fidelity to Instruction**

Teacher fidelity checklists were developed to measure teacher adherence to the instructional intervention (see Appendix I). An assistive technology specialist with experience working with students with ID reviewed and scored each lesson using the
checklist. Fidelity was calculated using the following formula: \[
\frac{\text{number of steps implemented correctly}}{\text{total number of steps in lesson}} \times 100 = \text{percent of fidelity for each lesson}\]. The average of all lessons was calculated to determine the fidelity to intervention for each teacher (see Table 5). Overall fidelity measures for each group (i.e., iPad, traditional teaching) were determined by calculating the fidelity averages for all teachers. The iPad (Apple, 2010) teachers had a fidelity percentage of 96.24 and the traditional teaching group had a fidelity percentage of 96.60. These data indicate that participating teachers in each instructional group (i.e., iPad, traditional teaching) had a high level of instructional fidelity to the intervention used (see Table 6).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Teacher</th>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Percent of Fidelity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Traditional Teaching</td>
<td>97.50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Traditional Teaching</td>
<td>97.50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Traditional Teaching</td>
<td>98.75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Traditional Teaching</td>
<td>91.25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>Traditional Teaching</td>
<td>93.75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J</td>
<td>Traditional Teaching</td>
<td>97.50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K</td>
<td>Traditional Teaching</td>
<td>100.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>iPad</td>
<td>90.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>iPad</td>
<td>92.50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H</td>
<td>iPad</td>
<td>90.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>iPad</td>
<td>100.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L</td>
<td>iPad</td>
<td>97.50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>iPad</td>
<td>98.75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N</td>
<td>iPad</td>
<td>100.00%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 6

*Group Fidelity to Intervention Scores*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Percent of Fidelity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>iPad</em></td>
<td>96.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traditional Teaching</td>
<td>96.60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Interrater Observer**

An assistive technology specialist with knowledge of the research protocol was selected to rescore 25% of the videotaped lessons. This interrater observer rescored the lessons for both the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) and traditional teaching group. The scores were compared and interrater agreement was calculated using the following formula:

\[
\left( \frac{\text{agreements}}{\text{agreements} + \text{disagreements}} \right) \times 100 = \text{percent of agreement.}
\]

Overall, interrater agreement for the scoring of teacher fidelity was 99.28%. These findings indicate a high level of interrater agreement related to the scoring of teacher fidelity videos in this study. Interrater agreement scores for teacher fidelity are found in Table 7.
Table 7

*Interrater Observer Reliability for Teacher Fidelity*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Agreements</th>
<th>Disagreements</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Percentage of Agreement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lesson Steps</td>
<td>1112</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1112/1120</td>
<td>(1112/1120) x 100 = 99.28%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Interrater Reliability for Teacher Fidelity Scores = 99.28%

**Reliability of Assessments**

An assistive technology specialist with knowledge of the research protocol was selected to rescore 25% of the assessments administered (i.e., pretest, posttest, maintenance). The interrater scorer rescored 25% the three assessments for both the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) and traditional teaching group. The scores were compared and interrater agreement was calculated using the following formula: 

\[
\text{percent of agreement} = \left( \frac{\text{agreements}}{\text{agreements} + \text{disagreements}} \right) \times 100
\]

Overall, interrater agreement for assessment scoring was 99.12%. These findings indicate a high level of interrater agreement related to the scoring of the assessments used in this study. Interrater agreement scores for student assessment data are found in Table 8.
Table 8

*Interrater Reliability for Student Assessment Scores*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Agreements</th>
<th>Disagreements</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Percentage of Agreement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Student Assessments</td>
<td>339</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>339/342</td>
<td>(339/342) x 100 = 99.12%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Interrater Reliability for Student Assessment Scores = 99.12%

Research Questions and Related Findings

The research questions associated with this study were designed to analyze: (a) academic student knowledge, (b) work completion, (c) student engagement as perceived by teachers, and (d) student beliefs concerning *iPad* (Apple, 2010) technology. Statistical analyses and a summary of findings are included below.

Analysis of Academic Student Knowledge

The students who participated in this study were administered an assessment that consisted of six questions designed to measure knowledge of *ULS* (n2y, 2013) lesson objectives (see Appendix B). The students completed this assessment three times throughout the study: (a) prior to implementation of the *ULS* (n2y, 2013) lessons as a pretest, (b) upon completion of the four-week *ULS* (n2y, 2013) lessons as a posttest, and (c) after a two-week maintenance period without instruction. Each question was scored and the scores added together to determine an overall assessment score. The scores were analyzed to compare the effectiveness of the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) or the traditional
instruction at increasing the knowledge of academic content of students with ID. Descriptive and inferential statistics were used to compare scores on these assessments. Descriptive statistics are presented in Table 9.

Data from the pretest and posttest assessments were used to answer the following research question:

**Research Question 1:** Does the content knowledge of students (i.e., K-2, 3-5, 6-8) with intellectual disabilities increase with the use of the iPad (Apple, 2010) when compared to traditional teacher methods?

It was predicted that iPad-based instruction would result in increased student content knowledge when compared to traditional teaching methods.

Individual student pretest and posttest scores were combined to determine the group means and a 2 (group) X 2 (measure) mixed-model ANOVA was conducted to test for significant differences between the instructional groups (i.e., iPad, traditional teaching). Alpha was set at .05. The results were analyzed by grade band (i.e., primary K-2, intermediate 3-5, middle school 6-8).
Table 9

Summary of Means and Standard Deviations For Pre and Post Assessments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>Standard Deviation</th>
<th>N</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Primary Pretest</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iPad</td>
<td>7.40</td>
<td>3.65</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traditional Teaching</td>
<td>6.06</td>
<td>3.21</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary Posttest</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iPad</td>
<td>10.40</td>
<td>1.83</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traditional Teaching</td>
<td>7.60</td>
<td>3.56</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intermediate Pretest</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iPad</td>
<td>5.84</td>
<td>1.51</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traditional Teaching</td>
<td>8.44</td>
<td>3.43</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intermediate Posttest</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iPad</td>
<td>8.46</td>
<td>3.17</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traditional Teaching</td>
<td>9.11</td>
<td>2.47</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle School Pretest</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iPad</td>
<td>7.33</td>
<td>2.47</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traditional Teaching</td>
<td>7.14</td>
<td>5.01</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Middle School Posttest</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iPad</td>
<td>9.11</td>
<td>2.92</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traditional Teaching</td>
<td>8.00</td>
<td>5.03</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Primary (K-2 grades).** The F test of within-subjects effects was significant [F(1,23) = 11.830, p = .002]. This indicates that there was a significant difference between the scores related to student knowledge of *ULS* (n2y, 2013) lesson objectives between the pretest and posttest (see Table 10). The F test of between-subjects effects was not significant [F(1,23) = 3.335, p = .081]. This indicates that there was not a significant difference between the posttest scores of the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) group when compared to the traditional teaching group (see Table 11). This means that one intervention was not significantly better at teaching academic content to students with ID for this grade band.

Table 10

*Tests of Within-Subjects Effects for Primary Student Knowledge of Academic Content*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Type III Sum of Squares</th>
<th>df</th>
<th>Mean Squared</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>Sig.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Test</td>
<td>61.653</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>61.653</td>
<td>11.830</td>
<td>.002*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Error (Test)</td>
<td>119.867</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>5.212</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note.* *p* < .05.
### Table 11

**Tests of Between-Subjects Effects for Primary Student Knowledge of Academic Content**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Type III Sum of Squares</th>
<th>df</th>
<th>Mean Squared</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>Sig.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Group</td>
<td>51.253</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>51.253</td>
<td>3.335</td>
<td>.081</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Error</td>
<td>353.467</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>15.368</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Intermediate (3-5 grades).** The F test of within-subjects effects was significant \([F(1,20) = 5.642, p = .028]\). This indicates that there was a significant difference between the scores related to student knowledge of *ULS* (n2y, 2013) lesson objectives between the pretest and posttest (see Table 12). However, the F test of between-subjects effects was not significant \([F(1,20) = 2.945, p = .102]\). This indicates that there was not a significant difference between the posttest scores of the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) group when compared to the traditional teaching group (see Table 13). This means that one intervention was not significantly better at teaching academic content to students with ID in the intermediate grade band.
Table 12

Tests of Within-Subjects Effects for Intermediate Student Knowledge of Academic Content

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Type III Sum of Squares</th>
<th>df</th>
<th>Mean Squared</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>Sig.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Test</td>
<td>28.643</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>28.643</td>
<td>5.642</td>
<td>.028*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Error (Test)</td>
<td>101.538</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>5.077</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note. *p < .05.

Table 13

Tests of Between-Subjects Effects for Intermediate Student Knowledge of Academic Content

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Type III Sum of Squares</th>
<th>df</th>
<th>Mean Squared</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>Sig.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Group</td>
<td>28.050</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>28.050</td>
<td>2.945</td>
<td>.102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Error</td>
<td>190.496</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>9.525</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Middle school (6-8 grades). The F test of within-subjects effects was significant [F(1,23) = 6.822, p = .016)]. This indicates that there was a significant difference between the scores related to student knowledge of ULS (n2y, 2013) lesson objectives between the pretest and posttest (see Table 14). However, the F test of between-subjects
effects was not significant \([F(1,23) = .199, p = .660]\). This indicates that there was not a significant difference between the posttest scores of the iPad (Apple, 2010) group when compared to the traditional teaching group (see Table 15). This means that one intervention was not significantly better at teaching academic content to students with ID in the middle school grade band.

Table 14

*Tests of Within-Subjects Effects for Middle School Student Knowledge of Academic Content*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Type III Sum of Squares</th>
<th>df</th>
<th>Mean Squared</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>Sig.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Test</td>
<td>17.496</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>17.496</td>
<td>6.822</td>
<td>.016*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Error (Test)</td>
<td>58.984</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>2.565</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note.* *p* < .05.
Knowledge Maintenance

The 4-week instructional intervention for both groups was followed by a 2-week period of maintenance (i.e., no instruction). Upon conclusion of the maintenance period, students were given an assessment intended to measure retention (see Appendix B). Descriptive and inferential statistics were used to compare scores on these assessments. Descriptive statistics are presented in Table 16.
Table 16

*Summary of Means and Standard Deviations For Maintenance Assessments*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>Standard Deviation</th>
<th>N</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Primary Maintenance</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iPad</td>
<td>9.40</td>
<td>1.89</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traditional Teaching</td>
<td>9.73</td>
<td>3.45</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intermediate Maintenance</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iPad</td>
<td>8.61</td>
<td>3.09</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traditional Teaching</td>
<td>8.66</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle School Maintenance</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iPad</td>
<td>10.11</td>
<td>2.78</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traditional Teaching</td>
<td>8.00</td>
<td>3.82</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data from the maintenance assessments were used to answer the following research question:

**Research Question 2:** Is the content knowledge of students (i.e., K-2, 3-5, 6-8) with intellectual disabilities better maintained with the use of the iPad (Apple, 2010) when compared to traditional teacher methods?

It was predicted that students would demonstrate a better maintenance of content knowledge in the iPad-based instructional group when compared to the traditional teaching group.

Individual student maintenance assessment scores were combined to determine the group means and an independent *t*-test was conducted to test for significant
differences between the instructional groups (i.e., *iPad*, traditional teaching). Alpha was set at .05. The results were analyzed by grade band (i.e., primary K-2, intermediate 3-5, middle school 6-8).

**Primary (K-2 grades).** The *t*-test was not significant \( [t(23) = .277, p = .784] \) for the maintenance scores of the primary students (see Table 17). This indicates that there was not a significant difference in the maintenance of learned concepts between the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) and traditional teaching groups. The use of the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) did not have a significant effect on the knowledge maintenance of the students with ID in the primary grade band.

Table 17

*Independent Samples Test of Maintenance Assessment for Primary Students*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Mean Difference</th>
<th>Std. Error Difference</th>
<th>t</th>
<th>df</th>
<th>Sig. (2-tailed)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance Assessment</td>
<td>.3333</td>
<td>1.20185</td>
<td>.277</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>.784</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Intermediate (3-5 grades).** The *t*-test was not significant \( [t(20) = .039, p = .970] \) for the maintenance scores of the intermediate students (see Table 18). This indicates that there was no significant difference in the maintenance of learned concepts between the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) and traditional teaching groups. The use of the *iPad* (Apple, 2010)
did not have a significant effect on the knowledge maintenance of the students with ID in the intermediate grade band.

Table 18

*Independent Samples Test of Maintenance Assessment for Intermediate Students*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Maintenance Assessment</th>
<th>Mean Difference</th>
<th>Std. Error Difference</th>
<th>t</th>
<th>df</th>
<th>Sig. (2-tailed)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance Assessment</td>
<td>.05128</td>
<td>1.32621</td>
<td>.039</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>.970</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Middle school (6-8 grades).** The *t*-test was not significant [*t*(23) = -1.533, *p* = .139] for the maintenance scores of the middle school students (see Table 19). This indicates that there was no significant difference in the maintenance of learned concepts between the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) and traditional teaching groups. The use of the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) did not have a significant effect on the knowledge maintenance of students with ID in the middle school grade band.
Table 19

*Independent Samples Test of Maintenance Assessment for Middle School Students*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mean Difference</th>
<th>Std. Error Difference</th>
<th>t</th>
<th>df</th>
<th>Sig. (2-tailed)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance Assessment</td>
<td>-2.11111</td>
<td>1.37693</td>
<td>-1.533</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Analysis of Student Work Completion**

Each student who participated in this study was assigned either a digital or paper worksheet to complete each day. A total of twenty worksheets were assigned to each student. Teachers recorded completed worksheets on the worksheet completion checklist (see Appendix C). A worksheet was considered complete if an answer was selected, either digitally or by using a pencil for each question. At the end of the study, the number of completed worksheets was tabulated for each student and the numbers analyzed across groups (i.e., iPad, traditional teaching). Descriptive and inferential statistics were used to compare worksheet completion across groups. Descriptive statistics are presented in Table 20.
Data from the work completion checklists were used to answer the following research question:

**Research Question 3:** Does the work completion of students (i.e., K-2, 3-5, 6-8) with intellectual disabilities differ with the use of digital worksheets on the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) when compared to traditional worksheets?

It was predicted that the use of *iPad*-compatible worksheets would result in increased student work completion when compared to traditional worksheets.

Individual student worksheet completion scores were combined to determine the group means and an independent *t*-test conducted to test for significant differences.
between the worksheets (i.e., digital, traditional). The results were analyzed by grade band (i.e., primary K-2, intermediate 3-5, middle school 6-8).

**Primary (K-2 grades).** The $t$-test was not significant [$t(23) = -1.561, p = .132$] for worksheet completion by students in the primary grade band (see Table 21). This indicates that there was not a significant difference in the mean work completion scores between the digital and traditional worksheets. The use of the digital worksheets on the iPad (Apple, 2010) did not have a significant effect on the amount of worksheets students with ID completed in the primary grade band.

Table 21

*Independent Samples Test of Worksheet Completion for Primary Students*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Mean Difference</th>
<th>Std. Error Difference</th>
<th>t</th>
<th>df</th>
<th>Sig. (2-tailed)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Work Completion</td>
<td>-3.36667</td>
<td>2.15728</td>
<td>-1.561</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>.132</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Intermediate (3-5 grades).** The $t$-test was significant [$t(20) = -2.941, p = .008$] for the worksheets completed by students with ID in the intermediate grade band (see Table 22). This indicates that there was a significant difference in the mean worksheet completion scores between the digital worksheets on the iPad (Apple, 2010) and traditional worksheet groups. The use of the digital worksheets on the iPad (Apple, 2010) had a significant effect on the amount of worksheet students with ID completed in the intermediate grade band. For the intermediate grade band, students with ID participating
in the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) group completed more digital worksheets than students with ID using traditional paper worksheets.

Table 22

*Independent Samples Test of Worksheet Completion for Intermediate Students*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Mean Difference</th>
<th>Std. Error Difference</th>
<th>t</th>
<th>df</th>
<th>Sig. (2-tailed)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Work Completion</td>
<td>-4.76068</td>
<td>1.61897</td>
<td>-2.941</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>.008*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note.* *p* < .05.

**Middle School (6-8 grades).** The *t*-test was significant [*t*(23)= -2.058, *p* = .05] for the worksheets completed by students with ID in the middle school grade band (see Table 23). This indicates that there was a significant difference in the mean worksheet completion scores between the digital worksheets on the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) and traditional worksheet groups. The use of the digital worksheets on the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) had a significant effect on the amount of worksheet students with ID completed in the middle school grade band. For the middle school grade band, students with ID participating in the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) group completed more digital worksheets than students with ID using traditional paper worksheets.
Table 23

Independent Samples Test of Worksheet Completion for Middle School Students

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Mean Difference</th>
<th>Std. Error Difference</th>
<th>t</th>
<th>df</th>
<th>Sig. (2-tailed)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Work Completion</td>
<td>-3.92857</td>
<td>1.90848</td>
<td>-2.058</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>.05*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note. *p < .05.

Analysis of Student Engagement

The teachers participating in this study completed a post-intervention survey consisting of three questions designed to assess their perceptions of student engagement (see Appendix D). Each question was scored and the scores analyzed to compare the engagement of students across instructional groups (i.e., iPad, traditional teaching). Descriptive and inferential statistics were used to compare survey question scores. Descriptive statistics are presented in Table 24.
Table 24

Summary of Means and Standard Deviations for Student Engagement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Engagement</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>Standard Deviation</th>
<th>N</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Level of engagement in ULS lessons.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iPad</td>
<td>2.71</td>
<td>.488</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traditional Teaching</td>
<td>1.86</td>
<td>.378</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level of engagement in ULS assessments</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iPad</td>
<td>2.71</td>
<td>.488</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traditional Teaching</td>
<td>1.86</td>
<td>.690</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level of independence in completing News-2-you worksheets.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iPad</td>
<td>2.29</td>
<td>.488</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traditional Teaching</td>
<td>1.57</td>
<td>.535</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data from the teacher perception survey were used to answer the following research question:

**Research Question 4:** Do teacher perceptions of student engagement differ with the use of the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) when compared to traditional teaching methods?

It was predicted that teachers would report a higher level of engagement by students participating in the instruction with the *iPads* (Apple, 2010) when compared to students in the traditional teaching group.
Teacher rating scores were combined for each survey question to determine the group means and an independent $t$-test conducted to test for significant differences between the instructional groups (i.e., iPad, traditional teaching).

**Student engagement during lessons.** The $t$-test was significant [$t_{(12)}=3.674$, $p = .003$] for perceived student engagement during instruction (see Table 25). This indicates that there was a significant difference in teacher perceptions of the engagement of students with ID between the iPad (Apple, 2010) and traditional teaching groups. The teachers perceived that students with ID in the iPad (Apple, 2010) group showed more engagement during lessons in which the iPad (Apple, 2010) was used than did the teachers when traditional instruction was used.

Table 25

*Independent Samples Test of Teacher Perceptions of Student Engagement During Lessons*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Mean Difference</th>
<th>Std. Error Difference</th>
<th>$t$</th>
<th>df</th>
<th>Sig. (2-tailed)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lesson Engagement</td>
<td>.857</td>
<td>.223</td>
<td>3.674</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>.003*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note. * $p < .05.$

**Student engagement during assessments.** The $t$-test was significant [$t_{(12)}=2.683$, $p = .020$] for perceived student engagement during assessments (see Table 26). This indicates that there was a significant difference in the teacher perceptions of the engagement of the students with ID between the iPad (Apple, 2010) and traditional
teaching groups. The teachers perceived that students with ID in the iPad (Apple, 2010) group showed more engagement during assessments than did the teachers when traditional instruction was used.

Table 26

*Independent Samples Test of Teacher Perceptions of Student Engagement During Assessments*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Mean Difference</th>
<th>Std. Error Difference</th>
<th>t</th>
<th>df</th>
<th>Sig. (2-tailed)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assessment Engagement</td>
<td>.857</td>
<td>.223</td>
<td>2.683</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>.020*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note.* *p < .05.*

**Student independence in completing worksheets.** The *t*-test was significant [*t*(12) = 2.611, *p* = .023] for teacher perceptions of student independence in worksheet completion (see Table 27). This indicates that there was a significant difference in the perceptions of teachers concerning the independence of students with ID in completing worksheets between the iPad (Apple, 2010) and traditional teaching groups. The teachers perceived that the students with ID independently completed more worksheets when materials were provided via the iPad (Apple, 2010) than did the teachers for the students taught via traditional instruction.
**Table 27**

*Independent Samples Test of Teacher Perceptions of Student Independence*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Mean Difference</th>
<th>Std. Error Difference</th>
<th>t</th>
<th>df</th>
<th>Sig. (2-tailed)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Student Independence</td>
<td>.714</td>
<td>2.611</td>
<td>3.674</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>.023*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note.* *p < .05.*

**Analysis of Student Beliefs Concerning the Use of iPad Technology**

At the conclusion of the study, the students who worked with the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) completed questionnaires designed to assess their attitudes and beliefs about using the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) as a learning tool (see Appendix E). The student questionnaire asked students to rate their perceptions about using the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) to complete assignments. The students ranked each statement on the questionnaire using a Likert scale, with 1 being agree and 3 being disagree. Data from the student questionnaires were analyzed and descriptive statistics are presented in Table 28. Descriptive statistics indicate that students with ID assigned to the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) group reported that the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) had a positive influence on their learning.
Table 28

*Summary of Percentage of Agreement for Student Questionnaire*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Percentage of Student Agreement</th>
<th>N</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I like to use the <em>iPad</em> at school.</td>
<td>92.7%</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The <em>iPad</em> helps me learn.</td>
<td>95.1%</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It is easy to do my work on the <em>iPad</em>.</td>
<td>87.8%</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I want to use the <em>iPad</em> more at school.</td>
<td>95.1%</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I think the <em>iPad</em> is fun.</td>
<td>92.7%</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Students with intellectual disabilities (ID) are often limited in their access to general education curricula (Browder et al., 2006; Browder et al., 2008). Facilitating such access for students with ID is both mandated by federal law and supported in recent research (IDEA, 2004; NLCB, 2001; Soukup et al., 2007). Technology, having the potential to enhance the learning for this population, is beginning to catch the interest of both researchers and educators (Cumming & Strnadova, 2012; Edyburn, 2013). Initial research involving the iPad (Apple, 2010) and the learning of students with disabilities is promising (Hart & Whalon, 2012; O’Malley et al., 2013). Determining the efficacy of the iPad (Apple, 2010) as a learning tool to teach an adapted curriculum (i.e., aligned to general education curricula) may positively impact academic achievement for students with ID (Palmer et al., 2012).

This purpose of this study was to compare the use of an adapted curriculum, aligned to the Common Core State Standards (CCSS), taught through two instructional formats (i.e., iPad, traditional teaching methods) to determine the most effective method for providing students with ID access to general education curricula. It was predicted that students would exhibit a higher knowledge of academic content, a higher rate of independent work completion, and an increased level of engagement with the use of the iPad (Apple, 2010) when compared to the traditional teaching group. Student beliefs concerning the use of the iPad (Apple, 2010) as a learning tool also were measured at the conclusion of the study. It was predicted that students would favor the use of the iPad (Apple, 2010) within the classroom.
This study involved 72 students from fourteen self-contained classrooms for students with intellectual disabilities. Student participants ranged in age from 5 to 13, were from diverse backgrounds, and were identified as having an intellectual disability. Fourteen teachers participated in the study.

