

Changing Literacy Outcomes for Adolescents

Adolescent Literacy Services





Today, 90% of jobs require a high school diploma. By 2020, it is estimated that 35% of all US jobs will require post-secondary education.

Unlock the door to college and career readiness

Adolescence is a critical time for students. Expectations for them as readers increase, while explicit literacy instruction decreases.

Literacy instruction is one of the greatest challenges faced by teachers of adolescents, yet today's academic standards demand that all students have the strategies needed to read and comprehend increasingly complex texts.

Bringing a school and/or district-wide focus to adolescent literacy across the disciplines supports all students, including English learners (ELs) and students with disabilities, to meet the expectations of today's College and Career Readiness Standards.

Generation Ready's ***Adolescent Literacy Services*** build upon, rather than replace the programs and practices already in use in your school and/or district in bringing about this focus. Our expert adolescent literacy consultants work collaboratively with school and/or district leaders to develop an evidence-based, customized action plan in response to your:

- » School and/or district goals
- » Identified areas of need
- » Budget

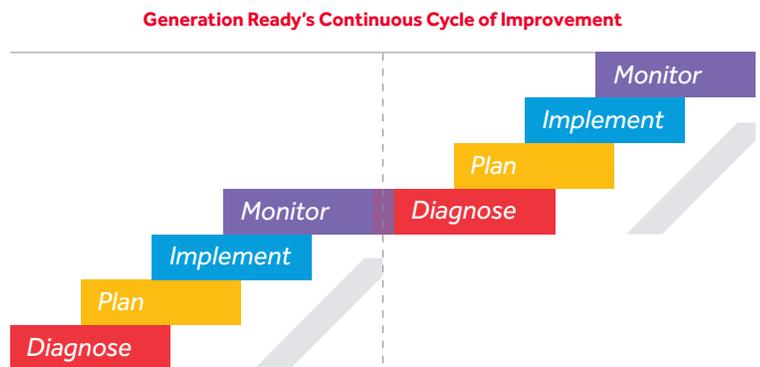
Once the plan is created, we work side-by-side with teachers and leaders to support successful implementation of best practices in the classroom. Together, we establish instructional strategies to ensure that all students graduate high school with the required literacy skills to succeed in post-secondary study and in the workplace.



High-quality literacy instruction across disciplines

Generation Ready's approach to improving adolescent literacy is established on a set of **research-based, foundational literacy practices aligned with the developmental needs of adolescents**. We work with you to ensure that there is consistent, engaging, high-quality literacy instruction across the disciplines.

Our process is a dynamic cycle of needs assessments, collaborative goal setting, job-embedded coaching, support and revision. This ongoing cycle adapts to your needs, using outcomes to guide further actions as progress is made. It is evidence-based at every stage focusing on high impact strategies proven to work in classrooms across the nation.



“ *The possession of advanced literacy skills across content areas is the best available predictor of students' ability to succeed in introductory college courses.*

- National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), 2008



Supporting Teachers' Goals

Generation Ready's Adolescent Literacy Services ensure that ELA, science and social studies teachers are supported in addressing the literacy demands of their content areas.

GENERATION READY'S SERVICES ENSURE
TEACHERS

Identify

Identify the specific literacy development needs of their individual students, supporting their success in understanding and making meaning out of complex texts

Develop

Develop the ability to explicitly teach reading comprehension strategies aligned to the literacy demands of their content areas

Engage

Engage and motivate all adolescents in tackling complex, informational texts by increasing interest, relevance and student academic discourse

Apply

Apply a growing knowledge of Common Core and other state literacy standards to design culminating writing tasks and a ladder of instruction to support student success

Build

Build their capacity to engage all students in research-aligned vocabulary instruction

“*Without Generation Ready's support in the process, I don't think we'd have the success that we have currently with our ELA department, with our ELA scores, with our understanding of literacy and how it affects all content across the board.*”

- Derrick Spaulding, Principal,
M.S. X383 Emolior Academy

Ensuring success for all students

The ultimate goal of our Adolescent Literacy Services is to ensure that all students complete school with the literacy skills required for success in college and their careers.

