Common Reason for Academic Failure (primary): They have not spent enough time doing it
Common Reason for Academic Failure (secondary): They have not had enough help to do it

Intervention Name: The **Helping Early Literacy with Practice Strategies (HELPS) One-on-One Program**

Brief Description:
The Helping Early Literacy with Practice Strategies (HELPS) One-on-One Program integrates eight research-based instructional strategies that are easy to use and designed to improve students' reading fluency. The HELPS Program can be implemented in approximately 10 minutes per student and used by various types of educators (e.g., regular or special education teachers, teacher assistants, school psychologists, reading specialists, librarians, well-trained parents, etc.). **All materials and information needed to implement this program can be accessed for free from the HELPS Program website: www.helpsprogram.org**

What "common problems" does this address?
Research with the HELPS Program shows that students receiving this program improve their reading fluency, and as a result, most students also improve their reading comprehension.

Procedures:
The full description of HELPS Procedures must be obtained from the Teacher's Manual that can be accessed for free from the HELPS Program website: www.helpsprogram.org
However, listed below is a general description of procedures that are integrated within this intervention:

1. Student reads the HELPS Curriculum story that is appropriate for his/her ability (Timed Reading with Story A for 1 minute).
2. Teacher asks the student what he/she read to check for comprehension (Retell).
3. Teacher gives the student feedback and determines whether the student met his/her pre-determined Reading Goal (Performance Feedback). If the student meets the Goal…
4. Student reads the next story in the HELPS Curriculum for 1 minute (Timed Reading with Story B).
5. Student practices reading words read incorrectly during previous Timed Reading, with guidance from the teacher (Phrase-drill Error Correction).
6. Student reads Story B again (Repeated Reading).
7. Teacher reads Story B aloud to the student while he/she follows along (Modeling).
8. Student reads Story B a third time (Repeated Reading).
9. Based on student performance throughout the intervention session, teacher and student graph the student's reading progress and teacher delivers praise, feedback, and a "star" on the student's motivational Star Chart (Motivation/Reward Procedure).

Collectively, the above procedures can be implemented within approximately 10 minutes after following the specific training guidelines described in the free HELPS Teacher's Manual. Teachers can also access the HELPS Curriculum free from the program website.

Critical components that must be implemented for intervention to be successful:
This intervention requires that teachers follow the specific set of implementation procedures outlined in the HELPS Program Teacher's Manual. Teachers can learn to implement the HELPS Program by obtaining all of the needed implementation and training materials (including a HELPS Training Video) from www.helpsprogram.org. All materials can be accessed free-of-charge from the website, or teachers can purchase pre-assembled materials for a small fee that supports a non-profit educational organization.

Critical assumptions/problem-solving questions to be asked:
Assess student's reading abilities to ensure that reading fluency is a concern for the student and that he/she would benefit from reading fluency instruction.

Primary Materials:

HELPS One-on-One Program Teacher's Manual
HELPS Curriculum
HELPS One-on-One Program Training Video
(All of the above are accessible from www.helpsprogram.org)

Primary Reference as of January 2010:

Begeny, J. C. Laugle, K. M., Krouse, H. E., Lynn, A. E., Parker, M., & Stage, S. A. (in press). A control-group comparison of two reading fluency programs: The Helping Early Literacy with Practice Strategies (HELPS) program and the Great Leaps K–2 reading program. *School Psychology Review.*

See the HELPS Program Teacher's Manual for additional references and detailed descriptions of the research that has specifically been conducted with this program.