Prior to the beginning of the study, classrooms were randomly assigned to one of two instructional groups (i.e., traditional teaching, iPad). Seven classrooms used the Unique Learning System (ULS) (n2y, 2013) curriculum via traditional teaching methods and seven used the ULS (n2y, 2013) curriculum and iPads (Apple, 2010). Prior to the implementation of ULS (n2y, 2013) lessons, all students completed a pretest designed to measure prior knowledge of lesson objectives. Students in both intervention groups received daily instruction using the ULS (n2y, 2013) curriculum for 50-minutes, five days a week for a total of four weeks. Students in the experimental group received instructional materials on the iPad (Apple, 2010) while students in the control group received paper instructional materials. Teachers recorded the number of worksheets each student completed throughout the intervention. Fidelity observations were conducted and scored daily.

Following the four weeks of instructional intervention, the students completed a posttest that again measured their knowledge of lesson objectives. No instructional intervention occurred for two weeks. A maintenance assessment focused on student knowledge of the lesson objectives, was given at the end of the two-week period. All teachers completed a post-intervention survey designed to measure perceived student engagement. Students who participated in the iPad (Apple, 2010) group completed a
questionnaire to examine attitudes and beliefs on the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) as a learning tool.

**Analysis of Academic Student Knowledge**

All students (regardless of instructional group) took the paper version of the pre, post, and maintenance assessments. The assessments contained questions aligned to instructional targets of the *ULS* (n2y, 2013) lessons and were administered individually. Assessments consisted of six questions that were read aloud by the teacher and students selected an answer from a field of three picture choices. Prior to the implementation of the intervention (i.e., *ULS* lessons), all students completed a pretest designed to measure prior knowledge of instructional targets. Following the four weeks of instructional intervention, the students completed a posttest that again measured their knowledge of instructional targets. Two weeks of no instructional intervention followed the posttest, and students then completed a maintenance assessment.

**Primary (Grades K-2)**

Following the instructional intervention (i.e., *ULS* lessons), the student mean scores from pretest to posttest increased (the *iPad* group increased by 3.00 points, the traditional group increased by 1.53 points) for the students in the primary grade band. The data indicated that there was not a significant difference in the scores between the two groups. Thus, the use of the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) was not more effective in teaching the academic objectives of the *ULS* (n2y, 2013) lessons for the primary groups. Finally, the *t*-test analysis of maintenance assessment scores indicated that there was not a significant difference between the instructional groups (i.e., *iPad*, traditional teaching). This indicates that neither group outperformed the other after a two-week maintenance
period (the primary iPad group mean was 9.40 points, the primary traditional group mean was 9.73 points). Thus, the use of the iPad (Apple, 2010) did not have a significant effect on the knowledge maintenance of students with ID in the primary grade band.

**Intermediate (Grades 3-5)**

Following the instructional intervention (i.e., ULS lessons), the student mean scores from pretest to posttest increased (the iPad group increased by 2.62 points, the traditional group increased by .67 points) for the students in the intermediate grade band. The data indicated that there was not a significant difference in the scores between the two groups. The use of the iPad (Apple, 2010) was not more effective in teaching the academic objectives of the ULS (n2y, 2013) lessons for the intermediate groups. Finally, the t-test analysis of maintenance assessment scores indicated that there was not a significant difference between the instructional groups (i.e., iPad, traditional teaching). This indicates that neither group outperformed the other after a two-week maintenance period (the intermediate iPad group mean was 8.61 points, the intermediate traditional group mean was 8.66 points). Thus, the use of the iPad (Apple, 2010) did not have a significant effect on the knowledge maintenance of students with ID in the intermediate grade band.

**Middle School (Grades 6-8)**

Following the instructional intervention (i.e., ULS lessons), the student mean scores from pretest to posttest increased (the iPad group increased by 1.78 points, the traditional group increased by .86 points) for the students in the middle school grade band. The data indicated that there was not a significant difference in the scores between the two groups. The use of the iPad (Apple, 2010) was not more effective in teaching the
academic objectives of the ULS (n2y, 2013) lessons for the middle school groups. Finally, the $t$-test analysis of maintenance assessment scores indicated that there was not a significant difference between the instructional groups (i.e., iPad, traditional teaching). This indicates that neither group outperformed the other after a two-week maintenance period (the middle school iPad group mean was 10.11 points, the middle school traditional group mean was 8.00 points). Thus, the use of the iPad (Apple, 2010) did not have a significant effect on the knowledge maintenance of students with ID in the middle school grade band.

Overall, for student academic knowledge, the increase in mean scores, as well as the performance of individual students, indicates that the learning of academic instructional targets did occur across both instructional groups. The lack of significance between intervention scores between the two groups (i.e., iPad, traditional teaching) may be explained by a number of factors. First, the number of students in each classroom varied from four to fourteen. This may have impacted the instructional intervention as the number of participants varied by group, a factor not easily controlled. Another factor related to the lack of significance may be the cognitive diversity of participating students with ID. The students in the study were identified as having an intellectual disability (ID) and were being educated in self-contained classrooms. However, they were not grouped based on their IQ scores. Students with ID have varying degrees of cognitive deficit that may interfere with their overall academic success (Downing, 2010). This variance could not be controlled in this study and may have skewed the assessment data.
Analysis of Student Work Completion

In order to determine if there was a difference in student work completion across instructional groups (i.e., iPad, traditional teaching) the participating teachers tracked student work completion using the work completion checklist (see Appendix C). Each teacher checked off completed worksheets for both instructional groups, recording the total number of worksheets completed by each student.

Primary (Grades K-2)

The mean scores for the students with ID in the iPad (Apple, 2010) group were higher following the instructional intervention. The iPad (Apple, 2010) group mean was 10.50 completed worksheets, and the traditional instructional group mean was 7.13 completed worksheets. However, inferential analysis of the data indicated that there was not a significant difference in the means of the two instructional groups. The use of the iPad (Apple, 2010) did not result in an increased number of worksheets independently completed by the students with ID in the primary grade band.

Intermediate (Grades 3-5)

The mean scores for the students with ID in the iPad (Apple, 2010) group were higher following the instructional intervention. The iPad (Apple, 2010) group mean was 13.53 completed worksheets, and the traditional instructional group mean was 8.77 completed worksheets. Inferential analysis of the data indicated that there was a significant difference in the means of the two instructional groups. The use of the iPad (Apple, 2010) did result in significantly more worksheets being completed independently by the students with ID than did traditional instruction.
Middle School (Grades 6-8)

The mean scores for the students with ID in the iPad (Apple, 2010) group were higher following the instructional intervention. The iPad (Apple, 2010) group mean was 17.50 completed worksheets, and the traditional instructional group mean was 13.57 completed worksheets. Inferential analysis of the data indicated that there was a significant difference in the means of the two instructional groups. The use of the iPad (Apple, 2010) did result in significantly more worksheets being completed independently by the students with ID than did traditional instruction.

In review, the lack of significance for the students with ID in the primary grade band may be explained by a number of factors, primarily attention and fine motor development. Students in the primary grade band were much younger than the students in the intermediate and middle school grade bands and may be lacking the requisite skills to use the iPad (Apple, 2010) proficiently (i.e., attention, distractibility, fine motor development). Even the training to use the iPad (Apple, 2010) may not have compensated for the developmental delays in these areas. Two of the primary grade band teachers, assigned to the iPad (Apple, 2010) group, mentioned that their students were excited to use the iPads (Apple, 2010), however, they became very distracted (e.g., repeatedly touching the screen to select and deselect answers). This non-purposeful touching may have inhibited the independent worksheet completion by the primary students. This is supported by observation wherein the younger students required some form of prompting or verbal redirection when they used the iPads (Apple, 2010).
Analysis of Student Engagement

In order to determine if there was a difference in student engagement across instructional groups (i.e., iPad, traditional teaching), participating teachers completed a survey (see Appendix D) following the instructional intervention. This survey asked a series of questions designed to analyze teacher perceptions of student engagement.

The survey focused on student engagement in three areas: (a) lessons, (b) assessments, and (c) worksheet completion. The mean scores for teachers in the iPad (Apple, 2010) group were higher following the instructional intervention for student lesson engagement (iPad group mean was 2.71, traditional group mean was 1.86), student assessment engagement (iPad group mean was 2.71, traditional group mean was 1.86), and student worksheet engagement (iPad group mean was 2.29, traditional group mean was 1.57). Inferential analysis of the data indicated that there was a significant difference in the means of the two instructional groups for all analyzed areas. The teachers who used the iPad (Apple, 2010) believed their students were more engaged during lessons, assessments, and worksheets than did the teachers in the traditional instructional group. This significance may be explained by the presence of the iPad (Apple, 2010) technology as students with ID who used the iPad (Apple, 2010) reported favorable opinions concerning the use of this technology for learning. Students with ID in the iPad (Apple, 2010) instructional group may have been more motivated to use novel technology than students with ID who used traditional instructional materials.

Analysis of Student Beliefs Concerning the Use of iPad Technology

After implementation of the intervention and the collection of all related data, students assigned to the iPad (Apple, 2010) group were asked to complete a post-
intervention questionnaire. This questionnaire was designed to assess student beliefs concerning using the iPad (Apple, 2010) as a learning tool. Data concerning student attitudes and beliefs about using the iPad (Apple, 2010) as a learning tool were collected through a questionnaire. Overall, 87.8% of students agreed that the iPad (Apple, 2010) made it easier to complete their work, 95.1% of students agreed that the iPad (Apple 2010) helped them learn, 92.7% of students reported enjoying the use of iPad (Apple, 2010) technology, 95.1% of students reported that they would like to use the iPad (Apple, 2010) more at school, and 92.7% of students believed that iPad (Apple, 2010) was fun to use for learning. The students with ID who used the iPad (Apple, 2010) during academic instruction reported positive experiences with this technology.

Conclusions

There are five conclusions that may be drawn from this study. They are based on the quantitative data that were collected. The limitations of this study should be considered when evaluating these conclusions.

1. Although the student mean scores on pre, post, and maintenance assessments increased following the instructional intervention, there was no significant difference between the two instructional groups. This indicates that the use of the iPad (Apple, 2010) was as effective as traditional teaching at teaching academic concepts to students with ID.

2. Although the student mean scores for worksheet completion were not significant for the primary grade band, student mean scores for worksheet completion in the intermediate and middle school grade bands were significant.
This indicates that the use of the iPad (Apple, 2010) was more effective in terms of work completion than traditional worksheets for students in the intermediate and middle school grade bands.

3. The primary students with ID who used the iPads (Apple, 2010) appeared to be more distracted than the intermediate and middle school students who used the iPad (Apple, 2010). This indicates that the use of the iPad (Apple, 2010) may be more appropriate and effective for older (i.e., intermediate, middle school) students with ID.

4. The data from the study indicated that the students with ID in the iPad (Apple, 2010) instructional groups were perceived by their teachers to be significantly more engaged during lessons, assessments, and worksheet completion than students in the traditional teaching group. This indicates that the use of the iPad (Apple, 2010) was perceived by the teachers to be a more effective learning tool than traditional teaching in engaging students with ID during instruction.

5. The students with ID reported that the iPad (Apple, 2010) had a positive influence on their learning. This indicates that students with ID enjoyed the use of the iPad (Apple, 2010).

6. The use of the ULS (n2y, 2013) curriculum facilitated an increase in academic achievement (i.e., aligned to CCSS) for students with ID.

**Recommendations for Further Research**

Research suggests that both adapted curricula and cognitively accessible technology can support the learning limitations of students with ID (Palmer et al., 2012).
However, research involving students with ID and iPad (Apple, 2010) technology is only emerging (Kagohara et al., 2013). More research is needed to determine the best method for teaching these students using iPad (Apple, 2010) technology. Based on the results of this study, the following areas are suggested for further study.

1. A replication of the present study should be conducted that includes a larger sample size to determine if a greater number of participants will produce different results.

2. A replication of this study should be conducted over a longer period of time to determine the impact of prolonged exposure to the iPad (Apple, 2010) on the learning and maintenance of academic concepts of students with ID.

3. Further research should focus on the development of teacher training with regard to incorporating iPad (Apple, 2010) technology into instruction for students with ID.

4. Additional research should be conducted with younger (i.e., primary grades) students with ID to determine effective strategies (e.g., guided access, training, accessibility) that can enhance the use of iPad (Apple, 2010) technology for this age and disability group.

5. A replication of the present study should be conducted focusing on controlling cognitive disparity across groups to determine if there is a difference between the acquisition and maintenance of academic skills, engagement, and work completion between IQ scores.

6. Further research should be conducted to collect more concrete and quantitative student engagement data (i.e., frequency of interactions with
technology and curriculum). The *ULS* (n2y, 2013) curriculum could feasibly incorporate this feature into the curriculum design. This will enhance the curriculum and allow for both researchers and teachers to examine student engagement more thoroughly.

**Summary**

Access to general education curricula is essential to the academic achievement of students with intellectual disabilities (ID) and mandated by federal law (IDEA, 2004; NCLB, 2001; Soukup et al., 2007). Though an academic instructional focus is rarely observed in self-contained special education classrooms (Browder et al., 2006), research suggests that both adapted curricula and cognitively accessible technology can support the learning limitations of students with ID (Palmer et al., 2012). This study incorporated academic instruction using *iPads* (Apple, 2010) to determine effective methods for teaching children with intellectual disabilities academic concepts aligned to the Common Core State Standards (CCSS).

Results of this study demonstrated that the use of the *iPad* (Apple, 2010) enhances the learning experience for students with ID with regards to work completion and engagement. This study also demonstrated that students with ID are able to participate appropriately in grade-aligned academic instruction. Further, this study highlighted the use of the *ULS* (n2y, 2013) curriculum for students with ID. Suggestions for expansion of the design of this curriculum include incorporating a learner-engagement feature in which interactions with the curriculum are counted for further
analysis. This feature would quantify student engagement data, a task that would provide teachers of students with ID valuable learning information.

This study contributes to the research in that it appears to be one of the first studies designed to measure the impact of the iPad (Apple, 2010) on the learning of students with ID. The present study lays the foundation for further research into providing access to both iPad (Apple, 2010) technology and adapted curricula aligned to general education curricula for this population. This access will allow students with ID to participate in more rigorous and academically-focused curricula and will ultimately enhance their educational success.
APPENDIX A

ULS and n2y Copyright Permission
November 21, 2013

n2y
PO Box 550
Huron, OH 44839

Dear John Standal:

I am completing a doctoral dissertation at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas entitled Exploring Cognitively Accessible Academic Lessons for Students with Intellectual Disabilities Using the iPad. I would like your permission to use lessons, materials, and assessments from the Unique Learning System and News-2-you newspaper.

The requested permission extends to any future revision and editions of my dissertation including non-exclusive rights in all language and to the prospective publication of my dissertation by ProQuest Information and Learning (ProQuest) through its UMI® Dissertation Publishing business. ProQuest may produce and sell copies of my dissertation on demand and may make my dissertation available for free internet download at my request. These rights will in no way restrict republication of the material in any form by you or by others authorized by you. Your signing of this letter will also confirm that you own [or your company owns] the copyright to the above-described material.

If these arrangements meet with your approval, please sign the letter where indicated below and return it to me at the address below. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Jamie Gunderson
Assistive Technology Services
2551 Vegas Dr.
Las Vegas, NV 89106

PERMISSION GRANTED FOR THE USE REQUESTED ABOVE:

John Standal

Date: 7/8/14
APPENDIX B

Pre, Post, and Maintenance Assessment
### Grade: 6th Elementary

#### Unit Target: Physical Science
- Unit Topic: Paper, Pearl, Selenium

#### Unique Learning System Elementary Level 1 Checkpoints Score Sheet

**Student Name: ____________________________  Date: ____________________________**

This score sheet is provided for teachers who do not complete the checkpoints online. After the score sheet is completed, the results may be entered online into the Unique GPS in order to track student progress.

**Scoring Instructions:** If the student has two attempts to answer each question, the second attempt will be recorded in the "Scored as" column. If the student has one attempt to answer each question, the "Scored as" column will be left blank.

- **Attempt:** The student's first or second attempt at answering each question.
- **Needed?** A checkmark indicates the student needed to attempt the question.
- **Responded?** A checkmark indicates the student responded to the question.
- **Answer Given:** The correct answer to the question.

**Item 1**

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**Item 6 Special Instructions:**

© 2019-20

ULS, March 2024
## Content, Reading and Mathematics (Continue assessment on next page)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attempts</th>
<th>Teacher Prompt</th>
<th>Response Options</th>
<th>Special Accommodations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Row 1</strong></td>
<td>Present 3 pictures (with text). Lee has a root. Who is Lee?</td>
<td>a. Lee b. paper c. mouse</td>
<td>Response options may be presented verbally. No additional prompts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Row 2</strong></td>
<td>Present 3 pictures (with text). Who is Lee?</td>
<td>a. umbrella b. shoe c. bedroom</td>
<td>Add verbal, gestural or physical prompts. Score if the response is relevant to respond.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Row 3</strong></td>
<td>Present 2 pictures (with text). Lee keeps his root in his bedroom. Where does Lee keep his root?</td>
<td>a. umbrella b. shoe c. bedroom</td>
<td>Response options may be presented verbally. No additional prompts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Row 4</strong></td>
<td>Present 3 pictures (with text). Flo begins with the letter F. Flo the fish.</td>
<td>a. Flo b. bear c. cat</td>
<td>Response options may be presented verbally. No additional prompts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Row 5</strong></td>
<td>Present 3 pictures (with text). Draw me 2 ice cubes.</td>
<td>a. 1 ice cube b. 2 ice cubes c. 3 ice cubes</td>
<td>Add verbal, gestural or physical prompts. Score if the response is relevant to respond.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Row 6</strong></td>
<td>Present 6 pieces of paper. Present 3 numbers. How many pieces of paper does Flo have?</td>
<td>a. 3 b. 6 c. 8</td>
<td>Response options may be presented verbally. No additional prompts.</td>
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## Content, Reading and Mathematics (continued)

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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Row 4</strong></td>
<td>Present 3 pictures (with text). What will Dinah do?</td>
<td>a. talk b. eat c. sleep</td>
<td>Response options may be presented verbally. No additional prompts.</td>
</tr>
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<td><strong>Row 5</strong></td>
<td>Present 3 pictures (with text). What will Dinah do?</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Content Understanding
Item 1

- stinky
- hard
- small

Content Understanding
Item 2

- sweet
- black
- square
Content Understanding
Item 3

- teddy bear
- book
- pillow

Content Understanding
Item 4

- They are both round.
- They both taste good.
- They are both heavy.
Content Understanding
Item 5

It would tell a story.

It would turn into a book.

It would change to ash.

Content Understanding
Item 6

It is tasty water.

It is hot water.

It is frozen water.
## Score Sheet

This score sheet is provided for teachers who do not complete the checkpoints online. After the score sheet is completed, the results may be entered online into the Unique GPS in order to track student scores.

### Scoring Instructions

The student will have two attempts to answer each question. On the student's first attempt, indicate if they responded to the objective question by circling Yes or No in the "Responded?" column. If the student did not respond or responded correctly, circle the response given in the "Answer Given" column. If the student's response is correct, skip down to the second attempt and indicate that a second attempt was not needed by circling No in the "Needed?" column. On the student’s first attempt, if they did not respond or responded with an incorrect answer, indicate a second attempt was needed by circling Yes in the "Needed?" column. Continue to score the second attempt using the same instructions used for the first. Once testing is complete, enter recorded responses into the system online. A note box is provided at the end of the assessment for providing tips and levels or other relevant information may be described.

### Item 1

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### Notes & Special Accommodations:

© 2015 ULC
ULC, March 2013
### Content, Reading and Mathematics (Continue assessment on next page)

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<th>Attempts</th>
<th>Teacher Prompt</th>
<th>Response Options (correct in code)</th>
<th>Special Accommodations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Row 1** | **Attempt 1** | Present 2 pictures (with text). Betty is dancing. Who is Betty? | a. Betty  
  b. toy set  
  c. wagon | Response options may be presented verbally. No additional prompts. |
|          | **(Extended)** | | | |
|          | **Attempt 2** | Present 2 pictures (with text). Who is Betty? | a. Betty  
  b. toy set  
  c. wagon | Add verbal, gestural or physical prompts. Score 0 if the response or refusal to respond. |
| **Row 2** | **Attempt 1** | Present 2 pictures (with text). Betty dances on the playground. Where does Betty dance? | a. door  
  b. light  
  c. playground | Response options may be presented verbally. No additional prompts. |
|          | **(Extended)** | | | |
|          | **Attempt 2** | Present 2 pictures (with text). Where does Betty dance? | a. door  
  b. light  
  c. playground | Add verbal, gestural or physical prompts. Score 0 if the response or refusal to respond. |
| **Row 3** | **Attempt 1** | Present 2 pictures (with text). Feather begins with the letter F. Find the feather. | a. feather  
  b. dear  
  c. bad | Response options may be presented verbally. No additional prompts. |
|          | **(Extended)** | | | |
|          | **Attempt 2** | Present 2 pictures (with text). Find the feather. | a. feather  
  b. dear  
  c. bad | Add verbal, gestural or physical prompts. Score 0 if the response or refusal to respond. |

**Row 4**

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</thead>
</table>
| **Attempt 1** | Present 2 pictures (with text). Jesus will push the cart. What will Jesus do? | a. make  
  b. push  
  c. help | Response options may be presented verbally. No additional prompts. |
| **(Extended)** | | | |
| **Attempt 2** | Present 2 pictures (with text). What will Jesus do? | a. make  
  b. push  
  c. help | Add verbal, gestural or physical prompts. Score 0 if the response or refusal to respond. |

**Row 5**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attempts</th>
<th>Teacher Prompt</th>
<th>Response Options (correct in code)</th>
<th>Special Accommodations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Attempt 1** | Present 2 pictures (no text). Betty has 3 boxes. Show one of the boxes. | a. 3 books  
  b. 7 eggs  
  c. 5 face cards | Response options may be presented verbally. No additional prompts. |
| **(Extended)** | | | |
| **Attempt 2** | Present 2 pictures (no text). Show me a box. | a. 3 books  
  b. 7 eggs  
  c. 5 face cards | Add verbal, gestural or physical prompts. Score 0 if the response or refusal to respond. |

**Row 6**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attempts</th>
<th>Teacher Prompt</th>
<th>Response Options (correct in code)</th>
<th>Special Accommodations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Attempt 1** | Present 2 numbers. Chris has 6 rocks. How many rocks does Chris have? | a. 5  
  b. 7  
  c. 6 | Response options may be presented verbally. No additional prompts. |
| **(Extended)** | | | |
| **Attempt 2** | Present 2 numbers. How many rocks does Chris have? | a. 5  
  b. 7  
  c. 6 | Add verbal, gestural or physical prompts. Score 0 if the response or refusal to respond. |
# Content Understanding

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Answer (circle one)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Item 1</td>
<td>a / b / c / no response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item 2</td>
<td>a / b / c / no response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item 3</td>
<td>a / b / c / no response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item 4</td>
<td>a / b / c / no response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item 5</td>
<td>a / b / c / no response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item 6</td>
<td>a / b / c / no response</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Notes & Special Accommodations

For students with vision, hearing, physical or communication impairments, special accommodations that are typically afforded during instruction may be applied to the administration of these checkpoints.
Content Understanding
Item 3

shiny  fast  cold

Content Understanding
Item 4

playing tug of war

putting a book on a shelf

ringing a doorbell
Content Understanding
Item 5

The truck would stay the same.
The truck would break.
The truck would move.

