

April 2024 Digital Newsletter



Welcome April!

Spring is finally here, officially! This month we highlight the science of reading & small group instruction. Did you miss either of these PD series sessions when they were live? If so, you can check them out through our on-demand platform anytime! See the flyers below. Also, be sure to check out the sessions we having coming up for our text-based discussions, art network, and more!

Key Understandings & Resources to Support Targeted Reading Instruction



Supporting Struggling Readers

Small Group Instruction

On-Demand Courses:
Supporting Struggling Readers

Supporting struggling readers during reading instruction is multifaceted. Learning where to focus your instruction, along with resources to help support student needs is critical. Check out these on-demand courses to help support your students.

Here's what people have said was useful . . .

"Great presentation, with a lot of great resources"

"I loved the sessions so far and the timing is exactly what I need, when I need it."

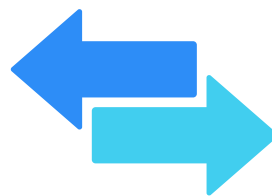
Right away I can use "websites for progress monitoring, student checklists for self-evaluation, implementation for universal screening, and phonics diagnostic evaluations."

- Course 1: Gathering Baseline Data & What to Do With It**
Learn about gathering and using baseline data such as using universal and diagnostic screening tools, interpreting data to guide instructional planning, and ways to monitor reading progress with data points.
- Course 2: Creating Science-Based Reading Lessons for K-2**
Learn how to use data to guide instruction for targeted whole and small group primary reading instruction and delve into resources to help explore aspects of word recognition such as phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics.
- Course 2b: Creating Science-Based Reading Lessons for 3-6**
Learn how to use data to guide instruction for targeted small & whole group upper elementary reading instruction focused on syllable instruction, morphology, comprehension, and writing.
- Course 3: Monitoring Student Progress in Reading**
Learn the difference between monitoring progress and progress monitoring. See examples for primary literacy skills (phonics, nonsense words, oral reading fluency). Explore DIBELS, as well as other progress monitoring resources, to assess student progress in reading.

Tons of resources are embedded into each course for further exploration!

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AVAILABLE NOW **PD On-Demand** **NEW!**
On Your Own Time
Small Group Instruction Series

When implemented well, small group instruction enhances individual development, equity in instruction, and academic and social-emotional growth, while increasing retention and building community. This series helps teachers learn strategies for making small group instruction an integral and efficient part of their instructional practice.

Here's what participants are saying...

"This course gave me new ideas on how to engage my students."

"I'll be able to do more with them (my students) now that I can put them in groups with intention."

"[These strategies] empower kids to take ownership over their learning, collaborate with each other, and they will get better and more specific feedback from me."

This series includes the following courses. Click the title below to access each course directly:

- Flexible Grouping Strategies**
- Peer-to-Peer Collaborative Learning**
- Station Teaching and Learning Centers**

*Although the content of each course is connected, each session can be taken separately. Take one, two, or all three--on your time, on your terms!

[Click here for our entire On-Demand Catalog](#)

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AI to Support Your Reading Instruction with Leveling Text Tools

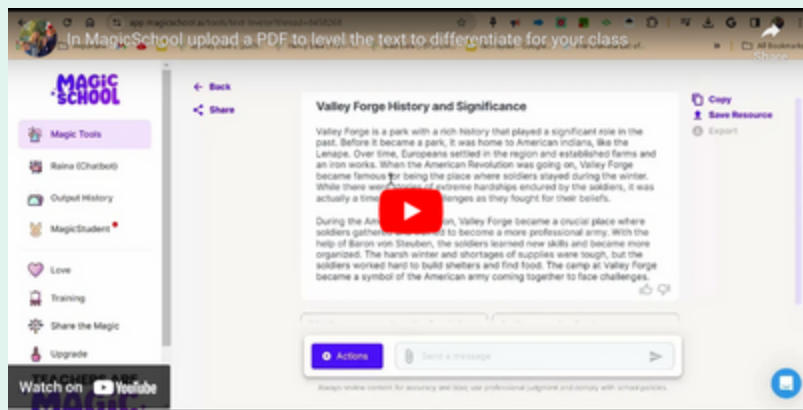
Article: [Obsessed with this AI Tool: Diffit for Teachers](#)



Diffit is a **text level platform** that allows teachers to adapt a PDF, text, excerpt, article, or more for any reading level to help all students access the content. This FREE resalso allows you to also generate leveled informational texts on a topic.

