



National Center  
on Response to  
Intervention

## RTI in Middle Schools

1. **Question:** Is there a specified time expectation for teaching reading in a RTI model? (example, 90-minute reading block daily)

**Answer:** *We have no specific recommendation regarding time expectations for teaching reading in a middle school RTI model. During the course of our study, we found that students requiring secondary level reading instruction typically received reading interventions during an additional class period-length of reading intervention, often in place of an elective.*

*On the other side, you are working for dosage and intensity so your staff will have to consider how to have a sufficient and intense instructional experience to make a difference. More of the same doesn't seem to make much difference for students.*

2. **Question:** Are there any models you have seen in a 4–8 middle school? As I have mentioned, we are 4–8, and classes are not self-contained. Students have 5 instructional periods and 1 activity period.

**Answer:** *We have not yet worked with a fourth- through eighth-grade middle school implementing RTI. Most of the schools involved in our study house grades six through eight. While we do not recommend a specific middle school RTI model, any RTI model should contain the following components implemented with fidelity: school-wide screening, frequent progress monitoring, tiered interventions, and data-based decision making. Exemplary practices from our sixth through eighth grade middle schools should, for the most part, generalize to your school; however, your youngest students may benefit from elementary school RTI resources. We refer you to [www.nrcl.org](http://www.nrcl.org) for some of these resources.*

3. **Question:** How often do you recommend progress monitoring students in an RTI model?

**Answer:** *We recommend that progress monitoring occur a minimum of every other week for secondary level interventions (tier 2), and several times a week for tertiary level interventions (tier 3).*

*You need enough measures as possible to learn whether your intervention is making a difference.*



U.S. Office of Special  
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4. **Question:** Any great interventions to use for middle school students?

**Answer:** In June, the National Center on RTI will be posting a tool on [www.rti4success.org](http://www.rti4success.org) with our review of submitted RTI interventions. In the meantime, we recommend that you visit [www.bestevidence.org](http://www.bestevidence.org) and <http://ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc> for scientifically research-based resources.

## National Center on Response to Intervention

If you have comments and questions about this workgroup and its activities, please visit our website [www.rti4success.org](http://www.rti4success.org) or contact The National Center on Response to Intervention at [rticenter@air.org](mailto:rticenter@air.org).

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