

# Reading Horizons® v5

## What is Reading Horizons?

*Reading Horizons* is not your customary reading program. It combines **professional development** for you the teacher, providing you with a foundation in reading strategies, **direct instruction** at a whiteboard, and individualized, interactive **computer software** to provide the perfect balance of group and independent work for each student.

## Direct Instruction, Computer Software, or Both

*Reading Horizons* can be taught using direct instruction, computer software, or a combination of the two. Best results are achieved when students are allowed to work autonomously at the computer and then receive reinforcement through teacher lead direct instruction sessions. Students will begin to group themselves based on their competency. You must determine how you intend to utilize the materials and then plan accordingly. Click on this link to learn more about the products: [www.readinghorizons.com/solutions/index.aspx](http://www.readinghorizons.com/solutions/index.aspx).

## Who is "Our Student"?

- Age 10+
- Reading ability: 0-6
- Inadequate spelling skills
- Learning disabled, including dyslexic
- Needs to see improvement quickly to maintain motivation
- English Language Learner

## How long does it take to complete the program?

- Most students will complete the *Reading Horizons* curriculum in 40-60 hours of total instruction.
- Lesson length is totally dependent on individual student circumstances. Competency based lessons allow students to determine the level of instruction that suits their needs. Extra instruction and practice are added, where needed. The Vocabulary and Library components will require additional time and may take dozens of hours, depending on the level of mastery required for each student.
- Be aware: some students may finish the entire program in as little as 20 hours (this often indicates they have received the targeted instruction needed to fill in their literacy gaps).

## How much time every day? Frequency?

Lessons last an average of 20 minutes, followed by an average of 10 minutes of vocabulary building exercises and optional reading time. It is suggested that students use the program every day, or at a minimum every other day.

## How do I use this with existing reading curriculum?

- As a teacher, it is important that you attend a workshop and familiarize yourself with the methodology. Understanding this curriculum will help you integrate it with the additional components of your literacy program.
- *Reading Horizons* is a perfect supplement to the rest of your reading curriculum. The focus on foundation concepts will make *Reading Horizons* the keystone to the reading success of all of your students.
- Students will be able to begin utilizing reading components from other programs as they move through the course. All target students should be allowed to use the *Reading Horizons* software for the suggested time; ensuring adequate time on the computer is imperative.
- If using direct instruction, you will need to prepare lessons on a daily basis, using the scripted teacher materials. Your instruction will reinforce and embed the concepts for students.
- You should plan to spend time with individual students and work in small groups to ensure understanding. The Online Workshop (available at [www.phonicstraining.com](http://www.phonicstraining.com)) has been developed to assist you in your role. Please make time to review the concepts taught in the *Reading Horizons* curriculum to ensure your understanding prior to teaching your students. You may also want to visit the Community section of our Web site ([www.readinghorizons.com](http://www.readinghorizons.com)) to ask questions of seasoned teachers in the "Ask the Experts" forum. In most cases, effective instruction of *Reading Horizons* requires the formation of a special reading class, if one has not yet been established.

### What do I do with ELL students?

The concepts taught in the *Reading Horizons* curriculum help ELL students to improve their understanding of the structure of English. Please visit [www.readinghorizons.com/markets/international/ell-application.aspx](http://www.readinghorizons.com/markets/international/ell-application.aspx) to learn more about specific product adaptations that have been created to improve instruction for English Language Learners.

### What type of improvement can I expect?

*Reading Horizons* will empower your students with decoding strategies that will help them confidently read unfamiliar text. Most students are able to read high school level words upon completion of the program. This does not mean that they are reading at a high school level, which includes vocabulary, fluency, and comprehension. However, those areas will continue to improve as they are exposed to reading passages in the Library included in *Reading Horizons v5* and as they are exposed to literature.

### Training for Teachers

#### Professional Development, Software Orientations

- It is very important that you receive the appropriate training in order to maximize your use of the program. The following is a list of suggested training alternatives:

- **Live Workshops**

Our dynamic workshops show you how to teach phonics and train you in the methods and tools that will ensure reading success in your classroom. The workshops guide attendees step by step through the *Discover Intensive Phonics for Yourself* approach. Click here to learn more:

[www.readinghorizons.com/solutions/training/markets/secondary.aspx](http://www.readinghorizons.com/solutions/training/markets/secondary.aspx).

- **Online Workshop**

We have developed an Online Workshop to aid you in your instruction of the *Reading Horizons* program. The workshop uses full-motion video and flash animation to bring the concepts to life and allows for intermittent practice to embed concepts for teachers. You can sample the workshop free for 30 days. Simply visit [www.phonicstraining.com](http://www.phonicstraining.com) to register.

The Online Workshop should not be used as an alternative to attending a live workshop but should be utilized as a refresher course for workshop attendees.

- **Software Orientations**

Workshop attendees will have the opportunity to learn how to properly set up and administer the *Reading Horizons* computer software. Attendees are encouraged to spend time exploring the functions in the Administration system (where student records are maintained) in order to better familiarize themselves with the content. It is imperative that teachers understand the primary functions of the software in order to ensure proper student use and instructor efficiency. Online orientations are conducted monthly and can be registered for here:

[www.readinghorizons.com/community/index.aspx](http://www.readinghorizons.com/community/index.aspx). You can also review online instructional videos here: [www.readinghorizons.com/solutions/software/rh/videos.aspx](http://www.readinghorizons.com/solutions/software/rh/videos.aspx).

### Other

Company History: [www.readinghorizons.com/company/history.aspx](http://www.readinghorizons.com/company/history.aspx)

Methodology: [www.readinghorizons.com/method/index.aspx](http://www.readinghorizons.com/method/index.aspx)

Supporting Research: [www.readinghorizons.com/research/index.aspx](http://www.readinghorizons.com/research/index.aspx)