Text Leveler Tool with MagicSchoolAI

MagicSchoolAI offers a **text leveler tool** that allows you to insert a text or excerpt and select the grade level you'd like for readability. MagicSchoolAI offers tons of other FREE tools for teachers as well.



Did you miss our AI Hands-On Workshop? If so, you can view it on-demand on your own time!

[Visit Our Website Here!](#)



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ON THE CALENDAR FOR APRIL & MAY

Assessment and Grading in Differentiated Classrooms: Text-Based Discussions

Join us to explore how to think about **assessment and grading when you're differentiating instruction**. In each session we explore a text written by leaders in the field of differentiation and engage in practical, vibrant discussions about what how to implement best practices in your classroom.

Tuesday, April 16
4pm - 5pm

**Grading and Differentiation:
Paradox or Good Practice?**
by Carol Ann Tomlinson

Wednesday, May 1
4pm-5pm

**The Right Way
To Do Re-Dos**
by Rick Wormeli

[CLICK HERE
TO REGISTER](#)

and receive the brief reading to be completed prior to session



[CLICK TO
DOWNLOAD FLYER](#)

[Visit Our Website Here!](#)



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ART EDUCATOR NETWORK

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Art Educator Network

Facilitated by Diana Straut with Visual Arts Educators from across NYS



Join us!

The Art Educator Network provides a forum for art professionals in NYS religious and independent schools to connect and collaborate. Each session will focus on a current topic in art education, with time for open-ended discussion and resource sharing.

Whether you are a seasoned art teacher or a new educator just starting out, the Art Educator Network is a valuable resource for advancing your classroom practice. Join us to connect with other art professionals, share ideas and resources, and stay up-to-date on the latest developments in art education.

| February 8, 2024 4-5 pm | March 14, 2024 4-5 pm | April, 18, 2024 4-5 pm | May 16, 2024 4-5 pm |
|-----------------------------|--|---|-----------------------------------|
| Using AI in Art Instruction | Interdisciplinary, Extra Curricular and Collaborative Endeavors in Art | Learning Centers and Station Teaching in the Art Room | To be determined with group input |

Questions?
 Contact Rebecca Shea, Upstate PDRC Director
 rshea@measinc.com

Click or Scan  Register Here!

**Coming
 April 18
 4-5pm**

Learning Centers and Station Teaching in the Art Room.

Learn some basic strategies for introducing your students to learning stations and hear from 2 local art teachers who will share their successes, challenges, and lessons learned using this approach with their students.



Not an art teacher but looking for ways to effectively use learning stations? We've got you covered! Check out our on demand course,



Getting the Most from your Small Group Instruction Course 3: Station Teaching and Learning Centers



Visit Our Website Here! 

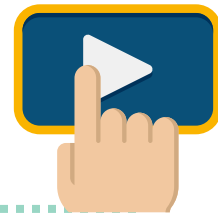




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DID YOU MISS A PD?

IT'S NOW ON-DEMAND!

Deconstructing a Learning Standard for Student Mastery



LEARN MORE



Course Objectives:

- Deeply understand what the learning standard is requiring for student learning (to demonstrate independently)
- Analyze examples to see how to deconstruct a standard yourself and support your instructional design moving forward
- Examine ways this can enhance your instructional planning now
- Consider this application to your classroom (learning standards and activities you plan)

Elevating Conversations to Drive Instruction: Course 1



LEARN MORE

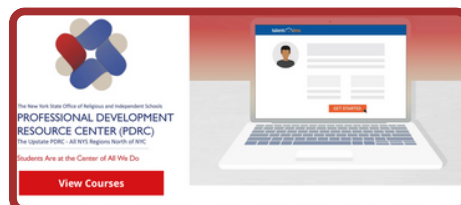


Course Objectives:

- Examine Danielson's framework for teaching and learning as a way to focus on instructional practice
- Examine the role of school leader and its impact on both student and teacher learning
- Explore ways to make instruction a regular topic for discussion as a school community

**From
RISE
2023**

**Over 40+
on-demand courses
available anytime!**



MORE ON-DEMAND AVAILABLE


Check out these on-demand courses on
New Teacher Support, Content Area Instructional Practices, and Proactive Behavior Practices

New Teacher Support & Differentiation

Content Area Instructional Practices

Proactive Behavior Practices

On-Demand Courses
New Teacher Support




New & Novice Teacher Academy

- Course 1
Classroom Climate and Managing the Learning Environment
- Course 2
Designing High-Quality Learning for ALL Students
- Course 3
Delivering High-Quality Learning Experiences for ALL Students
- Course 4
Assessment for Learning
- Course 5
Reflective Practice and Professional Growth