Content Understanding
Item 6

Running is better than walking.
Running is slower than walking.
Running is faster than walking.
### Grade 8 - Middle School
Unit: Target: Physical Science
Unit Topic: Is It Real?

#### Unique Learning System Middle School Level 1 Checkpoints Score Sheet

Student Name: [Name]
Date: [Date]

This score sheet is provided for teachers who do not complete the checkpoints online. After the score sheet is completed, the results may be entered online into the Unique GPS in order to track student scores.

**Scoring Instructions:** The student will have two attempts to answer each question. If the student's first attempt indicates they have responded to the question by circling 'Yes' or 'No' in the 'Response' column, then the response given is in the 'Answer Given' column. If the student does not respond to the question, the response in the 'Response' column is incorrect and indicates a score of 0 in the 'Response' column. On the student's second attempt, if they do not respond or respond with an incorrect answer, indicate a score of 0 in the 'Response' column. Continue to score the second attempt using the same instructions used for the first. Once testing is complete, enter recorded results into the Unique Learning System Middle School Level 1 Checkpoints Score Sheet.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item 1</th>
<th>Attempt</th>
<th>Needed?</th>
<th>Responded?</th>
<th>Answer Given</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>/</td>
<td>a / b / c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes / No</td>
<td>a / b / c</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item 2</th>
<th>Attempt</th>
<th>Needed?</th>
<th>Responded?</th>
<th>Answer Given</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes / No</td>
<td>a / b / c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes / No</td>
<td>a / b / c</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item 3</th>
<th>Attempt</th>
<th>Needed?</th>
<th>Responded?</th>
<th>Answer Given</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes / No</td>
<td>a / b / c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes / No</td>
<td>a / b / c</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item 4</th>
<th>Attempt</th>
<th>Needed?</th>
<th>Responded?</th>
<th>Answer Given</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes / No</td>
<td>a / b / c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes / No</td>
<td>a / b / c</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item 5</th>
<th>Attempt</th>
<th>Needed?</th>
<th>Responded?</th>
<th>Answer Given</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes / No</td>
<td>a / b / c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes / No</td>
<td>a / b / c</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item 6</th>
<th>Attempt</th>
<th>Needed?</th>
<th>Responded?</th>
<th>Answer Given</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes / No</td>
<td>a / b / c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes / No</td>
<td>a / b / c</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

Item 8 Special Accommodations:

---

© 2019-2010
ULS, March 2014
### Content, Reading and Mathematics (Continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attempts</th>
<th>Teacher Prompt</th>
<th>Response Options (correct in bold)</th>
<th>Special Accommodations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Row 1</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attempt 1</td>
<td>Present 2 pictures (with text). What does Jonah do?</td>
<td>a. write; b. sing; c. eat</td>
<td>Response options may be presented verbally. No additional prompts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attempt 2</td>
<td>Present 2 pictures (with text). What does Jonah do?</td>
<td>a. write; b. sing; c. eat</td>
<td>Add verbal, gestural or physical prompts. Score if the response is correct.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **Row 2** |                |                                     |                        |
| Attempt 1 | Present 2 pictures (with text). What does Jonah do? | a. write; b. sing; c. eat | Response options may be presented verbally. No additional prompts. |
| Attempt 2 | Present 2 pictures (with text). What does Jonah do? | a. write; b. sing; c. eat | Add verbal, gestural or physical prompts. Score if the response is correct. |

| **Row 3** |                |                                     |                        |
| Attempt 1 | Present 2 pictures (with text). What does Jonah do? | a. write; b. sing; c. eat | Response options may be presented verbally. No additional prompts. |
| Attempt 2 | Present 2 pictures (with text). What does Jonah do? | a. write; b. sing; c. eat | Add verbal, gestural or physical prompts. Score if the response is correct. |
Mathematics
Item 5

Mathematics
Item 6

3  4  2
## Content Understanding

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Answer</th>
<th>Notes &amp; Special Accommodations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Item 1</td>
<td>a / b / c</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item 2</td>
<td>a / b / c</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item 3</td>
<td>a / b / c</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item 4</td>
<td>a / b / c</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item 5</td>
<td>a / b / c</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item 6</td>
<td>a / b / c</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Physical Science

- Identify ways that energy is transferred between objects to light, sound, etc.
- Explore regulations of tanks of energy, including physical and chemical changes in real-world situations.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Teacher Prompt</th>
<th>Response Options (planned in body)</th>
<th>Special Accommodations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Item 1</td>
<td>Present 2 pictures with text. What takes place when things are frozen?</td>
<td>a) frozen, b) refrigerator, c) air conditioner</td>
<td>Response options may be presented verbally.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item 2</td>
<td>Present 2 pictures with text. Atmospheric conditions can be hot or cold. What causes these changes?</td>
<td>a) hot, b) cold, c) atmosphere</td>
<td>Response options may be presented verbally.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item 3</td>
<td>Present 2 pictures with text. What takes place in a phase change? Which changes the phase?</td>
<td>a) fusion, b) evaporation, c) condensation</td>
<td>Response options may be presented verbally.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item 4</td>
<td>Present picture of a sun. Present 2 scenarios (write text) Describe what takes place.</td>
<td>a) wear sunscreen, b) use heat, c) use heat</td>
<td>Response options may be presented verbally.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item 5</td>
<td>Present picture of a sun. Present 2 scenarios (write text) Describe what takes place.</td>
<td>a) This sun will rise, b) This sun will set, c) This sun will stay static</td>
<td>Response options may be presented verbally.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item 6</td>
<td>Present picture of a sun. Present 2 scenarios (wake text) Describe what takes place.</td>
<td>a) Keep the vase in a paper bag, b) Keep the vase in a cooler with ice, c) Keep the vase in a cooler with ice</td>
<td>Response options may be presented verbally.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Content Understanding
Item 3

heat
water
freeze

Content Understanding
Item 4

wear sunscreen
lie down
eat fruit
Content Understanding
Item 5

The ice will fall.
The ice will melt.
The ice will stay frozen.

Content Understanding
Item 6

Keep the cans in a paper bag.
Keep the cans near the campfire.
Keep the cans in a cooler with ice.
APPENDIX C

Work Completion Checklist
Directions: Copy all students to the checklist. Record with a ✔ the completed News-2-you worksheets for the week. At the end of each week, tally and record the total number of completed worksheets.
APPENDIX D

Teacher Perceptions of Engagement Survey
Please provide the following information:

Teacher ID #

Rate your students’ level of engagement in ULS (n2y, 2013) lessons:
- no engagement during lessons
- adequate engagement during lessons
- total engagement during lessons

Rate your students’ level of engagement during assessments:
- no engagement during lessons
- adequate engagement during lessons
- total engagement during lessons

Rate your students’ level of independence in completing News-2-you (2013) worksheets:
- one to one assistance required
- frequent assistance required
- no assistance required, independent
APPENDIX E

Student Attitudes and Beliefs Questionnaire
Student Attitudes and Beliefs Questionnaire

Directions. Read each statement to the student. Have the student choose agree, disagree, or not sure.

I like to use the iPad at school.

Agree

Disagree

Not Sure

The iPad helps me learn.

Agree

Disagree

Not Sure

It is easy to do my work on the iPad.

Agree

Disagree

Not Sure
I want to use the *iPad* more at school.

- **Agree**
- **Disagree**
- **Not Sure**

I think the *iPad* is fun.

- **Agree**
- **Disagree**
- **Not Sure**
APPENDIX F

Parent Informed Consent
TITLE OF STUDY: Exploring Cognitively Accessible Academic Lessons for Students with Intellectual Disabilities Using the iPad

INVESTIGATOR(S): Kyle Higgins and Jamie Gunderson

CONTACT PHONE NUMBER: For questions or concerns about the study, you may contact Kyle Higgins at 895-3205

Purpose of the Study
Your child is invited to participate in a research study. The purpose of this study is to research the learning effects of traditionally based academic instruction and academic instruction using the iPad (Apple, 2010) on the teaching and learning of elementary and middle school students with intellectual disabilities.

Participants
Your child is being asked to participate in the study because his or her teacher has agreed to use a portion of class instruction to support this study. Your child is either in a classroom that will receive instruction with the use of an iPad (Apple 2010) at the start of this study, or a classroom that will receive the same instruction without an iPad at the start of this study. After the study, all students will be provided an opportunity to use the iPad (Apple, 2010) technology.

Procedures
A portion of your child’s normal classroom instruction has been modified as a result of the teacher’s choice to participate in this study. If you allow your child to volunteer to participate in this study, your child will take one assessment of their academic content knowledge before and one assessment after the study instruction for a total of two assessments. The work that your child completes during instruction time will also be provided to researchers for analysis.

Benefits of Participation
There may be direct benefits to your child as a participant in this study, such as an increase in their academic content knowledge. However, we hope to learn which type of instruction increases student knowledge acquisition and knowledge maintenance.

Risks of Participation
There are risks involved in all research studies. This study may include only minimal risks. This study involves the unobtrusive observation of teachers via videotape. Because of this, there are minimal risks to teachers from participation. Minimal risks include breach of confidentiality, however numerous steps will be taken to prevent this.

Participant Initials _____

Approved by the UNLV IRB Protocol 1401-468M
Received: 03-04-14 Approved: 03-06-14 Expiration: 03-05-15
TITLE OF STUDY: Exploring Cognitively Accessible Academic Lessons for Students with Intellectual Disabilities Using the iPad

Cost/Compensation
There will be no financial cost for your child to participate in this study because instruction will occur in your child’s classroom during the typical school day. Your child will not be compensated for their time.

Contact Information
If you or your child have any questions or concerns about the study, you may contact Kyle Higgins at 895-3205. For questions regarding the rights of research subjects, any complaints or comments regarding the manner in which the study is being conducted you may contact the UNLV Office of Research Integrity – Human Subjects at 702-895-2794, toll free at 877-895-2794, or via email at IRB@unlv.edu.

Voluntary Participation
Your decision to allow your child to participate or not will not change the instruction your child receives by their teacher. Participation is completely voluntary and you or your child may refuse to participate, or withdraw at any time without consequences. If you or your child decide not to participate, or withdraw early, then your child will not take the before and after academic content knowledge assessment and your child’s class work will not be provided to researchers. You and your child are encouraged to ask questions about this study at the beginning or any time during the research study.

Confidentiality
All information gathered in this study will be kept completely confidential. No reference will be made in written or oral materials that could link your child to this study. All records will be stored in a locked facility at UNLV for three years after completion of the study. After the storage time the information gathered will be destroyed.

Participant Consent:
I have read the above information and agree to allow my child to participate in this study. I am at least 18 years of age. A copy of this form has been given to me.

Signature of Parent

Child’s Name (Please print)

Parent Name (Please Print)

Date

Participant Initials _____

Approved by the UNLV IRB. Protocol #1401-4688M
Received: 01-04-14 Approved: 03-06-14 Expiration: 03-05-15
APPENDIX G

Student Informed Assent
ASSENT TO PARTICIPATE IN RESEARCH

Exploring Cognitively Accessible Academic Lessons for Students with Intellectual Disabilities Using the iPad

My name is Jamie Gunderson.

We are asking you to take part in a research study because we are trying to learn more about using iPads to help kids learn. If you agree to be in this study you will participate in daily lessons and take three short tests.

There are minimal risks involved in this study. Since we are videotaping your teacher, there is a chance that you could be seen in the frame and you might not remain confidential.

As a result of these daily lessons, you may learn more about science.

Approved by the UNLV IRB. Protocol 01401-4688M
Received: 03-06-14 Approved: 03-06-14Expiration: 03-05-15
Please talk this over with your parents before you decide whether or not to participate. We will also ask your parents to give their permission for you to take part in this study. But even if your parents say yes, you can still decide not to do this. If you do not want to be in this study, you do not have to participate. If you choose not to participate, your data will not be provided to the researchers and we will make sure that you are not seen in the teaching video. Remember, being in this study is up to you and nobody will be upset if you do not want to participate or even if you...
change your mind later and want to stop.

You can ask any questions that you have about the study.

If you have a question later that you did not think of now, you can call me or ask me next time.

Circling yes means that you agree to be in this study.

Do you agree to be in this study?

Yes or No

_________________________                     _______________________
Print your name                                           Date

_________________________
Sign your name

Approved by the UNLV IRB. Protocol 01401-14EX
Received: 03-04-14Approved: 03-06-14Expiration: 03-05-15
APPENDIX H

Teacher Informed Consent
INFORMED CONSENT
Department of Education and Clinical Studies

TITLE OF STUDY: Exploring Cognitively Accessible Academic Lessons for Students with Intellectual Disabilities Using the iPad

INVESTIGATOR(S): Kyle Higgins and Jamie Gunderson
For questions or concerns about the study, you may contact Kyle Higgins at 895-3205.

For questions regarding the rights of research subjects, any complaints or comments regarding the manner in which the study is being conducted, contact the UNLV Office of Research Integrity – Human Subjects at 702-895-2794, toll free at 877-895-2794 or via email at IRB@unlv.edu.

Purpose of the Study
You are invited to participate in a research study. The purpose of this study is to research the learning effects of traditionally-based academic instruction and academic instruction using the iPad (Apple, 2010) on the teaching and learning of elementary and middle school students with intellectual disabilities.

Participants
You are being asked to participate in the study because you fit the following criteria: You are a licensed special education teacher in a self-contained classroom for students with intellectual disabilities.

Procedures
If you volunteer to participate in this study, your classroom will be randomly assigned to one of two instructional groups (i.e., iPad, traditional teaching) and you will be asked to do the following: (a) participate in training sessions to learn how to administer lessons, (b) be videotaped while administering classroom lessons, (c) administer pre, post, and maintenance assessments, and (d) participate in assessment regarding your perceptions of student engagement. It is anticipated that the study will last for nine weeks.

Benefits of Participation
There may not be benefits to you as a participant in this study. We hope to learn which type of instruction increases student knowledge acquisition and knowledge maintenance.

Risks of Participation
There are risks involved in all research studies. This study may include only minimal risks. This study involves the unobtrusive observation of teachers via videotape. Because of this, there are minimal risks to teachers from participation. Minimal risks include breach of confidentiality, however numerous steps will be taken to prevent this.

Approved by the UNLV IRB. Protocol #1401-4688M
Received: 03-04-14 Approved: 03-06-14 Expiration: 03-05-15

Page 1 of 2
**Title of Study:** Exploring Cognitively Accessible Academic Lessons for Students with Intellectual Disabilities Using the iPad

**Cost/Compensation**
There will be no financial cost to you to participate in this study because instruction will occur in your classroom during the typical school day. The study will take 50 minutes per day, 5 days a week, and the study will last for nine weeks. In addition, 3 hours of training is required for participation. You will not be compensated for your time.

**Confidentiality**
All information gathered in this study will be kept as confidential as possible. No reference will be made in written or oral materials that could link you to this study. All records will be stored in a locked facility at UNLV for three years after completion of the study. After the storage time the information gathered will be destroyed.

**Voluntary Participation**
Your participation in this study is voluntary. You may refuse to participate in this study or in any part of this study. You may withdraw at any time without prejudice to your relations with UNLV. You are encouraged to ask questions about this study at the beginning or any time during the research study.

**Participant Consent:**
I have read the above information and agree to participate in this study. I have been able to ask questions about the research study. I am at least 18 years of age. A copy of this form has been given to me.

Signature of Participant  Date

Participant Name (Please Print)

**Video Consent:**
I agree to be audio or video taped for the purpose of this research study.

Signature of Participant  Date

Participant Name (Please Print)

Approved by the UNLV IRB: Protocol #1401-4688M
Received: 03-04-14  Approved: 03-06-14  Expiration: 03-05-15
APPENDIX I

Teaching Fidelity Checklist
### Teaching Fidelity Checklist (Traditional Teaching)

Teacher ID: __________  
Class ID: __________  
Rater Name: ________________  
Date: ________________  

Lesson: __

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The teacher...</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Rater Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Set up iPad to video-record the lesson.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Whole Group ULS Lesson (15 minutes)

| Provided each student the proper materials for their differentiation level. |     |    |             |
| Conducted ULS lesson (15 minutes). Outlined in the classroom activities section of each ULS lesson plan. |     |    |             |
| Stayed within the 15-minute time limit for whole group instruction. |     |    |             |

#### Small Group Rotations (2-5 students; 3 groups X 10-minute)

| Provided each student a paper-copy of the News-2-you newspaper. |     |    |             |
| Read the News-2-you newspaper aloud to the students. |     |    |             |
| Instructed students to complete the News-2-you paper worksheets, providing assistance as needed. |     |    |             |
| Stayed within the 10-minute time limit for each group. |     |    |             |
| Recorded any completed worksheets on the Worksheet Completion Checklist. |     |    |             |

Total __ Yes  __ No
# Teaching Fidelity Checklist (iPad)

Teacher ID: 

Class ID: 

Rater Name: 

Date: 

Lesson: #

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The teacher...</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Rater Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Set up iPad to video-record the lesson.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Whole Group ULS Lesson (15 minutes)**

| Provided each student the proper materials for their differentiation level via the iPad. | | |
| Conducted ULS lesson (15 minutes). *Outlined in the classroom activities section of each ULS lesson plan.* | | |
| Stayed within the 15-minute time limit for whole group instruction. | | |

**Small Group Rotations (2-5 students; 3 groups X 10-minute)**

| Provided each student an iPad with *Guided Access* in the News-2-you app. | | |
| Used the iPad (News-2-you app) to read the News-2-you newspaper aloud to the students. | | |
| Instructed students to complete the News-2-you worksheets via the iPad, providing assistance as needed. | | |
| Stayed within the 10-minute time limit for each group. | | |
| Recorded any completed worksheets on the Worksheet Completion Checklist. | | |

Total

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

177
APPENDIX J

School District Access Consent
Subject: Letter of Acknowledgement of a Research Project at a CCSD Facility

Dear Dr. Campbell and Members of the CCSD IRB Team:

This letter will acknowledge that I have reviewed a request by Jamie Gunderson to conduct a research project entitled, *Exploring Cognitively Accessible Social Studies Lessons for Students with Intellectual Disabilities Using the iPad* in the Clark County School District.

When the research project has received approval from the UNLV Institutional Review Board and the Department of Research of the Clark County School District, and upon presentation of the approval letter to me by the approved researcher, as the Assistant Superintendent of the Student Services Division, I agree to allow access for the approved research project.

If we have any concerns or need additional information, the project researcher will be contacted or we will contact the UNLV Office of Research Integrity – Human Subjects at 895-2794.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

[Date]

Kris Hennig, Assistant Supt., Student Services Division
Print Name and Title
APPENDIX K

Principal Informed Consent
Office of Research Integrity – Human Subjects
University of Nevada, Las Vegas
4505 S. Maryland Parkway, Box 451047
Las Vegas, NV 89154-1047

Subject: Letter of Acknowledgement of a Research Project at a CCSD Facility

Dear ORI – Human Subjects:

This letter will acknowledge that I have reviewed a request by Jamie Gunderson to conduct a research project entitled, Exploring Cognitively Accessible Social Studies Lessons for Students with Intellectual Disabilities Using the iPad at Adcock Elementary School.

When the research project has received approval from the UNLV Institutional Review Board and the Department of Research of the Clark County School District, and upon presentation of the approval letter to me by the approved researcher, as site administrator for Adcock Elementary School, I agree to allow access for the approved research project.

If we have any concerns or need additional information, the project researcher will be contacted or we will contact the UNLV Office of Research Integrity – Human Subjects at 895-2794.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Lea Chua

Date: 12/9/13

Print Name and Title

“...we will empower all students to succeed in a challenging world by promoting academic and social excellence.”
Office of Research Integrity – Human Subjects
University of Nevada, Las Vegas
4505 S. Maryland Parkway, Box 451047
Las Vegas, NV 89154-1047

Subject: Letter of Acknowledgement of a Research Project at a CCSD Facility

Dear ORI – Human Subjects:

This letter will acknowledge that I have reviewed a request by Jamie Gunderson to conduct a research project entitled, *Exploring Cognitively Accessible Social Studies Lessons for Students with Intellectual Disabilities Using the iPad at Bailey Middle School.*

When the research project has received approval from the UNLV Institutional Review Board and the Department of Research of the Clark County School District, and upon presentation of the approval letter to me by the approved researcher, as site administrator for Bailey Middle School, I agree to allow access for the approved research project.

If we have any concerns or need additional information, the project researcher will be contacted or we will contact the UNLV Office of Research Integrity – Human Subjects at 895-2794.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Signature of Principal/Division/Department Head

Date

Print Name and Title

http://csd.net/schools/Bailey
To Whom It May Concern:

Office of Research Integrity – Human Subjects
University of Nevada, Las Vegas
4505 S. Maryland Parkway, Box 451047
Las Vegas, NV 89154-1047

Subject: Letter of Acknowledgement of a Research Project at a CCSD Facility

Dear ORI – Human Subjects:

This letter will acknowledge that I have reviewed a request by Jamie Gunderson to conduct a research project entitled, *Exploring Cognitively Accessible Social Studies Lessons for Students with Intellectual Disabilities Using the iPad* at Brinley Middle School.

When the research project has received approval from the UNLV Institutional Review Board and the Department of Research of the Clark County School District, and upon presentation of the approval letter to me by the approved researcher, as site administrator for Brinley Middle School, I agree to allow access for the approved research project.

If we have any concerns or need additional information, the project researcher will be contacted or we will contact the UNLV Office of Research Integrity – Human Subjects at 895-2794.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Signature of Principal/Division/Department Head

Date

Travis Warnick, Principal

Print Name and Title
Office of Research Integrity – Human Subjects
University of Nevada, Las Vegas
4505 S. Maryland Parkway, Box 451047
Las Vegas, NV 89154-1047

Subject: Letter of Acknowledgement of a Research Project at a CCSD Facility

Dear ORI – Human Subjects:

This letter will acknowledge that I have reviewed a request by Jamie Gunderson to conduct a research project entitled, *Exploring Cognitively Accessible Social Studies Lessons for Students with Intellectual Disabilities Using the iPad* at Cahlan Elementary School.

When the research project has received approval from the UNLV Institutional Review Board and the Department of Research of the Clark County School District, and upon presentation of the approval letter to me by the approved researcher, as site administrator for Cahlan Elementary School, I agree to allow access for the approved research project.

If we have any concerns or need additional information, the project researcher will be contacted or we will contact the UNLV Office of Research Integrity – Human Subjects at 895-2794.