GENERATION READY'S SERVICES ENSURE STUDENTS

- Read** Read and monitor their own understanding of complex, informational texts to build a set of personal strategies that they use independently
- Engage** Engage in text-based discussions as a result of information and ideas gathered from reading
- Adopt** Adopt academic language in their speaking and writing
- Write** Write text-based arguments using multiple sources of information
- Monitor** Monitor their growth as independent readers and writers

“ Our consultant’s work in reading led to a dramatic increase in scores over a very short time...I can’t put into words truly how valuable she has been to my school community.”

- Middle School Principal, New York City

Special Focus: English Learners

In all engagements, Generation Ready provides specific support to teachers in order to:

- » Deepen their understanding of the language and literacy backgrounds of their ELs
- » Increase their ability to create language objectives appropriate for a range of ELs
- » Provide their students with access to complex texts and increase academic conversations
- » Increase the quantity and quality of student academic discourse
- » Provide print exposure to the types of texts that ELs will be writing
- » Provide authentic academic vocabulary instruction that emphasizes oral language acquisition



Flexible models to meet school and district needs

Generation Ready supports schools and/or districts to improve teaching and learning in the area of adolescent literacy (Grades 5-12) by providing customized professional development workshops and school-based coaching aligned with the Common Core and other state standards.

After understanding your school and/or district needs, we work with you to develop a customized engagement. In all engagements, we work with your teacher teams to help develop effective professional learning communities, enhancing teacher effectiveness outside the classroom.

Model 1: NEEDS ASSESSMENT

We work with your school and/or district to conduct an academic literacy needs assessment through a series of interviews and site visits. The needs assessment results in a brief report and a set of short, medium and long-term recommendations in taking the next steps to improve your school and/or district's literacy practices.

Model 2: TARGETED PRACTICE

We work with your schools and/or districts on targeted services that focus on specific elements of adolescent literacy depending on your needs. Engagements often include some combination of the following:

- » Explicit reading comprehension instruction
- » Academic vocabulary
- » Common Core or other state standards curriculum adaptation and implementation
- » Multi-tiered student literacy support strategy development
- » Increasing text complexity, diversity and volume school-wide
- » Academic writing
- » Speaking and listening
- » Literacy Design Collaborative (LDC) Framework implementation and support

Model 3: COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH

This approach is designed to build a school's capacity over time. Typically, the comprehensive approach is a multi-year engagement, including a variation of workshops throughout each year and 30-35 days of job-embedded coaching every year. Three key elements of our comprehensive approach include:

- » ***A whole-school focus*** - This includes principals and leadership teams; grade-level teams and English, science and social studies teachers
- » ***Evidence-based research that focuses on the factors that impact adolescent literacy*** - We work with teachers to ensure that they have a shared understanding of adolescent literacy learning, setting the groundwork for improved literacy instruction across the curriculum
- » ***Intensive focus on teaching practice*** - We work side-by-side with educators, modeling and observing to ensure that teacher learning is translated into instructional practice

This comprehensive approach has been shown to enhance teacher instruction and improve adolescent literacy outcomes in a variety of settings. An example of a successful engagement is highlighted on the next page.