Differentiating Instruction

- Promoting Student Independence with Peer Hierarchies and Natural Support
- Differentiation Made Easier
- Getting the Most from Your Small Group Instruction
Course 1: Flexible Grouping
- Getting the Most from Your Small Group Instruction
Course 2: Peer-to-Peer & Collaborative Learning
- Getting the Most from Your Small Group Instruction
Course 3: Station Teaching and Learning Center

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On-Demand Courses
Content Area Instructional Practices



Writing

- Aligning Instruction: Unpacking Writing Standards
- Using Mentor Texts to Improve Student Writing
- Designing Checklists to Support Student Writing


Math

- Meaningful Fluency & Number Sense: Practices that Promote and Support a Growth Mindset
- Meaningful Math Makeovers: Making Math Problems More Engaging
- Turn Your Classroom into a Student-Centered Mathematical Playground


Designing Content Instruction for ALL Students

- Delivering Content Instruction for ALL Students
- Increase Engagement through Accountable Talk

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On-Demand Courses
Proactive Behavior Practices




Co-Creating Classroom Norms & Expectations with Students

- Introduction to Restorative Practices
- Classroom Climate and Managing the Learning Environment (part of New & Novice Teacher Academy)
- Rebooting Classroom Culture for Post-Pandemic Teens
- Family and Community Engagement

Better Than Carrots & Sticks Book Study



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Click on each flyer to learn more!

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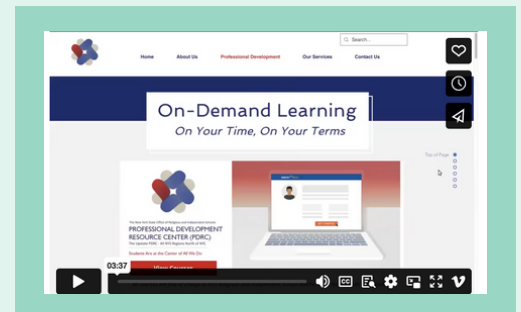
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What ON-DEMAND means for you

When you take our on-demand courses, you can...

- do it any time of night or day. Really! Our courses are available 24/7 to fit your schedule.
- start a course, stop when you need to, return when you're ready. Don't have a full hour to commit? Our courses are organized into self-paced modules and you can control when you stop, start or take a break.
- rewind, review and pause to access the content at your pace.
- earn CTLE Credits. Courses vary from 1-3 hours each.
- access over 40 courses in three broad categories: Leadership Practices, Teaching Practices, and School and Classroom Environment.
- make connections to your own practice and get feedback from Upstate PDRC staff.



Click the video to learn how!



WATCH NOW

On-Demand means professional development on your time, on your terms. *What are you waiting for?* We invite you to **begin your journey here** with tailored, convenient, and timely learning opportunities.

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SAVE THE DATE

RISE 2024 LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

SAVE THE DATE

LIVE AND IN-PERSON!

Tuesday and Wednesday | November 12 and 13, 2024

Albany Marriott Hotel | 189 Wolf Rd., Albany, NY

Registration opens in August!

40th Annual RISE Conference for independent and religious school leaders.
An engaging 2-day event filled with keynotes and over 24 high-interest sessions.



Hosted by Professional Development Resource Centers of New York State in partnership with NYS Education Dept and NYS Coalition for Independent and Religious Schools.



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MTSS Virtual Summit

Sponsored by NYSED OSE Educational Partnership

LEARN
MORE
BELOW!



CLICK BELOW
TO REGISTER



text here



Session topics include MTSS teaming structures, tiered instructional & supports, panel discussions, and family engagement.

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This month we feature two works of art created by talented students in Natasha Moynihan's class at Iona Preparatory School. Thank you Natasha and students for sharing these amazing works of art!



**NORTHERN LIGHTS BY
LUCIAN S.
8TH GRADE**

**ARCTIC PLAY BY
COLE R.
2ND GRADE**



If you have student art work that you would like to share in our newsletter, please contact Diana Straut at dstraut@measinc.com

Our goal is to provide valuable and accessible learning opportunities for teachers and leaders in NYS religious and independent schools at all stages of their careers.

Reach out to

Rebecca Shea at rshea@measinc.com

to let us know how we can support your professional needs.

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