Sincerely,

Amy Negrete, Principal

Signature of Principal/Division/Department Head

Date

Print Name and Title
Office of Research Integrity – Human Subjects
University of Nevada, Las Vegas
4505 S. Maryland Parkway, Box 451047
Las Vegas, NV 89154-1047

Subject: Letter of Acknowledgement of a Research Project at a CCSD Facility

Dear ORI – Human Subjects:

This letter will acknowledge that I have reviewed a request by Jamie Gunderson to conduct a research project entitled, Exploring Cognitively Accessible Social Studies Lessons for Students with Intellectual Disabilities Using the iPad at Cambiero Elementary School.

When the research project has received approval from the UNLV Institutional Review Board and the Department of Research of the Clark County School District, and upon presentation of the approval letter to me by the approved researcher, as site administrator for Cambiero Elementary School, I agree to allow access for the approved research project.

If we have any concerns or need additional information, the project researcher will be contacted or we will contact the UNLV Office of Research Integrity – Human Subjects at 895-2794.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Date: 12/09/2013

Signature of Principal/Division/Department Head

Pam Simone, Principal
Print Name and Title
Subject: Letter of Acknowledgement of a Research Project at a CCSD Facility

Dear ORI – Human Subjects:

This letter will acknowledge that I have reviewed a request by Jamie Gunderson to conduct a research project entitled, *Exploring Cognitively Accessible Social Studies Lessons for Students with Intellectual Disabilities Using the iPad* at French Elementary School.

When the research project has received approval from the UNLV Institutional Review Board and the Department of Research of the Clark County School District, and upon presentation of the approval letter to me by the approved researcher, as site administrator for French Elementary School, I agree to allow access for the approved research project.

If we have any concerns or need additional information, the project researcher will be contacted or we will contact the UNLV Office of Research Integrity – Human Subjects at 895-2794.

Sincerely,

Tammy R. Villarreal-Crabb  
12/18/13
Signature of Principal/Division/Department Head  Date

Tammy R. Villarreal-Crabb, Principal
Print Name and Title
Subject: Letter of Acknowledgement of a Research Project at a CCSD Facility

Dear ORI — Human Subjects:

This letter will acknowledge that I have reviewed a request by Jamie Gunderson to conduct a research project entitled, Exploring Cognitively Accessible Social Studies Lessons for Students with Intellectual Disabilities Using the iPad at Garside Middle School.

When the research project has received approval from the UNLV Institutional Review Board and the Department of Research of the Clark County School District, and upon presentation of the approval letter to me by the approved researcher, as site administrator for Garside Middle School, I agree to allow access for the approved research project.

If we have any concerns or need additional information, the project researcher will be contacted or we will contact the UNLV Office of Research Integrity — Human Subjects at 895-2794.

Sincerely,

[Signature of Principal/Division/Department Head]

Date: 12/13/13

SCARLETT PERRYMAN
Principal
Subject: Letter of Acknowledgement of a Research Project at a CCSD Facility

Dear ORI – Human Subjects:

This letter will acknowledge that I have reviewed a request by Jamie Gunderson to conduct a research project entitled, *Exploring Cognitively Accessible Social Studies Lessons for Students with Intellectual Disabilities Using the iPad at Goldfarb Elementary School.*

When the research project has received approval from the UNLV Institutional Review Board and the Department of Research of the Clark County School District, and upon presentation of the approval letter to me by the approved researcher, as site administrator for Goldfarb Elementary School, I agree to allow access for the approved research project.

If we have any concerns or need additional information, the project researcher will be contacted or we will contact the UNLV Office of Research Integrity – Human Subjects at 895-2794.

Sincerely,

Jae Jekto Giae$

Date

Jacqueline Gillespie  Principal
Subject: Letter of Acknowledgement of a Research Project at a CCSD Facility

Dear ORI—Human Subjects:

This letter will acknowledge that I have reviewed a request by Jamie Gunderson to conduct a research project entitled, Exploring Cognitively Accessible Social Studies Lessons for Students with Intellectual Disabilities Using the iPad at Hal Smith Elementary School.

When the research project has received approval from the UNLV Institutional Review Board and the Department of Research of the Clark County School District, and upon presentation of the approval letter to me by the approved researcher, as site administrator for Hal Smith Elementary School, I agree to allow access for the approved research project.

If we have any concerns or need additional information, the project researcher will be contacted or we will contact the UNLV Office of Research Integrity—Human Subjects at 895-2794.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Signature of Principal/Division/Department Head

Date
Office of Research Integrity – Human Subjects
University of Nevada, Las Vegas
4505 S. Maryland Parkway, Box 451047
Las Vegas, NV 89154-1047

Subject: Letter of Acknowledgement of a Research Project at a CCSD Facility

Dear ORI – Human Subjects:

This letter will acknowledge that I have reviewed a request by Jamie Gunderson to conduct a research project entitled, Exploring Cognitively Accessible Social Studies Lessons for Students with Intellectual Disabilities Using the iPad at Johnston Middle School.

When the research project has received approval from the UNLV Institutional Review Board and the Department of Research of the Clark County School District, and upon presentation of the approval letter to me by the approved researcher, as site administrator for Johnston Middle School, I agree to allow access for the approved research project.

If we have any concerns or need additional information, the project researcher will be contacted or we will contact the UNLV Office of Research Integrity – Human Subjects at 895-2794.

Sincerely,

Lisa Rustand
Principal
Subject: Letter of Acknowledgement of a Research Project at a CCSD Facility

Dear ORI – Human Subjects:

This letter will acknowledge that I have reviewed a request by Jamie Gunderson to conduct a research project entitled, Exploring Cognitively Accessible Social Studies Lessons for Students with Intellectual Disabilities Using the iPad at Mannion Middle School.

When the research project has received approval from the UNLV Institutional Review Board and the Department of Research of the Clark County School District, and upon presentation of the approval letter to me by the approved researcher, as site administrator for Mannion Middle School, I agree to allow access for the approved research project.

If we have any concerns or need additional information, the project researcher will be contacted or we will contact the UNLV Office of Research Integrity – Human Subjects at 895-2794.

Sincerely,

__________________________
Signature of Principal/Division/Department Head

__________________________
Date

__________________________
Print Name and Title
Office of Research Integrity – Human Subjects
University of Nevada, Las Vegas
4505 S. Maryland Parkway, Box 451047
Las Vegas, NV 89154-1047

Subject: Letter of Acknowledgement of a Research Project at a CCSD Facility

Dear ORI – Human Subjects:

This letter will acknowledge that I have reviewed a request by Jamie Gunderson to conduct a research project entitled, *Exploring Cognitively Accessible Social Studies Lessons for Students with Intellectual Disabilities Using the iPad* at Martha King Elementary School.

When the research project has received approval from the UNLV Institutional Review Board and the Department of Research of the Clark County School District, and upon presentation of the approval letter to me by the approved researcher, as site administrator for Martha King Elementary School, I agree to allow access for the approved research project.

If we have any concerns or need additional information, the project researcher will be contacted or we will contact the UNLV Office of Research Integrity – Human Subjects at 895-2794.

Sincerely,

Signature of Principal/Division/Department Head

Date

Anthony Gelsone, Principal
Print Name and Title
Office of Research Integrity – Human Subjects
University of Nevada, Las Vegas
4505 S. Maryland Parkway, Box 451047
Las Vegas, NV 89154-1047

Subject: Letter of Acknowledgement of a Research Project at a CCSD Facility

Dear ORI – Human Subjects:

This letter will acknowledge that I have reviewed a request by Jamie Gunderson to conduct a research project entitled, *Exploring Cognitively Accessible Social Studies Lessons for Students with Intellectual Disabilities Using the iPad* at O’Roarke Elementary School.

When the research project has received approval from the UNLV Institutional Review Board and the Department of Research of the Clark County School District, and upon presentation of the approval letter to me by the approved researcher, as site administrator for O’Roarke Elementary School, I agree to allow access for the approved research project.

If we have any concerns or need additional information, the project researcher will be contacted or we will contact the UNLV Office of Research Integrity – Human Subjects at 895-2794.

Sincerely,

Kody Barto
Principal

Signature of Principal/Division/Department Head

Date

Print Name and Title

8455 O’Hare Rd., Las Vegas, NV 89143 (702)799-6600 (702)799-6612 FAX
Office of Research Integrity – Human Subjects
University of Nevada, Las Vegas
4505 S. Maryland Parkway, Box 451047
Las Vegas, NV 89154-1047

Subject: Letter of Acknowledgement of a Research Project at a CCSD Facility

Dear ORI – Human Subjects:

This letter will acknowledge that I have reviewed a request by Jamie Gunderson to conduct a research project entitled, Exploring Cognitively Accessible Social Studies Lessons for Students with Intellectual Disabilities Using the iPad at Park Elementary School.

When the research project has received approval from the UNLV Institutional Review Board and the Department of Research of the Clark County School District, and upon presentation of the approval letter to me by the approved researcher, as site administrator for Park Elementary School, I agree to allow access for the approved research project.

If we have any concerns or need additional information, the project researcher will be contacted or we will contact the UNLV Office of Research Integrity – Human Subjects at 895-2794.

Sincerely,

Lorna James-Cervantes, Principal

Signature of Principal/Division/Department Head  Date

Lorna James-Cervantes, Principal

Print Name and Title
December 30, 2013

Office of Research Integrity – Human Subjects
University of Nevada, Las Vegas
4505 S. Maryland Parkway, Box 451047
Las Vegas, NV 89154-1047

Subject: Letter of Acknowledgement of a Research Project at a CCSD Facility

Dear ORI – Human Subjects:

This letter will acknowledge that I have reviewed a request by Jamie Gunderson to conduct a research project entitled, Exploring Cognitively Accessible Social Studies Lessons for Students with Intellectual Disabilities Using the iPad at Red Rock Elementary School.

When the research project has received approval from the UNLV Institutional Review Board and the Department of Research of the Clark County School District, and upon presentation of the approval letter to me by the approved researcher, as site administrator for Red Rock Elementary School, I agree to allow access for the approved research project.

If we have any concerns or need additional information, the project researcher will be contacted or we will contact the UNLV Office of Research Integrity – Human Subjects at 895-2794.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Wong
Principal
Office of Research Integrity – Human Subjects
University of Nevada, Las Vegas
4505 S. Maryland Parkway, Box 451047
Las Vegas, NV 89154-1047

Subject: Letter of Acknowledgement of a Research Project at a CCSD Facility

Dear ORI – Human Subjects:

This letter will acknowledge that I have reviewed a request by Jamie Gunderson to conduct a research project entitled, Exploring Cognitively Accessible Social Studies Lessons for Students with Intellectual Disabilities Using the iPad at Rundle Elementary School.

When the research project has received approval from the UNLV Institutional Review Board and the Department of Research of the Clark County School District, and upon presentation of the approval letter to me by the approved researcher, as site administrator for Rundle Elementary School, I agree to allow access for the approved research project.

If we have any concerns or need additional information, the project researcher will be contacted or we will contact the UNLV Office of Research Integrity – Human Subjects at 895-2794.

Sincerely,

[Signature] 12-11-13

Date

Signatory of Principal/Division/Department Head
Office of Research Integrity – Human Subjects
University of Nevada, Las Vegas
4505 S. Maryland Parkway, Box 451047
Las Vegas, NV 89154-1047

Subject: Letter of Acknowledgement of a Research Project at a CCSD Facility

Dear ORI – Human Subjects:

This letter will acknowledge that I have reviewed a request by Jamie Gunderson to conduct a research project entitled, *Exploring Cognitively Accessible Social Studies Lessons for Students with Intellectual Disabilities Using the iPad* at Schofield Middle School.

When the research project has received approval from the UNLV Institutional Review Board and the Department of Research of the Clark County School District, and upon presentation of the approval letter to me by the approved researcher, as site administrator for Schofield Middle School, I agree to allow access for the approved research project.

If we have any concerns or need additional information, the project researcher will be contacted or we will contact the UNLV Office of Research Integrity – Human Subjects at 895-2794.

Sincerely,

Signature of Principal/Division/Department Head

[Signature]

Date

Print Name and Title
Subject: Letter of Acknowledgement of a Research Project at a CCSD Facility

Dear ORI — Human Subjects:

This letter will acknowledge that I have reviewed a request by Jamie Gunderson to conduct a research project entitled, *Exploring Cognitively Accessible Social Studies Lessons for Students with Intellectual Disabilities Using the iPad at Tarkanian Middle School*

When the research project has received approval from the UNLV Institutional Review Board and the Department of Research of the Clark County School District, and upon presentation of the approval letter to me by the approved researcher, as site administrator for Tarkanian Middle School, I agree to allow access for the approved research project.

If we have any concerns or need additional information, the project researcher will be contacted or we will contact the UNLV Office of Research Integrity — Human Subjects at 895-2794.

Sincerely,

Signature of Principal/Division/Department Head

Date

Print Name and Title
Office of Research Integrity – Human Subjects
University of Nevada, Las Vegas
4505 S. Maryland Parkway, Box 451047
Las Vegas, NV 89154-1647

Subject: Letter of Acknowledgement of a Research Project at a CCSD Facility

Dear ORI – Human Subjects:

This letter will acknowledge that I have reviewed a request by Jamie Gunderson to conduct a research project entitled, *Exploring Cognitively Accessible Social Studies Lessons for Students with Intellectual Disabilities Using the iPad* at Treem Elementary School.

When the research project has received approval from the UNLV Institutional Review Board and the Department of Research of the Clark County School District, and upon presentation of the approval letter to me by the approved researcher, as site administrator for Treem Elementary School, I agree to allow access for the approved research project.

If we have any concerns or need additional information, the project researcher will be contacted or we will contact the UNLV Office of Research Integrity – Human Subjects at 895-2794.

Sincerely,

Lee Esplin
Signature of Principal/Division/Department Head

Lee Esplin, Principal

Date 12/9/13

12/9/2013
Office of Research Integrity – Human Subjects
University of Nevada, Las Vegas
4505 S. Maryland Parkway, Box 451047
Las Vegas, NV 89154-1047

Subject: Letter of Acknowledgement of a Research Project at a CCSD Facility

Dear ORI – Human Subjects:

This letter will acknowledge that I have reviewed a request by Jamie Gunderson to conduct a research project entitled, Exploring Cognitively Accessible Social Studies Lessons for Students with Intellectual Disabilities Using the iPad at Wolff Elementary School.

When the research project has received approval from the UNLV Institutional Review Board and the Department of Research of the Clark County School District, and upon presentation of the approval letter to me by the approved researcher, as site administrator for Wolff Elementary School, I agree to allow access for the approved research project.

If we have any concerns or need additional information, the project researcher will be contacted or we will contact the UNLV Office of Research Integrity – Human Subjects at 895-2794.

Sincerely,

[Signature of Principal/Division/Department Head]

Date

Deborah Harbin
Print Name and Title
### Weekly Lesson Plan

**Day 1**
- **Language Arts Block**: 50 minutes
  - **Whole Group**: (15 minutes)
  - **Lesson**: Introduction to book with picture walk and background building activities.
  - **Small Group**: (30 minutes)
  - **Small Group**: Read news-2-you newspaper and complete news-2-you worksheets. Record completed worksheets on work completion checklist.

**Day 2**
- **Language Arts Block**: 50 minutes
  - **Whole Group**: (15 minutes)
  - **Lesson**: Introduce book with picture walk and background building activities.
  - **Small Group**: (30 minutes)
  - **Small Group**: Read news-2-you newspaper and complete news-2-you worksheets. Record completed worksheets on work completion checklist.

**Day 3**
- **Language Arts Block**: 50 minutes
  - **Whole Group**: (15 minutes)
  - **Lesson**: Expand book and answer comprehension questions.
  - **Small Group**: (30 minutes)
  - **Small Group**: Read news-2-you newspaper and complete news-2-you worksheets. Record completed worksheets on work completion checklist.

**Day 4**
- **Language Arts Block**: 50 minutes
  - **Whole Group**: (15 minutes)
  - **Lesson**: Expand book and answer comprehension questions.
  - **Small Group**: (30 minutes)
  - **Small Group**: Read news-2-you newspaper and complete news-2-you worksheets. Record completed worksheets on work completion checklist.

**Day 5**
- **Language Arts Block**: 50 minutes
  - **Whole Group**: (15 minutes)
  - **Lesson**: Expand book and answer comprehension questions.
  - **Small Group**: (30 minutes)
  - **Small Group**: Read news-2-you newspaper and complete news-2-you worksheets. Record completed worksheets on work completion checklist.

---

**Week 2**

**Day 1**
- **Language Arts Block**: 50 minutes
  - **Whole Group**: (15 minutes)
  - **Lesson**: Introduction to book with picture walk and background building activities.
  - **Small Group**: (30 minutes)
  - **Small Group**: Read news-2-you newspaper and complete news-2-you worksheets. Record completed worksheets on work completion checklist.

**Day 2**
- **Language Arts Block**: 50 minutes
  - **Whole Group**: (15 minutes)
  - **Lesson**: Introduction to book with picture walk and background building activities.
  - **Small Group**: (30 minutes)
  - **Small Group**: Read news-2-you newspaper and complete news-2-you worksheets. Record completed worksheets on work completion checklist.

**Day 3**
- **Language Arts Block**: 50 minutes
  - **Whole Group**: (15 minutes)
  - **Lesson**: Expand book and answer comprehension questions.
  - **Small Group**: (30 minutes)
  - **Small Group**: Read news-2-you newspaper and complete news-2-you worksheets. Record completed worksheets on work completion checklist.

**Day 4**
- **Language Arts Block**: 50 minutes
  - **Whole Group**: (15 minutes)
  - **Lesson**: Expand book and answer comprehension questions.
  - **Small Group**: (30 minutes)
  - **Small Group**: Read news-2-you newspaper and complete news-2-you worksheets. Record completed worksheets on work completion checklist.

**Day 5**
- **Language Arts Block**: 50 minutes
  - **Whole Group**: (15 minutes)
  - **Lesson**: Expand book and answer comprehension questions.
  - **Small Group**: (30 minutes)
  - **Small Group**: Read news-2-you newspaper and complete news-2-you worksheets. Record completed worksheets on work completion checklist.

---

**Week 3**

**Day 1**
- **Language Arts Block**: 50 minutes
  - **Whole Group**: (15 minutes)
  - **Lesson**: Introduction to book with picture walk and background building activities.
  - **Small Group**: (30 minutes)
  - **Small Group**: Read news-2-you newspaper and complete news-2-you worksheets. Record completed worksheets on work completion checklist.

**Day 2**
- **Language Arts Block**: 50 minutes
  - **Whole Group**: (15 minutes)
  - **Lesson**: Expansion book and answer comprehension questions.
  - **Small Group**: (30 minutes)
  - **Small Group**: Read news-2-you newspaper and complete news-2-you worksheets. Record completed worksheets on work completion checklist.

**Day 3**
- **Language Arts Block**: 50 minutes
  - **Whole Group**: (15 minutes)
  - **Lesson**: Expansion book and answer comprehension questions.
  - **Small Group**: (30 minutes)
  - **Small Group**: Read news-2-you newspaper and complete news-2-you worksheets. Record completed worksheets on work completion checklist.

**Day 4**
- **Language Arts Block**: 50 minutes
  - **Whole Group**: (15 minutes)
  - **Lesson**: Expansion book and answer comprehension questions.
  - **Small Group**: (30 minutes)
  - **Small Group**: Read news-2-you newspaper and complete news-2-you worksheets. Record completed worksheets on work completion checklist.

**Day 5**
- **Language Arts Block**: 50 minutes
  - **Whole Group**: (15 minutes)
  - **Lesson**: Post-assessment Checkpoints
  - **Small Group**: (30 minutes)
  - **Small Group**: (30 minutes)
  - **Small Group**: Read news-2-you newspaper and complete news-2-you worksheets. Record completed worksheets on work completion checklist.

---

**Week 4**

**Day 1**
- **Language Arts Block**: 50 minutes
  - **Whole Group**: (15 minutes)
  - **Lesson**: Expansion book and answer comprehension questions.
  - **Small Group**: (30 minutes)
  - **Small Group**: Read news-2-you newspaper and complete news-2-you worksheets. Record completed worksheets on work completion checklist.

**Day 2**
- **Language Arts Block**: 50 minutes
  - **Whole Group**: (15 minutes)
  - **Lesson**: Expansion book and answer comprehension questions.
  - **Small Group**: (30 minutes)
  - **Small Group**: Read news-2-you newspaper and complete news-2-you worksheets. Record completed worksheets on work completion checklist.

**Day 3**
- **Language Arts Block**: 50 minutes
  - **Whole Group**: (15 minutes)
  - **Lesson**: Expansion book and answer comprehension questions.
  - **Small Group**: (30 minutes)
  - **Small Group**: Read news-2-you newspaper and complete news-2-you worksheets. Record completed worksheets on work completion checklist.

**Day 4**
- **Language Arts Block**: 50 minutes
  - **Whole Group**: (15 minutes)
  - **Lesson**: Expansion book and answer comprehension questions.
  - **Small Group**: (30 minutes)
  - **Small Group**: Read news-2-you newspaper and complete news-2-you worksheets. Record completed worksheets on work completion checklist.

**Day 5**
- **Language Arts Block**: 50 minutes
  - **Whole Group**: (15 minutes)
  - **Lesson**: Expansion book and answer comprehension questions.
  - **Small Group**: (30 minutes)
  - **Small Group**: Read news-2-you newspaper and complete news-2-you worksheets. Record completed worksheets on work completion checklist.
Lesson 1

Instructional Targets

Reading Standards for Literature
• Range and Level of Text Complexity: Experience grade level and age-appropriate literature materials, including stories and poems that are adapted to student reading level.

Reading Standards for Foundational Skills
• Print Concepts: Demonstrate understanding of print features (left to right, page to page, etc.).
• Fluency: Read appropriately leveled text with purpose and understanding.

Which of your state standards are aligned to these instructional targets?

Classroom Activities/Lesson Plan

Leveled Book: Lee’s Rock
Lesson 1 provides a simple book in three distinct reading levels. Emerging readers may engage in the same content when selecting the appropriate level based on individual abilities, needs or reading goals. This Leveled Book is presented in three leveled formats: Level D, Level B and Level A (captioned). Select the level appropriate for each student.

The content of the Leveled Book focuses on describing an object. When they have finished the book, students should be able to tell about some of the ways in which an object can be described, including size, shape and color.

• Introduce the story by reviewing with students the five senses—touch, smell, taste, sound and sight. Remind students that they can use their senses to learn about things. Ask, “What do you use to learn about how something smells? (nose) What do you use to learn about how something feels? (hands)” Continue in the same manner with sounds/ears, look/eyes and taste/tongue.
• On the first reading, do a picture walk. Note pictures of Lee’s rock. Emphasize the words in all capital letters and review their meanings.
• Read aloud to model fluency. After reading the story, ask questions about the size, shape, color, texture, weight and smell of Lee’s rock.
• As a group, reread the story with pauses for key words to encourage participation. Encourage choral reading of the repeated line. Provide students with supports for page turning and interaction while they are reading.
• During independent or paired reading, focus on individual student reading abilities with text or supported-text versions. It is likely that students may read different levels for different purposes each day when building reading skills.
• Support student reading, using the communication board to do so.
• Follow-up reading with discussion on other ways to describe objects. Ask, “What words describe temperature? (hot, cold, cool, etc.) What words describe what something is made of? (glass, metal, plastic, etc.)”

Extension: Play games that allow students to practice describing objects. For example, place an object in a brown paper bag. Have one student look in the bag and describe the object’s shape, size, color and so on. While the student describes the object, have the rest of the class try to guess what the object is.

