



SPECIAL PROJECTS SERVICES
Reading Recovery Center – Signal Hill Elementary
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Reading Recovery and Open Court Literacy Instruction

Reading Recovery is designed to work with ANY classroom reading program. The instructional approaches used in Open Court and Reading Recovery are different, but complementary. Open Court is a comprehensive classroom Reading/Language Arts program driven by a systematic and explicit phonics strand. Reading Recovery provides daily individual tutoring with special emphasis on phonics and putting phonics instruction into use when reading and writing. Open Court is a program of classroom instruction while Reading Recovery is a program which aims to provide a safety net for the lowest 10-20% of the first grade population who, for whatever reason, do not make acceptable progress in the classroom.

- ∞ The lesson framework of Reading Recovery allows the Reading Recovery teacher to build upon children's knowledge of sound-symbol relationships that they gain during their classroom reading instruction. In Reading Recovery, children are taught how to use their emerging strategies and apply them to the Open Court Program in the classroom.
- ∞ Throughout the weeks that students are in Reading Recovery, they are not pulled from their classrooms during Open Court instruction. Reading Recovery teachers understand the importance of full, daily participation in the explicit teaching offered by Open Court.
- ∞ Tutoring in Reading Recovery is ended just as soon as the students demonstrate they can learn independently from their classroom reading instruction. The classroom teachers of Reading Recovery students help in determining when each student is working well enough to benefit fully from reading instruction in the classroom. In LBUSD the tutoring of Reading Recovery students is ended within 16-20 weeks, after which most students continue learning to read and write without further supplementary help.

Learning to read is complex, and children can become confused at any point in the process. For this reason Reading Recovery teachers work in conjunction

with Open Court classroom teachers. They share the common goal of seeing that all first graders leave LBUSD classrooms as competent readers and writers.