



TOP TEN

Moves to Advocate for Striving Readers Every Day

- 1.** Get to know each reader in the round. Familiarize yourself with his or her family, interests, and life outside of school.
- 2.** Use the ARR to identify and document each striver's reading and learning strengths; design curriculum and instruction that builds on what kids can do.
- 3.** Help strivers understand their reading strengths and learn how to set goals for themselves, building on their strengths. Help kids and families understand that learning necessarily entails risk-taking and miscue-making. Help families support their strivers at home, understanding that development occurs over time.
- 4.** Ensure each striving reader is well matched with high kid appeal and low effort-to-reward ratio books he or she can read and wants to read. Fill your room with engaging, culturally responsive books so every child can find him or herself in multiple titles.
- 5.** BookTalk and encourage reading every day by providing ample time for kids to read in school while also encouraging reading at home. Send books home with every child every day. Limit homework; make reading the main event.
- 6.** Teach comprehension strategies explicitly to give striving readers the tools they need to hurdle the background knowledge gap, move forward, and develop reading independence and agency.
- 7.** Guard against striving readers being pulled out for interventions during your classroom literacy block. Interventions should supplement, not supplant, strivers' time with you and their classmates—make sure strivers who receive supplemental interventions have an active reading life that's full of real books!
- 8.** Provide multiple entry points into reading by harnessing the full force of language: speaking, listening, and writing. Tap the meaning-making power of multimedia and the visual and dramatic arts as well.
- 9.** Prevent a summer slide—and encourage a summer leap—by sending strivers home with books to read over long weekends, school vacations, and summer break.
- 10.** Ensure children have unfettered access to school and public libraries all year long.