Standards Connection
• Use the book features and the pictures to continue interaction with the book.
• Have students locate the title, the author and the illustrator of the book.
• Invite students to identify and describe characters, setting and events from the story pictures.

Comprehension questions from Leveled Books are based on the highest level in the series. These books may be read aloud to help students at all levels to gain meaning.

Pre- and post-assessments are available through Monthly Checkpoints.

Differentiated Tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level 3</th>
<th>Level 2</th>
<th>Level 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students will independently read literature stories and poems that have been adapted to student reading level.</td>
<td>Students will read supported and shared literature stories and poems that have been adapted to student reading level.</td>
<td>Students will actively participate in supported reading of literature stories and poems that have been adapted to student ability level.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students will independently demonstrate basic print concepts (tracking from left to right and from page to page, etc.) during shared story reading.</td>
<td>Students will participate in basic print concepts (page turning, pointing to words and pictures, etc.) during shared story reading.</td>
<td>Students will attend to shared story reading, giving supported indicators to turn the page or read more.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students will independently read text stories that are selected at the personal reading level.</td>
<td>Students will state a word or point to a picture of an omitted word during shared reading.</td>
<td>Students will state a sentence from a story through an active participation response (e.g., voice output device, eye gaze choice board).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Resources and Materials

Leveled Book: Lee’s Rock
Communication board
Standards Connection Lesson 1

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ULS, March 2014

203
Grade Band: Elementary
Unit Target: Physical Science
Unit Topic: Paper, Rock, Scissors

Lesson 2

Instructional Targets

Reading Standards for Literature
• Key Ideas and Details: Answer questions about key details of a story. Retell a familiar story, including key details.

Which of your state standards are aligned to these instructional targets?

Classroom Activities/Lesson Plan

Read and Answer: Lee’s Rock

Comprehension activities extend beyond “checking” what students remember from reading. During instruction, students learn to refer to the book, using both illustrations and text, to locate answers to questions. Students recognize types of responses appropriate to who, what and where formats. Question responses may also provide students with a foundation for story retell. Reread the Leveled Books and repeat comprehension activities throughout the unit to increase students’ skills in multiple areas of comprehension.

After reading (and rereading) Lee’s Rock, use the comprehension worksheets as a guide for students to answer questions about the book. Choose the most appropriate worksheet on the basis of each student’s needs. Level 3 is text only. Level 2 is symbol-supported. Level 1 is written in a sentence strip format, allowing students to select from multiple choices or one errorless picture choice.

1. What does Lee have? (shell, rock, flower)
2. What shape is Lee’s rock? (round, square, triangle)
3. What color is on Lee’s rock? (blue, pink, gray)
4. What does Lee’s rock feel like? (hard, soft, bumpy)
5. What is round like Lee’s rock? (doll, ball, block)

The questions on the comprehension worksheets provide picture and text support to identify the key details or sequence of events in the story. Use these questions to encourage students to retell the story. Talk about the story’s main message or main ideas as outlined by the comprehension questions.

Standards Connection
• Use the format of this connection to build retelling skills. Build communication skills by using the augmentative supports needed for each student.

Comprehension questions from Leveled Books are based on the highest level in the series. These books may be read aloud as needed for students at all levels to gain meaning.

Pre- and post-assessments are available through Monthly Checkpoints.

Differentiated Tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level 3</th>
<th>Level 2</th>
<th>Level 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Students will independently read who, what, where, when or why questions about a story and write, speak or select an answer.</td>
<td>• Students will point to or select a picture from a choice of three in response to a who, what or where question about a story.</td>
<td>• Students will respond to a who or what question by choosing a single option or an errorless picture.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Students will retell a story, including the main idea and key details.</td>
<td>• Students will use picture supports to retell key details from a story.</td>
<td>• Students will retell key details from a story through an active participation response (e.g., voice output device, eye gaze choice board).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Resources and Materials

Worksheets for Read and Answer
Sentence strips and picture cards
Standards Connection Lesson 2

Notes

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Instructional Targets

Reading Standards for Literature
- **Range and Level of Text Complexity:** Experience grade level and age-appropriate literature materials, including stories and poems that are adapted to student reading level.

Reading Standards for Foundational Skills
- **Print Concepts:** Demonstrate understanding of print features (left to right, page to page, etc.).
- **Fluency:** Read appropriately leveled text with purpose and understanding.

Which of your state standards are aligned to these instructional targets?

Classroom Activities/Lesson Plan

**Easy Read Book: Something Different**

This lesson presents an Easy Read Book. The book follows a sequence to introduce beginning, middle and end concepts of story reading. It also presents the characters, setting and events of a story.

In this story, students will learn about ways that paper can be changed. This book is identified as a Level E.

Multiple readings of the book will provide students with repeated opportunities to build individual reading skills.

- Do a picture walk. Discuss the characters and actions from the pictures. Help students make predictions about what will happen next in the story. Introduce what will happen first, next and last.
- Introduce high-frequency words from the story.
- Read the story aloud to model fluency. Ask questions related to the characters, actions and events in the story.
- Read the story aloud, pausing for students to complete repetitive or predictable lines.
- During independent or paired reading, focus on the students' individual abilities and needs. Encourage students to use pictures to support reading words. Have students use decoding skills to identify unfamiliar words.
- Support student reading, using the communication board to do so.
- Follow up reading by discussing other common physical and chemical changes, such as water freezing to form ice and cooking an egg.

**Standards Connection**

- Use the book features and the pictures to continue interaction with the book.
- Have students locate the title, the author and the illustrator of the book.
- Invite students to identify and describe characters, setting and events from the story pictures.

**Pre- and post-assessments are available through Monthly Checkpoints.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Differentiated Tasks</th>
<th>Level 3</th>
<th>Level 2</th>
<th>Level 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students will independently read literature stories and poems that have been adapted to student reading level.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Students will read supported and shared literature stories and poems that have been adapted to student reading level.</td>
<td>Students will actively participate in supported reading of literature stories and poems that have been adapted to student ability level.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students will independently demonstrate basic print concepts (tracking from left to right and from page to page, etc.) during shared story reading.</td>
<td>Students will participate in basic print concepts (page turning, pointing to words and pictures, etc.) during shared story reading.</td>
<td>Students will attend to shared story reading, giving supported indicators to turn the page or read more.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students will independently read text stories that are selected at the personal reading level.</td>
<td>Students will state a word or point to a picture of an omitted word during shared reading.</td>
<td>Students will state a sentence from a story through an active participation response (e.g., voice output device, eye gaze choice board).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resources and Materials</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Easy Read Book: Something Different</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication board</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standards Connection Lesson 3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Instructional Targets

Reading Standards for Literature
  • Key Ideas and Details: Answer questions about key details of a story. Retell a familiar story, including key details.

Which of your state standards are aligned to these instructional targets?

Classroom Activities/Lesson Plan

Read and Answer: Something Different

Comprehension activities extend beyond “checking” what students remember from reading. During instruction, students learn to refer to the book, using both illustrations and text, to locate answers to questions. Students recognize types of responses appropriate to who, what and where formats. Question responses may also provide students with a foundation for story retell. Activities should be repeated throughout the unit to increase students’ skills in multiple areas of comprehension.

After reading (and rereading) Something Different, use the comprehension worksheets as a guide to answer questions about the book. Choose the most appropriate worksheet on the basis of each student’s needs. Level 3 is text only. Level 2 is symbol-supported. Level 1 is written in a sentence strip format, allowing students to select from multiple choices or one errorless picture choice.

1. What does Shantel learn about? (scissors, changes, stars)
2. What does Shantel change? (paper, rocks, fruit)
3. What changes when Shantel cuts the paper? (color and shape, shape and smell, size and shape)
4. What do Shantel and her dad use to burn the paper? (fire, ice, crayons)
5. What does the paper change into when burned? (tree, ash, notebook)

Build on comprehension by having students retell the story.

Standards Connection

• With students, discuss the story’s main message or main idea as outlined by the comprehension questions. The comprehension questions will provide picture and text support, enabling students to identify the key details or sequence of events from the story. Pictures from this lesson may be used in other lessons to support other learning activities.

Pre- and post-assessments are available through Monthly Checkpoints.

Differentiated Tasks

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<td>• Students will independently read who, what, where, when or why questions about a story and write, speak or select an answer. • Students will retell a story, including the main idea and key details.</td>
<td>• Students will point to or select a picture from a choice of three in response to a who, what or where question about a story. • Students will use picture supports to retell key details from a story.</td>
<td>• Students will respond to a who or what question by choosing a single option or an errorless picture. • Students will retell key details from a story through an active participation response (e.g., voice output device, eye gaze choice board).</td>
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</table>

Resources and Materials

Worksheets for Read and Answer
Sentence strips and picture cards
Standards Connection Lesson 4

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### Instructional Targets

**Reading Standards for Foundational Skills**
- Phonics and Word Recognition: Read high-frequency sight words. Apply basic phonics skills to read new words.
- Conventions of Standard English: Correctly spell words with common spelling patterns.

Which of your state standards are aligned to these instructional targets?

### Classroom Activities/Lesson Plan

**High-Frequency Spelling List 1**

Students need multiple and varied experiences with high-frequency words before they are automatically recognized and read. These lesson experiences include writing and spelling words within meaning-making sentences and as part of sound-symbol associations.

**Spelling List 1:** her, not, or, some, that, how

- Select spelling list appropriate for each student (text or pictures).
- With your students, review words from the story and the word wall.
- Students will practice writing words on dotted lines or letter fill-in worksheets.

Choose the most appropriate worksheet on the basis of each student’s needs. Level 3 is text only. Level 2 is symbol-supported. Level 1 is written in a sentence strip format for students who may require alternative forms of responding.

Follow up spelling activities with a “spelling test.” Encourage students to write and use words in other reading and writing contexts.

Additional ideas for word study instruction are provided in the ULS Instructional Guides: Word Study.

**Fill-In**

- Students will practice writing words in sentences or fill in with cutout words or pictures.
  1. Cora has ____ own rock collection. (her)
  2. She found ____ new rocks at the beach. (some)
  3. ____ should she sort the rocks? (How)
  4. Should she sort them by size ____ shape? (or)
  5. She decides ____ she will sort them by size. (that)
  6. She will ____ sort them by shape. (not)

**Word Study**

- Students will analyze the word to complete the word study. Students may write words or use cutout words or pictures.
  1. What word starts like them? (that)
  2. What word ends like cow? (how)
  3. What word rhymes with fur? (her)
  4. What word starts like sand? (some)
  5. What word rhymes with hot? (not)
  6. What word rhymes with for? (or)

### Differentiated Tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level 3</th>
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<th>Level 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Students will independently read high-frequency words. Students will independently read and write words by applying letter-sound correspondences. Students will read new words by decoding initial, final and vowel sound knowledge. Students will spell and write words with common spelling patterns.</td>
<td>- Students will select or point to a named high-frequency word from a set of three words. Students will select or point to a named word from a set of three words, using cues from letter-sound correspondence. Students will spell common words with letter-sound matches.</td>
<td>- Students will select a named high-frequency word from a single option choice. Students will attend to activities that apply letter-sound correspondence to the reading of words.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Resources and Materials

- Worksheets and sentence strip cards
- Picture/Word cards and Word cards with high-frequency words: her, not, or, some, that, how

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Grade Band: Elementary  
Unit Target: Physical Science  
Unit Topic: Paper, Rock, Scissors  

**Instructional Targets**

**Reading Standards for Foundational Skills**
- **Phonics and Word Recognition:** Read high-frequency sight words. Apply basic phonics skills to read new words.
- **Standards for Language**
- **Conventions of Standard English:** Correctly spell words with common spelling patterns.

**Which of your state standards are aligned to these instructional targets?**

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**Classroom Activities/Lesson Plan**

**High-Frequency Spelling List 2**

Students need multiple and varied experiences with high-frequency words before they are automatically recognized and read. These lesson experiences include writing and spelling words within meaning-making sentences and as part of sound-symbol associations.

**Spelling List 2:** into, thing, change, does, small, paper

- Select spelling list appropriate for each student (text or pictures).
- With your students, review words from the story and the word wall.
- Students will practice writing words on dotted lines or letter fill-in worksheets.

Choose the most appropriate worksheet on the basis of each student's needs. Level 3 is text only. Level 2 is symbol-supported. Level 1 is written in a sentence strip format for students who may require alternative forms of responding.

Follow up spelling activities with a “spelling test.” Encourage students to write and use words in other reading and writing contexts.

**Additional ideas for word study instruction are provided in the ULS Instructional Guides: Word Study.**

**Fill-In**

1. What _____ Shantel have? (does)
2. She has three pieces of _____. (paper)
3. She can _____ the paper. (change)
4. She can change it _____ other things. (into)
5. One _____ Shantel can change is the size. (thing)
6. She can cut the paper into _____ pieces. (small)

**Word Study**

1. What word starts like penguin? (paper)
2. What word rhymes with swing? (thing)
3. What word starts like ink? (into)
4. What word starts like cheese (change)
5. What word rhymes with hall? (small)
6. What word ends like was? (does)

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**Differentiated Tasks**

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<td>Students will independently read high-frequency words.</td>
<td>Students will select or point to a named high-frequency word from a set of three words.</td>
<td>Students will select a named high-frequency word from a single option choice.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students will independently read and write words by applying letter-sound correspondences.</td>
<td>Students will select or point to a named word from a set of three words, using cues from letter-sound correspondence.</td>
<td>Students will attend to activities that apply letter-sound correspondence to the reading of words.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students will read new words by decoding initial, final and vowel sound knowledge.</td>
<td>Students will spell common words with letter-sound matches.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students will spell and write words with common spelling patterns.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Resources and Materials**

- Picture/Word cards and Word cards with high-frequency words: into, thing, change, does, small, paper

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### Instructional Targets

**Reading Standards for Foundational Skills**
- **Phonological Awareness:** Identify rhyming words. Blend onset and rime to identify a spoken word. Distinguish initial, medial and final sounds in a spoken word.
- **Phonics and Word Recognition:** Use letter-sound matches to decode words. Apply basic phonics skills to read new words.

**Standards for Language**
- **Conventions of Standard English:** Correctly spell words with common spelling patterns.

Which of your state standards are aligned to these instructional targets?

### Classroom Activities/Lesson Plan

**Word Rime Spelling List 3**

In order to grow as readers, students need to learn skills for decoding unfamiliar words. Students gain skill confidence as instruction on onset and rime is applied into meaning-making sentences as well as word study activities.

**Spelling List 3**
- Word rimes: mice, nice, rice, spice
- Select a spelling list appropriate for each student (with text or pictures).
- Students will practice writing words on dotted lines or letter fill-in worksheets.

Choose the most appropriate worksheet on the basis of each student’s needs. Level 3 is text only. Level 2 is symbol-supported. Level 1 is written in sentence strip format for students who may require alternative forms of responding.

Follow up spelling activities with a “spelling test.” Encourage students to write and use words in other contexts.

Additional ideas for word study instruction are provided in the ULS Instructional Guides: Word Study.

**Fill-in**
- Students will practice writing words in sentences or fill in with cutout words or pictures.
  1. Cinnamon is a _____ (spice)
  2. Cinnamon on applesauce tastes _____ (nice)
  3. I like to eat white _____ (rice)
  4. Do you think _____ like rice? (mice)

**Word Study**
- Students will analyze words to complete the word study. Students may write words or use cutout words or pictures.
  1. What word starts like mitten? (mice)
  2. What word starts like rain? (rice)
  3. What word starts like sport? (spice)
  4. What word starts like nickel? (nice)

### Differentiated Tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level 3</th>
<th>Level 2</th>
<th>Level 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students will blend onset and rime to state a series of rime words.</td>
<td>Students will point to or select a named word rime.</td>
<td>Students will select a picture of a named word rime (single option choice).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students will independently read and write words by applying letter-sound correspondences.</td>
<td>Students will select or point to a named word from a set of three words, using cues from letter-sound correspondence.</td>
<td>Students will attend to activities that apply letter-sound correspondence to the reading of words.</td>
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<td>Students will read new words by applying initial, final and vowel sound knowledge.</td>
<td>Students will spell common words with letter-sound matches.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students will spell and write words with common spelling patterns.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Resources and Materials

Worksheets and sentence strips
- Picture/Word cards and Word cards with rime words: mice, nice, rice, spice

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Instructional Targets

**Reading Standards for Foundational Skills**
- **Phonological Awareness:** Identify rhyming words. Blend onset and rime to identify a spoken word. Distinguish initial, medial and final sounds in a spoken word.
- **Phonics and Word Recognition:** Use letter-sound matches to decode words. Apply basic phonics skills to read new words.

**Standards for Language**
- **Conventions of Standard English:** Correctly spell words with common spelling patterns.

Which of your state standards are aligned to these instructional targets?

Classroom Activities/Lesson Plan

**Word Rime Spelling List 4**

In order to grow as readers, students need to learn skills for decoding unfamiliar words. Students gain skill confidence as instruction on onset and rime is applied into meaning-making sentences as well as word study activities.

**Spelling List 4**
- **Word rimes:** name, game, came, flame
- Select a spelling list appropriate for each student (with text or pictures).
- Students will practice writing words on dotted lines or letter fill-in worksheets.

Choose the most appropriate worksheet on the basis of each student’s needs. Level 3 is text only. Level 2 is symbol-supported. Level 1 is written in sentence strip format for students who may require alternative forms of responding.

Follow up spelling activities with a “spelling test.” Encourage students to write/use words in other contexts.

Additional ideas for word study instruction are provided in the ULS Instructional Guides: Word Study.

**Fill-In**

- Students will practice writing words in sentences or fill in with cutout words and pictures.
  1. Welcome, I’m glad you _____ (came)
  2. Do you want to play a _____? (game)
  3. What is that girl’s _____? (name)
  4. The fire has an orange _____ (flame)

**Word Study**

- Students will analyze the words to complete the word study.
  1. What word starts like flag? (flame)
  2. What word starts like goat? (game)
  3. What word starts like cake? (came)
  4. What word starts like nurse? (name)

**Differentiated Tasks**

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>Level 1</th>
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<tr>
<td>Students will blend onset and rime to state a series of rime words.</td>
<td>Students will point to or select a named word rime.</td>
<td>Students will select a picture of a named word rime (single option choice).</td>
</tr>
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<td>Students will independently read and write words by applying letter-sound correspondences.</td>
<td>Students will select or point to a named word from a set of three words, using cues from letter-sound correspondence.</td>
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<td>Students will read new words by applying initial, final and vowel sound knowledge.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students will spell and write words with common spelling patterns.</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Resources and Materials**

- Worksheets and sentence strips
- Picture/Word cards and Word cards with rime words: name, game, came, flame
**Instructional Targets**

**Math Standards for Counting and Cardinality**
- Know number names and the count sequence: Count by ones to 10, 20 and 100. Read and write numerals to 10 and 20.
- Count to tell the number of objects: Demonstrate one-to-one correspondence when counting. Count a number of objects to tell how many.
- Compare numbers: Indicate whether the number of objects in one group is more, less, or equal to the number of objects in another group.

**Math Standards for Operations and Algebraic Thinking**
- Represent and solve problems involving addition and subtraction: Model putting together (addition, more, equal) and taking away (subtraction, less, equal) with objects and representations. Add and subtract within ranges of 1-10 and 1-20. Use objects, representations and numerals to solve real-life word problems.
- Understand and use +, - and = symbols when solving problems.

Which of your state standards are aligned to these instructional targets?

**Classroom Activities/Lesson Plan**

**Number Sense: CS-CS-Changes**
Number sense activities address counting to 10 and 20, number recognition to 10 and 20, adding to 10 and 20 (no carrying), and subtracting to 10 and 20 (no borrowing). Manipulative pictures allow teachers to create additional scenarios. ULS Instructional Tools provide number cards that may be used to model problems. Mathematics instruction may be expanded beyond these lessons to include generalizations in related real-world applications. Use of a calculator for math computation is NOT recommended at the elementary grade band because concept understanding is critical. Appropriate activities should be selected on the basis of each student’s needs. This level is intended for students who can write numbers and solve problems at a more independent level. Students using Level 2 activities will need support, including manipulatives or teacher support. Tracing lines are available, but hand-over-hand assistance is appropriate. Numbers and manipulatives are available for Level 1 activities. Communication devices can be programmed to support students in counting pictures and manipulatives. Students may be given multiple choices or one errorless number choice. The scenarios in this lesson involve two characters, Paige and Drew, who are changing objects. Scenario cards are provided to address these skills. As you work through the scenarios talk with students about the types of changes taking place. The physical changes presented in the scenarios include melting ice cubes and tearing paper. The chemical changes include cooking eggs and burning logs.

**Standards Connection**
- A number chart (1–100) is provided to extend counting activities. The chart may be used to practice various levels of number recognition, counting and skip counting (by 2s, 5s or 10s).

**Additional Ideas for Math Instruction**
Use manipulatives to simulate problem scenarios. Use a VELCRO® sensitive board to model math problems. Number cards, symbol cards (+, - and =) and additional tools for math instruction are provided in the ULS Instructional Tools: Math Pack/Numbers.

**Lesson 19**

**Differentiated Tasks**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level 3</th>
<th>Level 2</th>
<th>Level 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students will count a number of objects and identify the associated numeral.</td>
<td>Students will match objects to a corresponding number line (one-to-one match) to count and identify a number of objects.</td>
<td>Students will count to a given number through an active participation response (e.g., voice output device, eye gaze choice board).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students will count objects in two defined groups and determine which group contains more or less than the other or whether the groups are equal.</td>
<td>Students will pair objects from two groups to determine which group has more or less than the other or whether the groups are equal.</td>
<td>Students will select numbers (errorless choice) to count and compare numbers within a math problem involving the concepts of more and less.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students will add and subtract numbers within the context of a real-world scenario.</td>
<td>Students will model addition and subtraction of two sets of objects in the context of a real-world scenario.</td>
<td>Students will count sets of objects through an active participation response (e.g., voice output device, eye gaze choice board).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Resources and Materials**

**Scenarios**
- Manipulative pictures for problems involving numbers 1–20
- Standards Connection Lesson 19
- Number line

**Number Cards and Symbol Cards (+, - and =) are provided in the ULS Instructional Tools: Math Pack/Numbers.**

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### Instructional Guides

#### Intermediate Suggested Monthly Plan

**Week ___** Determine if activities will be completed as a whole class or in small groups (times may vary depending on instructional format).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day 1</th>
<th>Day 2</th>
<th>Day 3</th>
<th>Day 4</th>
<th>Day 5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Language Arts block: 50 minutes</td>
<td>Language Arts block: 50 minutes</td>
<td>Language Arts block: 50 minutes</td>
<td>Language Arts block: 50 minutes</td>
<td>Language Arts block: 50 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-assessment Checkpoints</td>
<td>Whole Group (15 minutes)</td>
<td>Whole Group (15 minutes)</td>
<td>Whole Group (15 minutes)</td>
<td>Whole Group (15 minutes)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Content Understanding (2 &amp; 3)</td>
<td>Small Group (30 minutes)</td>
<td>Small Group (30 minutes)</td>
<td>Small Group (30 minutes)</td>
<td>Small Group (30 minutes)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(5-10 minutes/student)</td>
<td>(3 groups x 10 minutes)</td>
<td>Read news-2-you newspaper and complete news-2-you worksheets.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Record completed worksheets on work completion checklist.</td>
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**Week ___** Determine if activities will be completed as a whole class or in small groups (times may vary depending on instructional format).

