

Grades 2–12 and Adults

An intensive intervention program for students and adults with a language-based learning disability, such as dyslexia



Wilson Reading System® is an intensive (Tier 3) intervention for students in grades 2-12 and adults who are not making sufficient progress in a reading intervention program or who may require more intensive instruction due to a language-based learning disability, such as dyslexia.

- Based on reading research and Orton-Gillingham multisensory teaching methodology and principles
- Curriculum and strategies are expertly aligned to the science of reading and writing
- Directly teaches the structure of the language, focusing first on basic word skills and then on more complex language structure, including morphological principles
- Extensive instruction in phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension



Wilson Reading System® (WRS) High-Quality Implementation

Group Size 1:1 or small homogeneous groups (ideally up to 4 students). Group size up to 6 appropriate in some settings (i.e., with a highly skilled WRS teacher).

WRS Lesson 10 Parts divided into 3 Blocks of instruction:

- Block 1 (Parts 1-5: Word Study/Foundational Reading Skills)
- Block 2 (Parts 6-8: Spelling/Foundational Writing Skills)
- Block 3 (Parts 9-10: Fluency and Comprehension)

One full lesson consists of all 3 Blocks of instruction (20-30 minutes to complete each Block). Must follow scope and sequence with progression based on student mastery.

Length and Frequency Minimum of two complete lessons per week (see above) taught by (or under the guidance of) a WRS-Certified instructor.

1:1 instruction:

- 45 minutes, 4-5 times per week
- 60-90 minutes, 2-5 times per week

Small-group instruction:

- 45-60 minutes, 4-5 times per week
- 75-90 minutes, 2-5 times per week
- Optimal intensity: 90 minutes, 5 times a week

Wilson Professional Learning and Support

- Wilson Reading System® Learning Community (online) membership.
- Strongly recommended:
- WRS Introductory Course and topical webinars
 - Online courses on intensive instruction and advanced word study
 - WRS Level I Certification leading to Wilson® Dyslexia Practitioner (W.D.P.) credential and WRS Level II Certification leading to Wilson® Dyslexia Therapist (W.D.T.) credential
 - Sustainability plans with Wilson® Credentialed Trainer development

Program Highlights

- Offers a research-based program supported by data collected and analyzed from school districts implementing it.
- Follows a ten-part lesson plan that addresses the following: decoding, morphology and the study of word elements, encoding and orthography (internalizing the rules that govern English), high frequency word instruction, oral reading fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension.
- Provides a systematic and cumulative approach to teaching total word structure for reading and spelling.
- Aids teachers by making all instruction multisensory and interactive.
- Uses a unique “sound tapping” system early in the program to help students segment and blend sounds.
- Has one of the most extensive collections of controlled and readable text (wordlists, sentences, passages) for students beyond the primary grades.
- Provides three levels of vocabulary: AB - appropriate for all students (comprised of core vocabulary, mostly drawn from the TextProject’s WordZones™ for 4,000 Simple Word Families as well as academic vocabulary words); A - appropriate for elementary students, ELL students, and those with limited vocabulary; B - appropriate for older students and adults with advanced vocabularies.
- Uses criterion-based assessments built into the program to measure student progress and success.
- Supports college- and career-readiness standards, by providing students who have a language-based learning disability with the foundational and language skills that are necessary to be able to access grade-level text.



Wilson Language Training is a member of The Alliance for Accreditation and Certification of Dyslexia Specialists, which also includes IMSLEC and OGA

The mission of the Alliance is to provide a united association of organizations, each of which, establishes and maintains criteria and standards for quality preparation, with practice, for individuals using Multi-sensory (Multi-modal) Language Education (MSLE) to instruct those with dyslexia.



Wilson Language Training and Wilson® Accredited Partners have received Accreditation Plus by the International Dyslexia Association

This designation recognizes that Wilson Reading System® certifications align with the IDA's **Knowledge and Practice Standards for Teachers of Reading**.

Comprehensive Materials

The WRS Introductory Set (Steps 1-6), 4th Edition, provides the basic materials needed to begin teaching Steps 1-6 of the program. The WRS Advanced Set (Steps 7-12) provides materials necessary for working with students in the upper steps of the program.

At a minimum, the following materials are required for each student: a Student Reader for the WRS Step being studied, the Magnetic Journal with Letter Tiles, Student Portfolio, and End-Of-Step Assessment materials (a Student Progression Form and a My Step Progress booklet).



WRS Introductory Set (Steps 1-6), 4th Edition

Professional Learning and Teacher Support

Wilson Reading System® Level I Certification, which makes one eligible for the Wilson® Dyslexia Practitioner (W.D.P.) credential, and Level II Certification, which makes one eligible for the Wilson® Dyslexia Therapist (W.D.T.) credential, are strongly recommended. Completion of an introductory course, online course, student practicum, and observations are required for certification. WRS teachers have online access to robust course content, additional resources (such as animated demonstrations, printable teaching aids, and weekly paired readable/enriched text passages), and a discussion board via the Wilson Reading System Learning Community on Wilson Academy®. To help districts move toward sustainability, the Wilson® Credentialed Trainer Development Program is recommended.

Why the Wilson Reading System® Works



Direct, Highly Structured, and Cumulative

Students learn through straightforward, interactive instruction, addressing head-on the concepts that govern the structure of written English. The 12 Steps of the Wilson Reading System guide students through the pitfalls of decoding and encoding, teaching them to trust the English language as a reliable system from the start. Each Step builds on the one before it; Steps do not correspond to school grade levels. Students work from sounds to syllables/base elements, words to sentences, and paragraphs to entire passages, learning the structure of English through constant repetition and review. Criterion-based assessments are built into the program to track student progress.



Multisensory

Lessons are interactive in nature and are designed to fully engage students in the task at hand. All skills and knowledge are reinforced through visual, auditory, kinesthetic, and tactile senses. Students learn by listening to sounds; manipulating color-coded sound cards and tiles, word element, syllable, and word cards; using a unique “sound tapping” system that helps them segment and blend sounds; writing down spoken words; reading silently and aloud and retelling what they have read in their own words; and listening to others read.



Comprehensive

WRS thoroughly teaches total word structure, not just phonics. All essential components of reading instruction are addressed in each ten-part lesson: Parts 1-5 emphasize word study, Parts 6-8 emphasize spelling, and Parts 9-10 emphasize fluency and comprehension.



Integrated

The Wilson Reading System is organized around the six syllable types found in English, with sounds and word elements (affixes and base elements) taught only as they relate to the syllable being studied. Lessons include instruction in new concepts and reinforcement of prior concepts. Similarly, all WRS materials and text are phonetically controlled, containing wordlists, sentences, and passages that incorporate only the components of word structure taught in or up to the corresponding lesson.



Research-based

Publications, studies, reviews, and data analysis by top reading researchers and by school districts implementing the program confirm that the Wilson Reading System provides the essential components and type of instruction necessary to get results.



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tinyurl.com/learn-wrs