A comprehensive approach for success

Middle School Quality Initiative

New York City Department of Education

Background

- » Generation Ready partnered with the New York City Department of Education (NYCDOE) in 2012
- » Initiative is the NYCDOE's focused effort to expand the number of middle schools that prepare students for college and career success
- » Schools are from the bottom 25% of city schools for student achievement
- » Over 13% of the students are English language learners
- » Approach has expanded to include 90 schools during the 2013-2014 school year from the original 24
- » During first 18 months of the Initiative, Generation Ready provided direct support to 13 of the 24 schools in Cohort One

Focus of Services

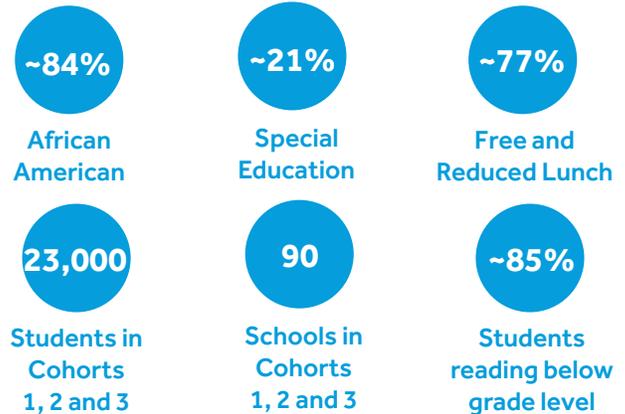
- » Develop, plan and implement a tiered assessment strategy identifying specific intervention needs of students
- » Strengthen instructional expertise around literacy across schools to ensure that all schools have effective teaching in literacy, science and social studies classrooms
- » Provide professional development around direct, explicit comprehension instruction, small group text-based collaborative learning and ongoing formative assessments
- » Build internal capacity in schools within the Initiative

Results

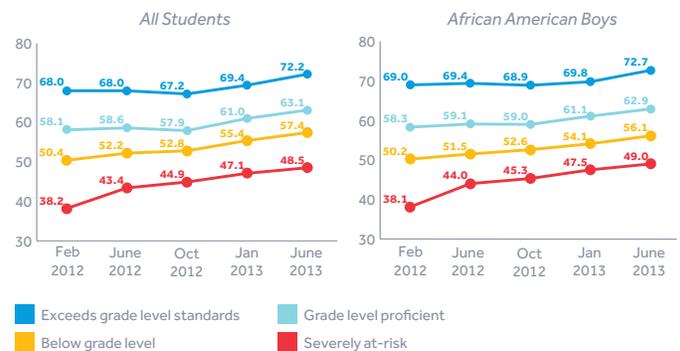
- » Results are for the 3,206 students in Cohort One from October 2012-June 2013
- » Generation Ready's job-embedded professional development had a significant positive impact on student achievement
- » All schools within the Initiative showed over 1.5 times the national average, schools that worked with a Generation Ready consultant made more than double the national average growth
- » Greatest growth seen with African American boys who were severely at risk in February 2012, showing an average growth of 9.9 DRP points* (national average of growth over that time was 5 DRP points)

* Student progress is tracked through the DRP, a nationally normed cloze comprehension assessment.

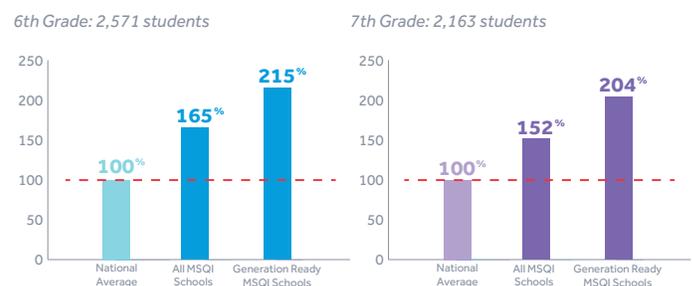
Middle School Quality Initiative Snapshot



Average DRP Score for Each Quartile Over Time for Students Present During All Test Administrations



Middle School Quality Initiative



These results are for students from October 2012 - June 2013.

100% indicates the nationally normed average DRP growth for one year.



GENERATION READY

Learn more about the Generation Ready difference

Let us show you how a Generation Ready partnership can move you toward the outcome that matters most: ensuring student success.

Contact your Generation Ready representative today.

Call us at:
866-792-5879
or visit us at:
generationready.com