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<td>Whole Group (15 minutes)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Record completed worksheets on work completion checklist.</td>
<td>Record completed worksheets on work completion checklist.</td>
<td>Record completed worksheets on work completion checklist.</td>
<td>Record completed worksheets on work completion checklist.</td>
<td>Record completed worksheets on work completion checklist.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Lesson 1

Reading Standards for Literature
- **Range and Level of Text Complexity:** Experience grade level and age-appropriate literature materials, including stories, poems, plays, fiction and nonfiction works that are adapted to student reading level.

Reading Standards for Foundational Skills
- **Fluency:** Read appropriately leveled books with accuracy and fluency.

Which of your state standards are aligned to these instructional targets?

### Classroom Activities/Lesson Plan

**Leveled Book: Make Your Body Move Now**

Lesson 1 provides a simple book in three distinct reading levels. Emerging readers may engage in the same content when selecting the appropriate level based on individual abilities, needs or reading goals. This Leveled Book is presented in three leveled formats: Level D, Level B and Level aa (captioned). Select the level appropriate for each student.

The content of the Leveled Book presents a song and dance. When they have finished the book, students should be able to describe some of the ways in which they can move their bodies.

- **Introduce the story by talking about motion and movement.** Ask, "Do you like to dance?" Explain that when people dance, they move, or create motion, with their bodies.
- **On the first reading, do a picture walk.** Note pictures of the characters' actions and movements. Emphasize that there are many different ways in which students can move their bodies. Discuss some of students' favorite dance moves. For example, ask, "What do you do when you hear music? Do you clap your hands or tap your toes? Do you have a favorite dance move you like to do?"
- **Read the story aloud to model fluency.** The Level C and B books can be read or sung to the tune of "The Loco-Motion." After reading the story, ask questions about the ways in which students moved specific body parts while following along with the dance. Explain and model less-familiar action words, such as bob, which means "to nod, or move up and down."
- **As a group, reread the story with pauses for key words to encourage participation.** Encourage choral reading of the repeated line. Provide students with supports for page turning and interaction while they are reading.
- **During independent or paired reading, focus on individual student reading abilities with text or supported-text versions.** It is likely that students may read different levels for different purposes each day when building reading skills.
- **Support student reading, using the communication board to do so.**
- **Follow up reading with discussion on why things move.** Explain that nothing starts moving on its own. Objects must be pushed or pulled by a force. Point out that when dancing, students' muscles push and pull on the bones in their bodies, making them move. Working together, brainstorm a list of other things that can be moved with a push or pull.

#### Standards Connection
- **Use the book features and the pictures to continue interaction with the book.**
- **Have students locate the title, the author and the illustrator of the book.**
- **Invite students to identify and describe characters, setting and events from the story pictures.**

With students, read the text to determine whether this story is told by the author or by one of the characters in the story.

### Pre- and post-assessments are available through Monthly Checkpoints.

#### Differentiated Tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level 3</th>
<th>Level 2</th>
<th>Level 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students will independently read literature stories, poems, plays, fiction and nonfiction works that have been adapted to student reading level.</td>
<td>Students will read supported and shared literature stories, poems, plays, fiction and nonfiction works that have been adapted to student reading level.</td>
<td>Students will actively participate in supported reading of literature stories, poems, plays, fiction and nonfiction works that have been adapted to student ability level.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students will independently read text stories that are selected at the personal reading level.</td>
<td>Students will state a word or point to a picture of an omitted word during shared reading.</td>
<td>Students will state a sentence from a story through an active participation response (e.g., voice output device, eye gaze choice board).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Resources and Materials

- Leveled Book: Make Your Body Move Now
- Communication board
- Standards Connection Lesson 1

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Lesson 2

Instructional Targets

Reading Standards for Literature

- **Key Ideas and Details**: Answer questions and locate details in text to support an answer. Summarize a story to show understanding of the main theme and details.

Which of your state standards are aligned to these instructional targets?

Classroom Activities/Lesson Plan

**Read and Answer: Make Your Body Move Now**

Comprehension activities extend beyond “checking” what students remember from reading. During instruction, students learn to refer to the book, using both illustrations and text, to locate answers to questions. Students recognize types of responses appropriate to who, what and where formats. Question responses may also provide students with a foundation for story retell. Reread the Leveled Book and repeat comprehension activities throughout the unit to increase students’ skills in multiple areas of comprehension.

After reading (and rereading) Make Your Body Move Now, use the comprehension worksheets as a guide for students to answer questions about the book. Choose the most appropriate worksheet on the basis of each student’s needs. Level 3 is text only. Level 2 is symbol-supported. Level 1 is written in a sentence strip format, allowing students to select from multiple choices or one errorless picture choice.

1. What can Betsy and her friends do? (sit, dance, sing)
2. What do they do with their feet? (clap, wave, stamp)
3. What do they snap? (hips, fingers, nose)
4. Where do they wave their hands? (up high, down low, across)
5. How do they bob their heads? (high, slow, fast)

The questions on the comprehension worksheets provide picture and text support to identify key details or sequence of events in the story. Use these questions to encourage students to retell the story. Talk about the story’s main message or main idea as outlined by the comprehension questions.

**Standards Connection**

- Use the format of this connection to build retelling and summarizing skills. Build communication skills by using the augmentative supports needed for each student.

Comprehension questions from Leveled Books are based on the highest level in the series. These books may be read aloud to help students at all levels gain meaning.

Pre- and post-assessments are available through Monthly Checkpoints.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Differentiated Tasks</th>
<th>Level 3</th>
<th>Level 2</th>
<th>Level 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students will independently read questions about a story and write, speak or select an answer.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Students will point to or select a picture from a choice of three in response to a who, what or where question about a story.</td>
<td>Students will respond to a question by choosing a single option or errorless picture.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students will retell a story, including the main idea and key details.</td>
<td>Students will use picture supports to retell key details from a story.</td>
<td>Students will retell key details from a story through an active participation response (e.g., voice output device, eye gaze choice board).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Resources and Materials**

- Worksheets for Read and Answer
- Sentence strips and picture cards
- Standards Connection Lesson 2

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U.S. March 2014
Lesson 3

**Instructional Targets**

Reading Standards for Literature
- **Range and Level of Text Complexity**: Experience grade level and age-appropriate literature materials, including stories, poems, plays, fiction and nonfiction works that are adapted to student reading level.

Reading Standards for Foundational Skills
- **Fluency**: Read appropriately leveled books with accuracy and fluency.

Which of your state standards are aligned to these instructional targets?

**Classroom Activities/Lesson Plan**

**Easy Read Book: Push and Pull on the Playground**

This lesson presents an Easy Read Book. The book follows a sequence to introduce beginning, middle and end concepts of story reading. It also presents the characters, setting and events of a story.

In this story, students will learn about the forces that make things move. This book is identified as a Level E.

Multiple readings of the book will provide students with repeated opportunities to build individual reading skills.

- Do a picture walk. Discuss the characters and actions from the pictures. Help students make predictions about what will happen next in the story. Introduce what will happen first, next and last.
- Introduce high-frequency words from the story.
- Read the story aloud to model fluency. Ask questions related to the characters, actions and events in the story.
- Read the story aloud, pausing for students to complete repetitive or predictable lines.
- During independent or paired reading, focus on the students' individual abilities and needs. Encourage students to use pictures to support reading words. Have students use decoding skills to identify unfamiliar words.
- Support student reading, using the communication board to do so.
- Follow up reading by discussing additional examples of pushing (e.g., kicking a ball, hitting a ball) and pulling (e.g., climbing on equipment, playing tug-of-war) on the playground. If time allows, set up a circuit of pushing and pulling activities. Then have students move through the activities in pairs or small groups, identifying the main force involved in each activity.

**Standards Connection**
- Use the book features and the pictures to continue interaction with the book.
- Have students locate the title, the author and the illustrator of the book.
- Invite students to identify and describe characters, setting and events from the story pictures.
- With students, read the text to determine whether this story is told by the author or by one of the characters in the story.

Pre- and post-assessments are available through Monthly Checkpoints.

**Differentiated Tasks**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level 3</th>
<th>Level 2</th>
<th>Level 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Students will independently read literature stories, poems, plays, fiction and nonfiction works that have been adapted to student reading level.</td>
<td>• Students will read supported and shared literature: stories, poems, plays, fiction and nonfiction works that have been adapted to student reading level.</td>
<td>• Students will actively participate in supported reading of literature: stories, poems, plays, fiction and nonfiction works that have been adapted to student ability level.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Students will independently read text stories that are selected at the personal reading level.</td>
<td>• Students will state a word or point to a picture of an omitted word during shared reading.</td>
<td>• Students will state a sentence from a story through an active participation response (e.g., voice output device, eye gaze choice board).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Resources and Materials**

| Easy Read Book: Push and Pull on the Playground |

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ULS: March 2014
**Grade Band:** Intermediate  
**Unit Target:** Physical Science  
**Unit Topic:** Make It Move  
**Lesson 4**

### Instructional Targets

**Reading Standards for Literature**
- **Key Ideas and Details:** Answer questions and locate details in text to support an answer. Summarize a story to show understanding of the main theme and details.

### Classroom Activities/Lesson Plan

**Read and Answer: Push and Pull on the Playground**

Comprehension activities extend beyond “checking” what students remember from reading. During instruction, students learn to refer to the book, using both illustrations and text to locate answers to questions. Students recognize types of responses appropriate to who, what and where formats. Question responses may also provide students with a foundation for story retell. Reread the Easy Ready Book and repeat comprehension activities throughout the unit to increase students' skills in multiple areas of comprehension.

After reading *Push and Pull on the Playground* one or more times, use the comprehension worksheets to answer questions about the book. Choose the most appropriate worksheet on the basis of each student's needs. Level 3 is text only. Level 2 is symbol-supported. Level 1 is written in sentence strip format, allowing students to select from multiple choices or one errorless picture choice.

1. What does Jacob want to learn about? (motion, senses, animals)
2. Where do Jacob and his sister go? (library, playground, restaurant)
3. What makes things move? (force, length, temperature)
4. What does the girl do to her wagon? (pass, push, pull)
5. What does Jacob do to the ball? (push, pull, bounce)

Build on comprehension by having students retell the story.

**Standards Connection**

- With students, discuss the story's main message or main idea as outlined by the comprehension questions. The comprehension questions will provide picture and text support, enabling students to identify the key details or sequence of events from the story. Pictures from this lesson may be used in other lessons to support other learning activities.

*Pre- and post-assessments are available through Monthly Checkpoints.*

### Differentiated Tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level 3</th>
<th>Level 2</th>
<th>Level 7</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Students will independently read questions about a story and write, speak, or select an answer.  
Students will retell a story, including the main idea and key details. | Students will point to or select a picture from a choice of three in response to a who, what or where question about a story  
Students will use picture supports to retell key details from a story. | Students will respond to a question by choosing a single option or errorless picture.  
Students will retell key details from a story through an active participation response (e.g., voice output device, eye gaze choice board). |

### Resources and Materials

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Workpapers for Read and Answer  
Sentence strips and picture cards  
Standards Connection Lesson 4 |

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ULS: March 2014
Grade Band: Intermediate
Unit Target: Physical Science
Unit Topic: Make It Move

Lesson 5

Instructional Targets

Reading Standards for Informational Text
• Range and Level of Text Complexity: Read and use grade level and age-appropriate informational materials, including social studies and technical texts that are adapted to student reading level.
• Key Ideas and Details: Answer questions to show understanding of text.

Reading Standards for Foundational Skills
• Fluency: Read appropriately leveled books with accuracy and fluency.

Which of your state standards are aligned to these instructional targets?

Classroom Activities/Lesson Plan

Nonfiction Article 1: “Our Bodies Can Move”

Students need exposure to both fictional and nonfictional materials. The unit article presents students with informational text related to the unit topic.

Read aloud the article, “Our Bodies Can Move.” This article introduces the concept of energy and how energy affects our ability to move.

Articles are presented in advanced, higher and regular formats. The advanced article is in a text format. Higher and regular articles are presented in both a text-only and symbol-supported format. Fill-in comprehension questions are also in three formats. Level 3 is text only.
Level 2 is symbol-supported. Level 1 is written in sentence strip format, allowing students to select from multiple choices or one errorless picture choice. Choose the appropriate text and comprehension worksheet on the basis of each student’s abilities and needs.

• Introduce the article by discussing ways students like to move. Ask, “Do you like to dance? Do you like to run or go for walks?”
• Read the article aloud to model fluency. Discuss energy and why we need it. Ask, “What do our bodies need to move? Where do we get energy?”
• Support reading by using the communication board.
• Use independent or paired reading to focus on individual student abilities in reading with text or supported-text versions.
• Build comprehension with questions and discussion of the topic.
• Have students complete the comprehension worksheet to reinforce content vocabulary.

Standards Connection
• Informational text has a purpose. In these articles, the purpose is to learn new facts and information. The connection activity teaches skills for identifying key details and main ideas. Students will also learn to locate and highlight these facts within the text.

Pre- and post-assessments are available through Monthly Checkpoints.

Differentiated Tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level 3</th>
<th>Level 2</th>
<th>Level 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students will independently read subject area and technical texts that have been adapted to student reading level. Students will independently read questions about a story and write, speak or select an answer.</td>
<td>Students will read supported and shared subject area and technical texts that have been adapted to student reading level. Students will point to or select a picture from a choice of three in response to a question about a story.</td>
<td>Students will actively participate in supported reading of subject area and technical texts that have been adapted to student ability level. Students will respond to a question by choosing a single option or errorless picture.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Resources and Materials

Article 1: “Our Bodies Can Move”
Comprehension worksheet
Standards Connection Lessons 5 and 6

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Lesson 6

### Instructional Targets

Reading Standards for Informational Text
- **Range and Level of Text Complexity**: Read and use grade level and age-appropriate informational materials, including social studies and technical texts that are adapted to student reading level.
- **Key Ideas and Details**: Answer questions to show understanding of text.

Reading Standards for Foundational Skills
- **Fluency**: Read appropriately leveled books with accuracy and fluency.

Which of your state standards are aligned to these instructional targets?

### Classroom Activities/Lesson Plan

**Nonfiction Article 2: “Only One Speed: FAST”**

Students need exposure to both fictional and nonfictional materials. The unit article presents student with informational text related to the unit topic.

Read aloud the article, “Only One Speed: FAST.” This article introduces speed as a measure of how fast something goes.

Articles are presented in advanced, higher and regular formats. The advanced article is in a text format. Higher and regular articles are presented in both a text-only and symbol-supported format. Fill-in comprehension questions are also in three formats. Level 3 is text only. Level 2 is symbol-supported. Level 1 is written in sentence strip format, allowing students to select from multiple choices or one errorless picture choice. Choose the appropriate text and comprehension worksheet on the basis of each student’s abilities and needs.

- Introduce the article by discussing the words fast and slow. Model, or invite students to model, a fast movement and a slow movement.
- Read the article aloud to model fluency. Discuss the characters from the article. Ask, “How do the characters move? What can each character do fast?”
- Use independent or paired reading to focus on individual student abilities in reading with text or supported-text versions.
- Build comprehension with questions and discussion of the topic.
- Have students complete the comprehension worksheet to reinforce content vocabulary.

**Standards Connection**
- Research is a process that allows students to learn more about a topic. Extend learning through a short research project, using the connection guide form to do so.
- Use the Standards Connection from Lesson 5 to support comprehension in identifying key details in the article.

Pre- and post-assessments are available through Monthly Checkpoints.

### Differentiated Tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level 3</th>
<th>Level 2</th>
<th>Level 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| • Students will independently read subject area and technical texts that have been adapted to student reading level.  
  • Students will independently read questions about a story and write, speak or select an answer.  
| • Students will read supported and shared subject area and technical texts that have been adapted to student reading level.  
  • Students will point to or select a picture from a choice of three in response to a question about a story.  
| • Students will actively participate in supported reading of subject area and technical texts that have been adapted to student ability level.  
  • Students will respond to a question by choosing a single option or errorless picture.  

### Resources and Materials

- Article 2: “Only One Speed: FAST”
- Comprehension worksheet
- Standards Connection Lessons 5 and 6

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### Instructional Targets

**Reading Standards for Foundational Skills**
- **Phonics and Word Recognition:** Read common sight words (e.g., high-frequency items from Dolch/Fry list and commonly occurring words in the environment). Use letter-sound knowledge and patterns to decode words.
- **Conventions of Standard English:** Generate a written sentence with appropriate capitalization, punctuation and spelling.

Which of your state standards are aligned to these instructional targets?

### Classroom Activities/Lesson Plan

**High-Frequency Spelling List 1**

Students need multiple and varied experiences with high-frequency words before they are automatically recognized and read. These lesson experiences include writing and spelling words within meaning-making sentences and as part of sound-symbol associations.

**Spelling List 1:** make, one, two, three, them, want

- Select spelling list appropriate for each student (text or pictures).
- With your students, review words from the story and the word wall.
- Students will practice writing words on dotted line or letter fill-in worksheets.

Choose the most appropriate worksheet on the basis of each student’s needs. Level 3 is text only. Level 2 is symbol-supported. Level 1 is written in sentence strip format for students who may require alternative forms of responding.

Follow up spelling activities with a “spelling test.” Encourage students to write and use words in other reading and writing contexts.

**Additional ideas for word study instruction are provided in the ULS Instructional Guides: Word Study.**

#### Fill-In

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. I have _____ nose. (one)</td>
<td>1. Students will analyze the word to complete the word study. Students may write words or use cutout words or pictures.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. I can _____ it move up and down. (make)</td>
<td>2. What word starts like mouse? (make)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. I have _____ hands. (two)</td>
<td>3. What word rhymes with shoe? (two)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. I can snap _____ together. (them)</td>
<td>4. What word ends like drum? (them)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. One plus two equals _____ . (three)</td>
<td>5. What word rhymes with none? (one)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Do you _____ to move with me? (want)</td>
<td>6. What word ends like nut? (want)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Differentiated Tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level 3</th>
<th>Level 2</th>
<th>Level 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students will independently read high-frequency words.</td>
<td>Students will select or point to a named high-frequency word from a set of three words.</td>
<td>Students will select a named high-frequency word from a single option choice.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students will independently read and write words by applying letter-sound correspondences.</td>
<td>Students will select or point to a named word from a set of three words, using cues from letter-sound correspondence.</td>
<td>Students will attend to activities that apply letter-sound correspondence to the reading of words.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students will demonstrate conventions of written language, including appropriate initial capitalization, ending punctuation and common spelling.</td>
<td>Students will spell familiar words with letter-sound matches.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Resources and Materials

Worksheets and sentence strips for List 1

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Instructional Targets

Reading Standards for Foundational Skills
- **Phonics and Word Recognition:** Read common sight words (e.g., high-frequency items from Dolch/Fry list and commonly occurring words in the environment). Use letter-sound knowledge and patterns to decode words.
- **Conventions of Standard English:** Generate a written sentence with appropriate capitalization, punctuation and spelling.

Which of your state standards are aligned to these instructional targets?

Classroom Activities/Lesson Plan

High-Frequency Spelling Lists 2 and 3

Students need multiple and varied experiences with high-frequency words before they are automatically recognized and read. These lesson experiences include writing and spelling words within meaning-making sentences and as part of sound-symbol associations.

This lesson addresses words from Lists 2 and 3. Choose the most appropriate worksheet on the basis of each student’s needs. Level 3 is text only. Level 2 is symbol-supported. Level 1 is written in sentence strip format for students who may require alternative forms of responding.

Follow up spelling activities with a “spelling test.” Encourage students to write and use words in other reading and writing contexts.

Additional ideas for word study instruction are provided in the [ULS Instructional Guides: Word Study](#). 

<p>| Spelling List 2: that, ball, girl, high, over, fast | Spelling List 3: along, body, move, now, pull, really |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fill-in</th>
<th>Fill-in</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Joelle is a ______ (girl)</td>
<td>1. We are going for a walk ______ (now)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. She likes to play ______ (ball)</td>
<td>2. You should come ______ (along)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Joelle can run ______ (fast)</td>
<td>3. It will be ______ fun. (really)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. She can throw the ball ______ in the sky. (high)</td>
<td>4. We will ______ our legs. (move)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Do you see ______ big fence? (that)</td>
<td>5. We will ______ our wagon behind us. (pull)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Joelle can hit the ball ______ that fence. (over)</td>
<td>6. Walking is good for your ______. (body)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Word Study**

- Students will analyze the word to complete the word study. Students may write words or use cutout words or pictures.
  1. What word starts like game? (girl) |
  2. What word starts like bug? (ball) |
  3. What word starts like fun? (fast) |
  4. What word rhymes with sight? (high) |
  5. What word rhymes with mat? (that) |
  6. What word ends like river? (over) |

**Word Study**

- Students will analyze the word to complete the word study. Students may write words or use cutout words or pictures.
  1. What word starts like ring? (really) |
  2. What word starts like monkey? (move) |
  3. What word starts like baby? (body) |
  4. What word rhymes with wrong? (along) |
  5. What word rhymes with cow? (now) |
  6. What word ends like tool? (pull) |

Differentiated Tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level 3</th>
<th>Level 2</th>
<th>Level 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students will independently read high-frequency words. Students will independently read and write words by applying letter-sound correspondences. Students will demonstrate conventions of written language, including appropriate initial capitalization, ending punctuation and common spelling.</td>
<td>Students will select or point to a named high-frequency word from a set of three words. Students will select or point to a named word from a set of three words, using cues from letter-sound correspondence. Students will spell familiar words with letter-sound matches.</td>
<td>Students will select a named high-frequency word from a single option choice. Students will attend to activities that apply letter-sound correspondence to the reading of words.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Resources and Materials

Worksheets and sentence strips for Lists 2 and 3

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### Instructional Targets

**Math Standards for Numbers and Operations in Base Ten**
- Understand the place value system: Compare multi-digit numbers by use of symbols: >, < or =.
- Use place value understanding and properties of operations to perform multi-digit arithmetic: Solve addition and subtraction problems up to 30, 50 and 100.
- Illustrate concepts of multiplication (equal shares) and division (equal groups) with multi-digit numbers.
- Building Blocks to Counting and Cardinality: Read and write numerals. Count a number of objects.

### Lesson 16

#### Instructional Tools: Math Pack/Numbers

- **Mathematics**
- **Building Blocks to Counting and Cardinality:** Illustrate concepts of multiplication (equal shares) and division (equal groups) with multi-digit numbers, using manipulatives.

#### Classroom Activity: Lesson Plan

**Number Sense: Pull the Wagon**

Number Sense activities include number recognition, counting and simple math calculations: addition, subtraction and early multiplication. Problems must be individualized for each student; however, all problems should be presented in the context of the simulated real-world scenarios of the lesson. Mathematics instruction may be expanded beyond these lessons to include generalization in related real-world applications. Choose the most appropriate activity in the basis of the student’s needs.

