

The Early Writing Project

The Early Writing Project includes three components: **Tools, Learning** and **Collaborative Support**. Each component is described in more depth below.

Tools

As part of The Early Writing Project, “Tools” include research-based assessments and intervention materials to support children’s writing. The tools are divided into three toolboxes.

1. Curriculum-Based Measurement (CBM) Toolbox: The Curriculum-Based Measurement toolbox provides teachers with resources to: select an appropriate CBM tool, administer the tool according to standardized directions, correctly score the student’s writing sample, and graph the student’s data.
2. Intervention Toolbox: The Intervention Toolbox provides teachers with a series of skill-based mini-lessons designed to offer brief instructional lessons that can be used for students displaying difficulties in a variety of areas in writing. Each mini-lesson lists the Common Core State Standards addressed through the instruction, as well as a general overview of the procedure for implementing the lesson.
3. Decision-Making Toolbox: Teachers receive tools to be able to analyze their student’s response to instruction and ways to identify if a change in instruction is needed and what instructional adjustments may be appropriate.

Learning

As part of The Early Writing Project, “Learning” includes four face-to-face workshops in which teachers learn to implement data-based instruction.

1. Learning Module 1 provides an overview of the study, data-based instruction, and CBM
2. Learning Module 2 provides skill-based mini-lessons, instructional materials, and diagnostic tools to guide appropriate selection of materials based on a student’s presenting need. Teachers will also gain initial exposure to creating a Writing Instructional Plan (WIP) and progress monitoring.
3. Learning Module 3 provides further information related to writing interventions and progress monitoring.
4. Learning Module 4 provides teachers with decision-making tools to effectively analyze data, generate hypotheses about student progress, and make an instructional change based on the hypothesis chosen.

Collaborative Support

As part of The Early Writing Project, “Collaborative Supports” includes individualized coaching designed to support teachers’ use of Data-Based Instruction (DBI). Teachers who are implementing the intervention are paired with a coach from the research team to provide 1:1 mentoring to support the teacher in effectively translating the materials (Tools) and training (Learning) into their educational context with their students.