### Differentiated Tasks

**Level 3**
- Students will count and read numbers to 100.
- Students will count and compare numbers to 100 to determine more, less or equal.
- Students will solve addition and subtraction problems to 50 and 100.
- Students will model and solve simple multiplication and division problems in the context of a real-world scenario.

**Level 2**
- Students will count and read one-digit and two-digit numbers.
- Students will compare numbers to 20 with a model to determine more, less or equal.
- Students will solve addition and subtraction problems to 20.
- Students will model groups to multiply or divide.

**Level 1**
- Students will use a sequencing voice output device to count to a given number.
- Students will compare two sets of objects to determine more, less or equal.
- Students will count sets of objects within addition or subtraction problems through an active participation response (e.g., voice output device, eye gaze choice board).
- Students will count a set of objects in a group through an active participation response (e.g., voice output device, eye gaze choice board).

### Resources and Materials

- **Scenario cards:** Manipulative pictures.
- Number cards and symbol cards (+, − and =) are provided in the ULS Instructional Tools: Math Pack/Numbers.
### Instructional Guides
Middle School Suggested Monthly Plan

#### Week

**Determine if activities will be completed as a whole class or in small groups (times may vary depending on instructional format).**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day 1</th>
<th>Day 2</th>
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U.S. Revised August 2012
Page 9 of 8
**Instructional Targets**

**Reading Standards for Literature**
- **Range and Level of Text Complexity:** Experience grade level and age-appropriate literature materials, including poems, biographies, chapter books, fiction and nonfiction works that are adapted to student reading level.

**Question:** Which of your state standards are aligned to these instructional targets?

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**Classroom Activities/Lesson Plan**

**Leveled Book: Watch Your Sister!**

Lesson 1 provides a simple book in three distinct reading levels. Early readers may engage in the same content when selecting the appropriate level based on individual abilities, needs or reading goals. This Leveled Book is presented in three leveled formats: Level D, Level B and Level A (captioned). Select the level appropriate for each student.

The content of the Leveled Book features a familiar theme of babysitting for a younger sibling. The unit topic of hot and cold is addressed as a curious toddler explores the house while her brother tries to keep her safe. When they have finished the book, students should be able to describe common things in a home that are hot or cold. They should be able to identify things that could be a danger to someone and why.

- Introduce the story by talking about things in each room of the house that are hot or cold. Ask, "What can you think of in the kitchen that is hot? What in the kitchen is cold?"
- On the first reading, do a picture walk. Note pictures of the items encountered in each room in the story. Emphasize that there is something hot or cold in every room of the house. Discuss safety issues when things are too hot or too cold. Ask, "Are there things in your house that can be too hot or too cold to touch?"
- Read the story aloud to model fluency. After reading the story, ask questions about safety for people of different ages.
- As a group, reread the story with pauses for key words to encourage participation. Encourage choral reading of the repeated line. Provide students with supports for page turning and interaction while they are reading.
- During independent or paired reading, focus on individual student reading abilities with text or supported-text versions. It is likely that students may read different levels for different purposes each day when building reading skills.
- Support student reading, using the communication board to do so.
- Follow up reading with discussion on responsibility. Ask, "Have you ever helped watch a small child or a baby? What makes it hard to do? What things in your house could be dangerous?" Emphasize those items that are hot or cold.

**Word-recognition cards for this lesson support high-frequency words within the unit reading materials.**

**High Frequency Words:**
- List 1: of, from, out, with, very, for
- List 2: says, too, these, thing, tell, feel
- List 3: goes, sometimes, change, different, water, body

**Standards Connection**

- Students with reading challenges may acquire more information from text when it is read aloud. The connection lesson explores alternative ways to "read" by using the text-to-speech version of this story and the PowerPoint® show.

Additional ideas for word study instruction are provided in the ULS Instructional Guides: Word Study. For some students, the "learning to read" process continues in the higher grades. Word wall activities are included in this guide.

**Comprehension questions from Leveled Books are based on the highest level in the series. These books may be read aloud to help students at all levels gain meaning.**

**Pre- and post-assessments are available through Monthly Checkpoints.**

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**Differentiated Tasks**

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**Resources and Materials**

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ULS: March 2014
Grade Band: Middle School
Unit Target: Physical Science
Unit Topic: Is It Hot? Is It Cold?

Lesson 2

Instructional Targets

Reading Standards for Literature
- Key Ideas and Details: Answer questions to explain the main ideas, details and inferences of a story. Summarize the main theme and events of a story.

Which of your state standards are aligned to these instructional targets?

Classroom Activities/Lesson Plan

Read and Answer: Watch Your Sister!

Comprehension activities extend beyond “checking” what students remember from reading. During instruction, students learn to refer to the book, using both illustrations and text, to locate answers to questions. Students recognize types of responses appropriate to who, what and where formats. Question responses may also provide students with a foundation for story retell. Activities should be repeated throughout the unit to increase students’ skills in multiple areas of comprehension.

After reading Watch Your Sister!, use the following comprehension activity. Students may respond to questions both orally and in writing. Choose the most appropriate worksheet on the basis of each student’s needs. Level 3 is text only. Level 2 is symbol-supported. Level 1 is written in sentence strip format, allowing students to select from multiple choices or one errorless picture choice.

Build vocabulary knowledge of the identified words. Picture support cards are provided for reading recognition. Use the words in additional sentences for meaning. Make connections between vocabulary and each student’s experiences.

**sleep**  **stove**  **sister**  **cold**  **hot**

1. Dan watches his _____. (sister)
2. The fire is too _____. (hot)
3. The ice is too _____. (cold)
4. Mera knocks over the _____. (drink)
5. Mera lies down to _____. (sleep)

Standards Connection
- Use the format of this connection to build retelling and summarizing skills. Build communication skills by using the augmentative supports needed for each student.

Comprehension questions from Leveled Books are based on the highest level in the series. These books may be read aloud to help students at all levels gain meaning.

Pre- and post-assessments are available through Monthly Checkpoints.

Differentiated Tasks

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<td>- Students will summarize a story, including the main idea, events and key details.</td>
<td>- Students will use picture supports to retell key details and events from a story.</td>
<td>- Students will retell key details and events from a story through an active participation response (e.g., voice output device, eye gaze choice board).</td>
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Resources and Materials
- Comprehension worksheets and sentence strips
- Standards Connection Lesson 2

Notes

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ULS: March 2014
Lesson 3

**Instructional Targets**

Reading Standards for Literature
- **Range and Level of Text Complexity:** Experience grade level and age-appropriate literature materials, including poems, biographies, chapter books, fiction and nonfiction works that are adapted to student reading level.
- **Key Ideas and Details:** Answer questions to explain the main ideas, details and inferences of a story.

**Which of your state standards are aligned to these instructional targets?**

**Classroom Activities/Lesson Plan**

**Chapter 1: Hot and Cold**

The title of the Chapter Book is *Let's Learn About Hot and Cold*. The first chapter, *Hot and Cold*, describes how hot and cold temperatures are part of many aspects of everyday life. The chapter explains how temperature is a factor in everything from washing dishes to going outside. The concept of how items may change due to different temperatures is introduced in this chapter.

- Chapter books present a “reading to learn” experience. Therefore, students may read independently, in a shared reading experience or books may be read to them. Present students with one chapter at a time for reading and comprehension instruction.
- After each page is read, ask the discussion question that appears in italics at the bottom of the page. Focus on pictures to reinforce understanding. Repeated readings are encouraged.
- Suggested Reading Levels for this chapter include: Levels H/I, presented in a text format, and E, presented in both text and symbol-supported formats.

**Read and Answer**

Comprehension activities extend beyond “checking” what students remember from reading. During instruction, students learn to refer to the book, using both illustrations and text, to locate answers to questions. Students recognize types of responses appropriate to who, what and where formats. Question responses may also provide students with a foundation for story retell.

- Select the level of comprehension questions appropriate to each student. Comprehension questions are also in three formats. Level 3 is text only.
- Level 2 is symbol-supported. Level 1 is written in sentence strip format, allowing students to select from multiple choices or one errorless picture choice.
- Build comprehension and vocabulary through discussions.

**Standards Connection**

- These standards connection lessons are designed to build summarizing skills and are applicable to all chapters. Using the first standards connection form, determine whether this book is a work of fiction or nonfiction. Select the additional standards connection lesson based on whether the chapter is a fictional format that has a story line or an informational text that includes facts and historical events.

**The first two sets of comprehension questions are derived from the lower levels of text. An advanced level of mixed questions is provided in text-only format.**

*Pre- and post-assessments are available through Monthly Checkpoints.*

**Differentiated Tasks**

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**Resources and Materials**

- Chapter 1: Hot and Cold
- Communication board
- Comprehension worksheets and sentence strips (multiple-choice and fill-in);
- Advanced questions
- Standards Connection Lessons 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13

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## Instructional Targets

### Reading Standards for Literature

- **Range and Level of Text Complexity:** Experience grade level and age-appropriate literature materials, including poems, biographies, chapter books, fiction and nonfiction works that are adapted to student reading level.
- **Key Ideas and Details:** Answer questions to explain the main ideas, details and inferences of a story.

Which of your state standards are aligned to these instructional targets?

## Classroom Activities/Lesson Plan

### Chapter 2: Baking Cookies

The title of the Chapter Book is Let's Learn About Hot and Cold. The second chapter, Baking Cookies, focuses on the use of heat when baking cookies in an oven. The changes in the cookies being baked are described. Issues of safety are also emphasized.

- Chapter books present a "reading to learn" experience. Therefore, students may read independently, in a shared reading experience or books may be read to them. Present students with one chapter at a time for reading and comprehension instruction.
- After each page is read, ask the discussion question that appears in italics at the bottom of the page. Focus on pictures to reinforce understanding. Repeated readings are encouraged.
- Suggested Reading Levels for this chapter include: Levels H/I, presented in a text format, and E, presented in both text and symbol-supported formats.

### Read and Answer

Comprehension activities extend beyond "checking" what students remember from reading. During instruction, students learn to refer to the book, using both illustrations and text, to locate answers to questions. Students recognize types of responses appropriate to who, what and where formats. Question responses may also provide students with a foundation for story retell. Activities should be repeated throughout the unit to increase students' skills in multiple areas of comprehension.

- Select the level of comprehension questions appropriate to each student. Comprehension questions are also in three formats. Level 3 is text only. Level 2 is symbol-supported. Level 1 is written in sentence strip format, allowing students to select from multiple choices or one errorless picture choice.
- Build comprehension and vocabulary through discussions.

### Standards Connection

These standards connection lessons are designed to build summarizing skills and are applicable to all chapters. Using the first standards connection form, determine whether this book is a work of fiction or nonfiction. Select the additional standards connection lesson based on whether the chapter is a fictional format that has a story line or an informational text that includes facts and historical events.

The first two sets of comprehension questions are derived from the lower levels of text. An advanced level of mixed questions is provided in text-only format.

**Pre- and post-assessments are available through Monthly Checkpoints.**

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### Resources and Materials

- Chapter 2: Baking Cookies
- Communication board
- Comprehension worksheets and sentence strips (multiple-choice and fill-in-items);
- Advanced questions
- Standards Connection Lessons 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13

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Instructional Targets

Reading Standards for Literature

Range and Level of Text Complexity: Experience grade level and age-appropriate literature materials, including poems, biographies, chapter books, fiction and nonfiction works that are adapted to student reading level.

Key Ideas and Details: Answer questions to explain the main ideas, details and inferences of a story.

Which of your state standards are aligned to these instructional targets?

Classroom Activities/Lesson Plan

Chapter 3: Got a Fever?
The title of the Chapter Book is Let's Learn about Hot and Cold. The third chapter, Got a Fever?, describes what happens when Jonah is ill with a fever. The difference in body temperature when someone is well and when someone is ill is discussed.

- Chapter books present a “reading to learn” experience. Therefore, students may read independently, in a shared reading experience or books may be read to them. Present students with one chapter at a time for reading and comprehension instruction.
- After each page is read, ask the discussion question that appears in italics at the bottom of the page. Focus on pictures to reinforce understanding. Repeated readings are encouraged.
- Suggested Reading Levels for this chapter include: Levels H/I, presented in a text format, and E, presented in both text and symbol-supported formats.

Read and Answer
Comprehension activities extend beyond “checking” what students remember from reading. During instruction, students learn to refer to the book, using both illustrations and text, to locate answers to questions. Students recognize types of responses appropriate to who, what and where formats. Question responses may also provide students with a foundation for story retell. Activities should be repeated throughout the unit to increase students’ skills in multiple areas of comprehension.

- Select the level of comprehension questions appropriate to each student. Comprehension questions are also in three formats. Level 3 is text only. Level 2 is symbol-supported. Level 1 is written in sentence strip format, allowing students to select from multiple choices or one errorless picture choice.
- Build comprehension and vocabulary through discussions.

Standards Connection

These standards connection lessons are designed to build summarizing skills and are applicable to all chapters. Using the first standards connection form, determine whether this book is a work of fiction or nonfiction. Select the additional standards connection lesson based on whether the chapter is a fictional format that has a story line or an informational text that includes facts and historical events.

The first two sets of comprehension questions are derived from the lower levels of text. An advanced level of mixed questions is provided in text-only format.

Pre- and post-assessments are available through Monthly Checkpoints.

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Resources and Materials

Chapter 4: Got a Fever?
Communication board
Comprehension worksheets and sentence strips (multiple-choice and fill-in);
Advanced questions
Standards Connection Lessons 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13

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Instructor Targets

Reading Standards for Literature
• Range and Level of Text Complexity: Experience grade level and age-appropriate literature materials, including poems, biographies, chapter books, fiction and nonfiction works that are adapted to student reading level.
• Key Ideas and Details: Answer questions to explain the main ideas, details and inferences of a story.

Which of your state standards are aligned to these instructional targets?

Classroom Activities/Lesson Plan

Chapter 4: Icy Juice Cups
The title of the Chapter Book is Let’s Learn About Hot and Cold. The fourth chapter, Icy Juice Cups, describes the changes that occur when something is frozen. Changes from liquid to solid, as the result of cold, are described as Jonah freezes juice in cups.
• Chapter books present a “reading to learn” experience. Therefore, students may read independently, in a shared reading experience or books may be read to them. Present students with one chapter at a time for reading and comprehension instruction.
• After each page is read, ask the discussion question that appears in italics at the bottom of the page. Focus on pictures to reinforce understanding. Repeated readings are encouraged.
• Suggested Reading Levels for this chapter include: Levels H/I, presented in a text format and E, presented in both text and symbol-supported formats.

Read and Answer
Comprehension activities extend beyond “checking” what students remember from reading. During instruction, students learn to refer to the book, using both illustrations and text, to locate answers to questions. Students recognize types of responses appropriate to who, what and where formats. Question responses may also provide students with a foundation for story retell. Activities should be repeated throughout the unit to increase students’ skills in multiple areas of comprehension.
• Select the level of comprehension questions appropriate to each student. Comprehension questions are also in three formats. Level 3 is text only.
Level 2 is symbol-supported. Level 1 is written in sentence strip format, allowing students to select from multiple choices or one errorless picture choice.
• Build comprehension and vocabulary through discussions.

Standards Connection
• These standards connection lessons are designed to build summarizing skills and are applicable to all chapters. Using the first standards connection form, determine whether this book is a work of fiction or nonfiction. Select the additional standards connection lesson based on whether the chapter is a fictional format that has a story line or an informational text that includes facts and historical events.
The first two sets of comprehension questions are derived from the lower levels of text. An advanced level of mixed questions is provided in text-only format.

Pre- and post-assessments are available through Monthly Checkpoints.

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Resources and Materials

Chapter 3: Icy Juice Cups
Communication board
Comprehension worksheets and sentence strips (multiple-choice and fill-in);
Advanced questions
Standards Connection Lessons 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13

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## Instructional Targets

### Reading Standards for Literature
- **Range and Level of Text Complexity:** Experience grade level and age-appropriate literature materials, including poems, biographies, chapter books, fiction and nonfiction works that are adapted to student reading level.
- **Key Ideas and Details:** Answer questions to explain the main ideas, details and inferences of a story.

Which of your state standards are aligned to these instructional targets?

### Classroom Activities/Lesson Plan

#### Chapter 5: Beach Party

The title of the Chapter Book is Let’s Learn About Hot and Cold. The fifth chapter, Beach Party, focuses on temperature during a hot day at the beach. The chapter includes discussion of how to keep drinks cold in a cooler, using a campfire for a cook-out and keeping safe in the sun by using sunscreen.

- **Chapter books present a “reading to learn” experience. Therefore, students may read independently, in a shared reading experience or books may be read to them. Present students with one chapter at a time for reading and comprehension instruction.**
- **After each page is read, ask the discussion question that appears in italics at the bottom of the page. Focus on pictures to reinforce understanding. Repeated readings are encouraged.**
- **Suggested Reading Levels for this chapter include: Levels H/I presented in a text format, and E, presented in both text and symbol-supported formats.**

#### Read and Answer

Comprehension activities extend beyond “checking” what students remember from reading. During instruction, students learn to refer to the book, using both illustrations and text, to locate answers to questions. Students recognize types of responses appropriate to who, what and where formats. Question responses may also provide students with a foundation for story retell. Activities should be repeated throughout the unit to increase students’ skills in multiple areas of comprehension.

- **Select the level of comprehension questions appropriate to each student. Comprehension questions are also in three formats. Level 3 is text only. Level 2 is symbol-supported. Level 1 is written in sentence strip format, allowing students to select from multiple choices or one errorless picture choice.**
- **Build comprehension and vocabulary through discussions.**

#### Standards Connection

- These standards connection lessons are designed to build summarizing skills and are applicable to all chapters. Using the first standards connection form, determine whether this book is a work of fiction or nonfiction. Select the additional standards connection lesson based on whether the chapter is a fictional format that has a story line or an informational text that includes facts and historical events.

The first two sets of comprehension questions are derived from the lower levels of text. An advanced level of mixed questions is provided in text-only format.

**Pre- and post-assessments are available through Monthly Checkpoints.**

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### Resources and Materials

- **Chapter 5: Beach Party**
- Communication board
- Comprehension worksheets and sentence strips (multiple-choice and fill-in);
- Advanced questions
- Standards Connection Lessons 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13

### Notes

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ULS: March 2014
## Instructional Targets

### Reading Standards for Literature
- **Range and Level of Text Complexity:** Experience grade level and age-appropriate literature materials, including poems, biographies, chapter books, fiction and nonfiction works that are adapted to student reading level.
- **Key Ideas and Details:** Answer questions to explain the main ideas, details and inferences of a story.

Which of your state standards are aligned to these instructional targets?

## Classroom Activities/Lesson Plan

### Chapter 6: Hot and Cold Safety

The title of the Chapter Book is *Let's Learn About Hot and Cold*. The sixth chapter, Hot and Cold Safety, describes common safety measures needed to address both hot and cold temperatures. Food preparation, food storage and weather are discussed in regards to safety.

- **Chapter books present a “reading to learn” experience.** Therefore, students may read independently, in a shared reading experience or books may be read to them. Present students with one chapter at a time for reading and comprehension instruction.
- After each page is read, ask the discussion question that appears in italics at the bottom of the page. Focus on pictures to reinforce understanding. Repeated readings are encouraged.
- **Suggested Reading Levels for this chapter include:** Levels H/I, presented in a text format, and E, presented in both text and symbol-supported formats.

### Read and Answer

Comprehension activities extend beyond “checking” what students remember from reading. During instruction, students learn to refer to the book, using both illustrations and text, to locate answers to questions. Students recognize types of responses appropriate to who, what and where formats. Question responses may also provide students with a foundation for story retell. Activities should be repeated throughout the unit to increase students’ skills in multiple areas of comprehension.

- Select the level of comprehension questions appropriate to each student. Comprehension questions are also in three formats. Level 3 is text only. Level 2 is symbol-supported. Level 1 is written in sentence strip format, allowing students to select from multiple choices or one errorless picture choice.
- Build comprehension and vocabulary through discussions.

### Standards Connection

- **These standards connection lessons are designed to build summarizing skills and are applicable to all chapters.** Using the first standards connection form, determine whether this book is a work of fiction or nonfiction. Select the additional standards connection lesson based on whether the chapter is a fictional format that has a story line or an informational text that includes facts and historical events.
- The first two sets of comprehension questions are derived from the lower levels of text. An advanced level of mixed questions is provided in text-only format.

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## Resources and Materials

- Chapter 6: Hot and Cold Safety
- Communication board
- Comprehension worksheets and sentence strips (multiple-choice and fill-in)
- Advanced questions
- Standards Connection Lessons 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13
Lesson 19

Standards Connection

Math Standards for Operations in Base Ten

1. Apply and extend previous understanding of multiplication and division: Use all operations to solve real-world problems involving multiplication or division.

Math Standards for Number and Operations in Base Ten

1. Understand and use +, - symbols in problems. Solve addition and subtraction problems. Model and solve problems involving multiplication or division.

Math Story Problems: Cookies and More Cookies!

The early grades build the foundational skills needed for later mathematical concepts. These skills include number recognition and use of numbers in operations to solve problems. Many students continue to require practice in adding and subtracting to build an understanding of multiplication and division concepts.

Which of your state standards are aligned to these instructional targets?

Using a calculator simplifies the process for some students.

Math Story Problems: Is It Hot? Is It Cold?

The scenarios provide early number recognition and counting.

Appropriate activities should be based on student needs. Level 3 differentiated task activities are intended for students who can write numbers and solve problems with little or no support. Level 2 differentiated task activities are intended for those students who may require some manipulative or teacher support. Although tracing lines are available, hand-over-hand assistance may be appropriate. Numbers and manipulatives are available for all Level 1 differentiated task activities.

Voice output devices may be programmed to help students count pictures and manipulatives. Students may be given multiple choices or one errorless number choice.

Math Story Problems: Adding More to 50?

Appropriate activities should be based on student needs.

Classroom Activities/Lesson Plan

- Use Unique's math scenarios with other math methods, for example, Touch Math.
- Use Unique's math scenarios with additional ideas for math instruction provided in the ULS Instructional Tools: Math Pack/Numbers.
- Use Unique's math scenarios with additional ideas for math instruction provided in the ULS Instructional Guides: Mathematics.

- Students will solve a two-step problem, using operations and models in the context of a real-world scenario.
- Students will count numbers and sort objects in a two-step problem in the context of a real-world scenario.
- Students will count the size of objects in a group through an active participation response (e.g., voice output device, eye gaze choice board).

- Students will calculate addition and subtraction problems in the context of a real-world scenario.
- Students will use a combination of operations to solve multi-step problems in the context of a real-world scenario.
- Students will model multiplication and division in the context of a real-world scenario.

Differentiated Tasks

- Students will calculate addition and subtraction problems in the context of a real-world scenario. Students will use a combination of operations to solve multi-step problems in the context of a real-world scenario.
- Students will model multiplication and division in the context of a real-world scenario.

Resources and Materials

Math story problem scenarios

Standards Connection Lesson 19

Number cards and symbol cards (+, -) are provided in the ULS Instructional Tools: Math Pack/Numbers.

Additional ideas for math instruction are provided in the ULS Instructional Guides: Mathematics.

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ULS, March 2014

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APPENDIX M

News-2-you Newspaper
WHAT

HONOR FLIGHT

Veterans Day is a holiday for all Americans.

Veterans Day is November 11.

America honors its military men and women.

One group, called Honor Flight, honors veterans.

http://www.honorflight.org/
Honor Flight especially honors World War II veterans.

World War II was terrible!

Germany and Japan sent armies into many countries.

America and its friends wanted to stop them.*

The veterans won World War II for us all.

* America’s friends included Canada, Australia and the United Kingdom.
America wanted to honor these veterans.

The World War II Memorial opened in 2004.

The Memorial is in Washington, D.C.

Many veterans want to visit this special Memorial.

Honor Flight wants to help these veterans.
World War II ended more than 60 years ago.

The veterans who won the war are now old.

Some need help going to Washington, D.C.

Many do not have the money for the trip.

These are the veterans Honor Flight helps.
Honor Flight started in Ohio in 2005.

Earl Morse cared for military veterans in a hospital.

He wanted to help them visit the Memorial.

Earl is an airplane pilot.

He helped fly 12 veterans to Washington, D.C.
Earl has a big dream.

He wants every living veteran to visit Washington, D.C.

Honor Flight makes the trip easy.

The veterans get the trip for free!

The veterans are welcomed everywhere they go!
Earl’s idea has helped thousands of veterans.

Today Honor Flight has 127 groups across America.

Each group flies veterans to Washington, D.C.

The people at Honor Flight are kind and loving.

They give their time and money to help others.
Do you have a veteran in your family?

Honor this special person on Veterans Day.

Is he or she a World War II veteran?

Would they like to visit Washington, D.C.?

Honor Flight wants to honor these heroes!
A veteran is anyone who was in the U.S. military.

In World War II, veterans were in the Army, Navy, Marines, or Coast Guard.

Veterans fought in America and all around the world.

They fought on land, sea and in the air.
EARL MORSE (1959 -)

Earl lives in the town of Enon, in southwestern Ohio.

For 21 years, he was an officer in the U.S. Air Force.

Today Earl works in a veterans’ hospital.

He loves to fly small airplanes.

Earl’s Honor Flight has helped more than 100,000 veterans.


November 4, 2013  © 2013-ady
WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL

The World War II Memorial is in Washington, D.C.

The large Memorial is on the National Mall.

The Memorial has 56 tall pillars.

The name of a state or area is on each pillar.

The pillars surround a beautiful fountain.

www.worldwarii.com

November 4, 2013
The Memorial has a big arch at each end.

The word “Atlantic” is on one arch.

The other arch has the word “Pacific.”

Americans fought battles in both parts of the world.

The Memorial also has sculptures and 4,048 gold stars.

* One star is for every 100 Americans killed in WWII.
Circle the pictures about HONOR FLIGHT.

Washington, D.C  America  visit  arts and crafts

Memorial  dog  Veterans Day  military

birthday cake  veterans  trip  airplane

Americans  World War II  hat  honor

November 4, 2013
1. **WHAT** is this paper about?  
   Honor Flight  
   Fifth Harmony  
   Origami

2. **WHO** were in the U.S. military?  
   veterans  
   inventors  
   Boy Scouts

3. **WHO** started the Honor Flight group?  
   Jane Goodall  
   Flint Lockwood  
   Earl Morse

4. **WHERE** does Honor Flight take veterans?  
   Germany  
   World War II Memorial  
   veteran’s hospital

5. **WHERE** is the World War II Memorial?  
   Enon, Ohio  
   Las Vegas, Nevada  
   Washington, D.C.

6. **WHO** pays for veterans to go to the Memorial?  
   Earl Morse  
   Honor Flight  
   U.S. Army

November 4, 2013  
© 2013 i2y

page 16
Fill in the grid using the pictures below so that every row, every column and every large box contains the following four items:
1. WHY would you like to visit the World War II Memorial?

[Blank lines for answer]

2. HOW do you think veterans feel at the Memorial?

[Blank lines for answer]

3. WHY was World War II terrible?

[Blank lines for answer]
APPENDIX N

News-2-you App
HONOR FLIGHT

Veterans Day is a holiday for all Americans.

Veterans Day is November 11.

America honors its military men and women.

One group, called Honor Flight, honors veterans.
Honor Flight

Honor Flight especially honors World War II veterans.

World War II was terrible!

Germany and Japan sent armies into many countries.

America and its friends wanted to stop them.*

The veterans won World War II for us all.
Honor Flight

America wanted to honor these veterans.

The World War II Memorial opened in 2004.

The Memorial is in Washington, D.C.

Many veterans want to visit this special Memorial.

Honor Flight wants to help these veterans.
Honor Flight

World War II ended more than 60 years ago.

The veterans who won the war are now old.

Some need help going to Washington, D.C.

Many do not have the money for the trip.

These are the veterans Honor Flight helps.
Honor Flight started in Ohio in 2005.

Earl Morse cared for military veterans in a hospital.

He wanted to help them visit the Memorial.

Earl is an airplane pilot.

He helped fly 12 veterans to Washington, D.C.
Honor Flight

Earl has a big dream.

He wants every living veteran to visit Washington, D.C.

Honor Flight makes the trip easy.

The veterans get the trip for free!

The veterans are welcomed everywhere they go!
Honor Flight

Earl’s idea has helped thousands of veterans.

Today Honor Flight has 127 groups across America.

Each group flies veterans to Washington, D.C.

The people at Honor Flight are kind and loving.

They give their time and money to help others.
Honor Flight

Do you have a veteran in your family?

Honor this special person on Veterans Day.

Is he or she a World War II veteran?

Would they like to visit Washington, D.C.?

Honor Flight wants to honor these heroes!
Honor Flight

Do you have a veteran in your family?

Honor this special person on Veterans Day.

Is he or she a World War II veteran?

Would they like to visit Washington, D.C.?

Honor Flight wants to honor these heroes!
people in the news

THE WORLD WAR II VETERAN

A veteran is anyone who was in the U.S. military.

In World War II, veterans were in the Army, Navy, Marines, or Coast Guard.

Veterans fought in America and all around the world.

They fought on land, sea and in the air.
people in the news

WHO

EARL MORSE (1959 -)

Earl lives in the town of Enon, in southwestern Ohio.

For 21 years, he was an officer in the U.S. Air Force.

Today Earl works in a veterans’ hospital.

He loves to fly small airplanes.

Earl’s Honor Flight has helped more than 100,000 veterans.
places in the news

WHERE

WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL

The World War II Memorial is in Washington, D.C.

The large Memorial is on the National Mall.

The Memorial has 56 tall pillars.

The name of a state or area is on each pillar.

The pillars surround a beautiful fountain.
places in the news

The Memorial has a big arch at each end.

The word "Atlantic" is on one arch.

The other arch has the word "Pacific."

Americans fought battles in both parts of the world.

The Memorial also has sculptures and 4,048 gold stars.*
game

Touch and Hold pictures about HONOR FLIGHT

Washington, D.C.
America
visit
arts and crafts

Memorial
dog
Veterans Day
military

birthday cake
veterans
trip
airplane

Americans
World War II
hat
honor
# Review

1. **WHAT** is this paper about?  
   - Honor Flight  
   - Fifth Harmony  
   - Origami

2. **WHO** were in the U.S. military?  
   - veterans  
   - inventors  
   - Boy Scouts

3. **WHO** started the Honor Flight group?  
   - Jane Goodall  
   - Flint Lockwood  
   - Earl Morse

4. **WHERE** does Honor Flight take veterans?  
   - Germany  
   - World War II Memorial  
   - veteran's hospital

5. **WHERE** is the World War II Memorial?  
   - Enon, Ohio  
   - Las Vegas, Nevada  
   - Washington, D.C.

6. **WHO** pays for veterans to go to the Memorial?  
   - Earl Morse  
   - Honor Flight  
   - U.S. Army
ACROSS

1. Memorial
4. veterans
5. Honor Flight
7. Washington, D.C.
8. trip

DOWN

2. Americans
3. honor
6. visit
7. war
sudoku

Fill in the grid using the pictures below so that every row, every column and every large box contains the following four items:

[Grid with pictures of a person, a police officer, a fountain, and a fire station]
1. WHY would you like to visit the World War II Memorial?

2. HOW do you think veterans feel at the Memorial?

3. WHY was World War II terrible?
APPENDIX O

ULS Training (Traditional Teaching)
Exploring Cognitively Accessible Academic Lessons for Students With Intellectual Disabilities Using the iPad

Jamie Gunderson

Training Agenda

Implementation
Whole Group Instruction
Small Group Instruction
Pre, Post & Maintenance Assessment
Data Collection
Teaching Fidelity
Unique Learning Systems Curriculum

IMPLEMENTATION

Student Differentiation Levels

- **Level 3**: read text (potential), simple writing, basic math, independent comprehension of modified content
- **Level 2**: require picture-supports to demonstrate comprehension, other direct supports as needed
- **Level 1**: maximum support, focus on increasing participation
Monthly Plan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day 1</th>
<th>Day 2</th>
<th>Day 3</th>
<th>Day 4</th>
<th>Day 5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Language for Level 16 hours</td>
<td>Language for Level 16 hours</td>
<td>Language for Level 16 hours</td>
<td>Language for Level 16 hours</td>
<td>Language for Level 16 hours</td>
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<td>Whole Group (30 minutes)</td>
<td>Whole Group (30 minutes)</td>
<td>Whole Group (30 minutes)</td>
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<td>Whole Group Warm-Up</td>
<td>Whole Group Warm-Up</td>
<td>Whole Group Warm-Up</td>
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<td>Reading for Level 16 hours</td>
<td>Reading for Level 16 hours</td>
<td>Reading for Level 16 hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Unique Learning Systems Curriculum

**WHOLE GROUP INSTRUCTION**
**ULS Lesson Plan**

**Lesson 3**

**Reading Standards for Literature**

- **Comprehension**
  - Understand and analyze themes in a text (CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.1.2).
  - Use a text to support analysis (CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.1.3).
  - Determine the meaning of new words (CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.1.4).

**Instructional Targets**

- Students will be able to identify and analyze the main idea and supporting details of a text.
- Students will engage in discussion and share their understanding of the content.

**Comprehension Analysis Lesson Plan**

1. Read and Answer: Long Ago or Today?
   - Comprehension activities extended beyond "reading" what students remember from reading. During instruction, students learn to refer to the book, using stuck questions and then to locate answers to questions. Students recognize types of responses appropriate to stories and answers.
   - Questions such as these may also provide students with a foundation for story recall. Provide the Level 1 Buddies and read comprehension activities throughout the unit to increase students’ skills in multiple areas of comprehension.

2. Reading and Writing: Long Ago or Today?
   - Use the comprehension worksheets as a guide for students to answer questions about the book. Choose the most appropriate activity and at the basis of each student's needs. Level 1 is text only. Level 2 is a guided approach. Level 3 is written in a sentence strip format, allowing students to select from multiple choices or one answer picture choice.

   1. Who in the story today? (Jack and the Beanstalk, Jack and the Giant)
   2. What do the Giants live in? (Jack and the Beanstalk, Jack and the Giant)
   3. Who does Jack have to talk to? (Jack and the Beanstalk, Jack and the Giant)
   4. What does Jack use to build his tower? (Jack and the Beanstalk, Jack and the Giant)
   5. What does the Giant use to make his house? (Jack and the Beanstalk, Jack and the Giant)

   - The questions on the comprehension worksheets provide picture and text support to identify the key details or sequence of events in the story. Use these questions to encourage students to retell the story. Talk about the story's main message or main idea as outlined by the comprehension questions.

**ULS Lesson Plan**

**Comprehension questions from Levelled Books are based on the highest level in the series. These books may be read aloud as needed for students at all levels in gain meaning.**

**Differentiation**

- **Level 1**
  - Students will independently read a text and identify the main idea and supporting details.

- **Level 2**
  - Students will independently read a text and identify key details.

- **Level 3**
  - Students will independently read a text and answer questions about the text.

- **Provide each student with appropriately adapted lesson materials!**
Level 3 Assignment

Long Ago or Today? Name: _____________________

1. Who is this story about?
   Josh and Jordan   Josh and Grandpa   Josh and Mother

2. What did Grandpa like to watch on TV?
   cartoons          sports           news

3. Who does Josh like to talk to on his cell phone?

Level 2 Assignment

Long Ago or Today? Name: _____________________

1. Who is this story about?
   Josh and Jordan   Josh and Grandpa   Josh and Mother

2. What did Grandpa like to watch on TV?
   cartoons          sports           news

3. Who does Josh like to talk to on his cell phone?
Level 1 Assignment

1. Who is this story about?

Josh and Jordan  Josh and Grandpa  Josh and Mother

news2you

SMALL GROUP INSTRUCTION
Small Group Lessons

30 minutes
(3 groups, 10 minutes)

Directions
• Read news-2-you newspaper aloud.
• Instruct students to complete worksheets.
• Record 100%-completed worksheets on work completion checklist.

Task Practice
Unique Learning Systems Curriculum

PRE, POST & MAINTENANCE ASSESSMENT

Assessment Timeline

Pretest (Day 1)

Posttest (Day 20)

Maintenance (2 Weeks Later)
Sample Checkpoint Assessment

Josh
radio
car

Sample Checkpoint Assessment

Sample Checkpoint Assessment

Context: Reading and Writing (Choose one assessment to run)

- Task 1: Present picture with text: "Just like a real station. Who's that?"
  - Positive: "I like the radio."
  - Negative: "Who's that?"

- Task 2: Present picture with text: "I'm going to the radio."
  - Positive: "I'm going to the radio."
  - Negative: "Who's that?"

- Task 3: Present picture with text: "I'm going to the radio."
  - Positive: "I'm going to the radio."
  - Negative: "Who's that?"

Social Implications
- Negative responses may be provided without feedback.
- Full verbal feedback is encouraged.

Level 1 Directions & Score Sheet

1/26/14 279
Sample Checkpoint Assessment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Error and Fixing (multi-choice)</th>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Error and Fixing (multi-choice)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Item 1</td>
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<td>Item 3</td>
<td>Present Lutheran (test)</td>
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<td>Item 4</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item 5</td>
<td>Present Lutheran (test)</td>
<td>Item 7</td>
<td>Present Lutheran (test)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Special Accommodations:

- Response options may be presented verbally.
- Response options may be presented verbally.
- Response options may be presented verbally.
- Response options may be presented verbally.
- Response options may be presented verbally.
- Response options may be presented verbally.
- Response options may be presented verbally.

Level 2&3 Directions & Score Sheet

Task Practice
Exploring Cognitively Accessible Academic Lessons Using the iPod

DATA COLLECTION

Tools

• Work Completion Checklist (Daily)
• Post-Intervention Survey
### Work Completion Checklist

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Game Page</th>
<th>Review Page</th>
<th>Puzzle Page</th>
<th>Sudoku Page</th>
<th>Think Page</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Record (✔) completed worksheets (100%)

---

**Exploring Cognitively Accessible Academic Lessons Using the iPad**

**TEACHING FIDELITY**
# Teaching Fidelity Checklist

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Teaching Fidelity Checklist (Traditional Teaching)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Teacher Name: ___________________________</td>
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<td>Class #: _______________________________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date: _________________________________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lesson: # _____________________________</td>
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</table>

## Setup

- **[Image of a setup diagram]**

## Fidelity Videos

- **[Image of a tablet screen showing an app and a camera icon]**
Teaching Fidelity Checklist

Fidelity Videos
Fidelity Videos

Lesson videos must be deleted after upload!

Questions?
Exploring Cognitively Accessible Academic Lessons for Students With Intellectual Disabilities Using the iPad

Jamie Gunderson

Training Agenda

iPad Tutorial
Implementation
Whole Group Instruction
Small Group Instruction
Pre, Post & Maintenance Assessment
Data Collection
Teaching Fidelity
Device Controls

- Camera
- Power/Sleep
- Volume
- Speaker
- Home button
- Dock connector
- Screen indicator
- Mute/Rotation Lock
- Headphone Jack

Apple, 2010

IPAD TUTORIAL
Guided Access

Guided access prevents student from navigating out of apps, also can disable some app functions.

Guided Access keeps the iPad in a single app, and allows you to control which features are available. To start Guided Access, Triple-Click the Home button in the app you want to use.

Set Passcode
Set the passcode used when Guided Access is enabled.

Accessibility Shortcut
When you Triple-Click the Home when Guided Access is enabled, the Accessibility Shortcut settings you have enabled will be displayed.
Guided Access

Task Practice
Unique Learning Systems Curriculum

IMPLEMENTATION

Student Differentiation Levels

Level 3
- read text (potential), simple writing, basic math, independent comprehension of modified content

Level 2
- require picture-supports to demonstrate comprehension, other direct supports as needed

Level 1
- maximum support, focus on increasing participation
## Monthly Plan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day 1</th>
<th>Day 2</th>
<th>Day 3</th>
<th>Day 4</th>
<th>Day 5</th>
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<td>Language for Book 10 minutes</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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### Unique Learning Systems Curriculum

**WHOLE GROUP INSTRUCTION**
ULS Lesson Plan

Comprehension questions from Levelled Books are based on the highest level in the series. These books may be read aloud as modelled for students at all levels in gain sharing.

Differentiated Tiers

**Level 1**
- Students will independently read a text, answer comprehension questions, and retell a story, including the main idea and key details.

**Level 2**
- Students will select a picture from a choice of three in response to a text or retell a story, including the main idea and key details.

**Level 3**
- Students will respond to a written or oral question by choosing a single option or retell a story from a picture and retell a story, including the main idea and key details.

Provide each student with appropriately adapted lesson materials!
Level 3 Assignment

Long Ago or Today? Name: ______________________

1. Who is this story about?
   Josh and Jordan   Josh and Grandpa   Josh and Mother

2. What did Grandpa like to watch on TV?
   cartoons   sports   news

3. Who does Josh like to talk to on his cell phone?

Level 2 Assignment

Long Ago or Today? Name: ______________________

1. Who is this story about?
   Josh and Jordan   Josh and Grandpa   Josh and Mother

2. What did Grandpa like to watch on TV?
   cartoons   sports   news

3. Who does Josh like to talk to on his cell phone?
Level 1 Assignment

1. Who is this story about?

[Options: Josh and Jordan, Josh and Grandpa, Josh and Mother]

Select book and enable Guided Access before passing out to students.
iBooks

swipe

Notability

Select appropriate level.

Select worksheet and enable Guided Access before passing out to students.
Notability

1. Who is this story about?
   - Josh and Jordan
   - Josh and Grandpa
   - Jacob and Mother

2. What did Grandpa like to watch on TV?
   - cartoons
   - sports
   - news

touch

news2you

SMALL GROUP INSTRUCTION
n2y App

Small Group Lessons

30 minutes
(3 groups, 10 minutes)

Directions
- Read news-2-you newspaper aloud (app).
- Instruct students to complete worksheets (app).
- Record 100%-completed worksheets on work completion checklist.
Task Practice

Unique Learning Systems Curriculum
PRE, POST & MAINTENANCE ASSESSMENT
Assessment Timeline

Pretest (Day 1)

Posttest (Day 20)

Maintenance (2 Weeks Later)

Sample Checkpoint Assessment

Josh  radio  car

Sample Checkpoint Assessment
Task Practice

Exploring Cognitively Accessible Academic Lessons Using the iPad

DATA COLLECTION
Tools

- Work Completion Checklist (Daily)
- Post-Intervention Survey
- Post-Intervention Questionnaires

![Work Completion Checklist](image)
Exploring Cognitively Accessible Academic Lessons Using the iPod

TEACHING FIDELITY

Teaching Fidelity Checklist
Fidelity Videos

Fidelity Videos
Fidelity Videos

Lesson videos must be deleted after upload!
APPENDIX Q

Student Training
Device Controls

touch

iBooks

swipe

Once upon a time, every different. Some things were the same.
Notability

1. Who is this story about?
   Josh and Jordan
   Josh and Grandpa
   Mom and Mother

2. What did Grandpa like to watch on TV?
   cartoons
   sports
   news
   touch

n2y App

touch
n2y App

hold
REFERENCES


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Apple (2007) iPod [Mobile application software].

Apple Inc. (2013) iBooks [Mobile application software].


Dropbox Inc. (2013). *Dropbox* [Mobile application software].


Ginger Labs (2013). Notability [Mobile application software].


Paradise Cay Software (2012). *Group Builder* [Mobile application software].


Thompson, J., Bryant, B., Campbell, E., Craig, E., Hughes, C., Ritholz, D., et al. (2004) 


Jamie Linn Gunderson
Curriculum Vitae

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Las Vegas, NV 89149
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Current Position

2012- present
Assistive Technology Project Facilitator, Clark County School District

Degrees Awarded

Doctor of Philosophy, Special Education
University of Nevada, Las Vegas
Disability Areas: Autism and Intellectual Disabilities
Leadership Area: Educational Leadership
GPA 3.95/4.0

Master of Education, Special Education, 2007
University of Nevada, Las Vegas
Area of Emphasis: Autism and Intellectual Disabilities
GPA: 4.0/4.0, passed portfolio examination with distinction

Bachelor of Education, Special Education, 2007
University of Nevada, Las Vegas
Area of Emphasis: Generalist K-12
GPA: 3.74/4.0

Certification

Special Education Generalist K-12, State of Nevada, Mild/Moderate Disabilities
School Administration, State of Nevada
TESL Endorsement

Honors and Awards

New Special Education Teacher of the Year, Clark County School District, 2006.
Professional Experience

University Experience

University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Fall 2012
Part-time Instructor, Department of Educational and Clinical Studies

University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Fall 2011
Teaching Internship, Department of Educational and Clinical Studies

Public School Experience

Lied Middle School, Clark County School District, Las Vegas, Nevada, 2009-2012
• Self-contained special education teacher for students with intellectual disabilities.

Las Vegas High School, Clark County School District, Las Vegas, Nevada, 2008-2009
• Self-contained special education teacher for students with intellectual disabilities.

Silvestri Junior High School, Clark County School District, Las Vegas, Nevada, 2006-2008
• Self-contained special education teacher for students with intellectual disabilities.

Nate Mack Elementary School, Clark County School District, Las Vegas, Nevada, 2005-2006
• Special programs teaching assistant for students with emotional and behavioral disorders.

Bruner Elementary School, Clark County School District, Las Vegas, Nevada, 2004-2005
• Teaching assistant for kindergarten students with and without disabilities.

Research and Scholarship

Presentations

Morgan, J. J., Brown, N., & Gunderson, J. (2011, November). Integrating professional learning communities into the practicum experience. Session presented at the annual meeting of the Teacher Education Division in Austin, TX.

**Teaching**

University of Nevada, Las Vegas, 2012
Part-time Instructor, Department of Educational and Clinical Studies

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Course Number and Title</th>
<th>Course Description</th>
<th>Semester(s) Taught</th>
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| ESP 737i: Resource Room Practicum | Course designed to provide students with an overview of the resource room including developing classroom systems, writing high quality lesson objectives and plans, acquiring materials for the classroom, developing strategies and techniques for instruction students with disabilities, and writing individualized education plans (IEPs). | Fall 2011  
Fall 2012 |

**Service**

**Clark County School District**

Designed and implemented project iFly serving elementary and secondary students with intellectual disabilities. Authored the iFly iBook (available in the iBook store).

**Professional Organizations**

Council for Exceptional Children  
Division for Research Technology and Media Division