



Changing How Instruction
for Learning is Delivered



CHILD® First Steps Moves to Math

You may be familiar with the CHILD First Steps-Reading model. But did you know that First Steps has moved to Math as well? ISI has once again listened to teacher requests and moved forward to meet the need to improve math instruction and delivery of curriculum. The First Steps-Math model for self-contained classrooms will include six stations to accommodate multiple ways to learning a particular skill or concept.

- **Computer Station** for technology-based

learning.

- **Textbook Station** for written work.
- **Challenge Station** for activities in a game-like format.
- **Teacher Station** for small group remedial or enrichment instruction.
- **Construction Station** for developing concepts and working with hands-on activities.
- **Exploration Station** for exploring new math concepts and manipulatives.

Welcome to *THE LEADING EDGE* news for and about CHILD innovators. As CHILD educators, you are indeed taking the lead to transform classroom instruction for the 21st century. I hope you will enjoy reading about your colleagues from around the country who are making a difference. Please be sure to share your success stories. We'd love to feature you in a future edition of our publication."

Dr. Sally Butzin,
President and Executive
Director, ISI

News For and About CHILD Educators™

THE LEADING EDGE

Institute for School Innovation



CHILD & LeapFrog Offer Technology Choices



The Institute for School Innovation and LeapFrog Schoolhouse have collaborated to add another great technology choice for CHILD classrooms. Available soon through the Educators' Link at www.ifs.org, teachers will be able to access Task Cards for many LeapFrog products including the Interactive Decodable Series, LeapDesk, Leapster, Leveled Reading Series, Phonic Awareness Series and Read-It-All Series. Activities are designed for use in the Word Study and Reading/Listening Stations of CHILD and First Steps-Reading. Watch for more details on the ISI site within the next few weeks.

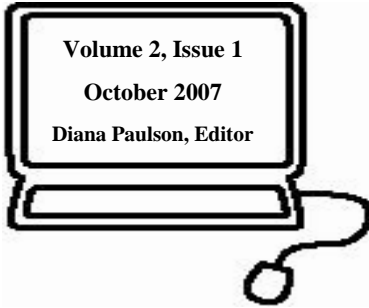


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Save these dates:

- **CHILD Consultant Training, Vero Beach, FL February 9-10, 2008**
- **CHILD Annual Conference, West Palm Beach, FL May 2-3, 2008**
- **CHILD Support Days (Available Upon Request)**



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Diana Paulson, Editor

First Steps-Reading Continues to Grow in *Osceola County, Florida*

When the state of Florida mandated the 90 minute reading block, including flexible grouping of students at independent learning stations, schools started scrambling to meet the requirement of providing for differentiating learning. ISI and CHILD® First Steps-Reading came to their rescue.

Two years ago 12 classroom teachers at two schools in Osceola County piloted the CHILD First Steps-Reading model. This model can be used in a self-contained classroom, grades K-12, during reading instruction. The pilot was so successful that the following year

First Steps-Reading numbers grew to 69 teachers in seven schools. First Steps teachers continued to spread the word about the support they received from the CHILD Reading Activities Guide, CHILD publications, and ISI professional development opportunities.

This year, First Steps-Reading is being implemented in 194 classrooms in 13 **Osceola County** schools. Contact ISI about how you can get CHILD First Steps-Reading in your school or district.

Article by **Jan Gabhart**, CHILD Coordinator, **Osceola County, FL**



Teachers train together at Highlands Elementary School as they prepare their classrooms for First Steps-Reading.

Essential Component #2:
Teachers function as trained experts in a key subject specialty.

The Best Ideas Are the Ones We Share...Great things are happening in **CHILD classrooms**

Take a photo of yourself and your clustermates to include as a game piece for the new CHILD Activity Boards. Students will enjoy being "Teacher of the Day" as they practice skills using cards provided by ISI throughout this school year. Check the Training Table E-Newsletter each month for new cards.

- Idea from **Paula Cannon**, CHILD District Coordinator,



Idea



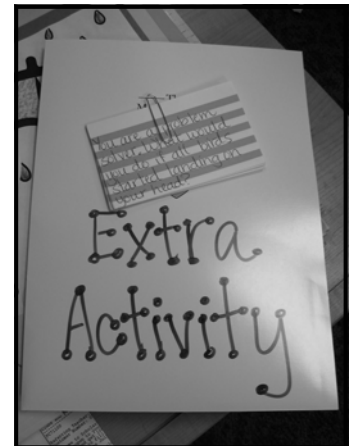
Essential Component #5: Students work at six diverse learning stations on a daily basis.



Primary Math teacher, **Shereen Pierce**, **Marietta Charter School, Marietta, GA**, uses large egg cartons as a math resource in her classroom. She numbers the sections of the carton for little kindergarten hands to use for sorting beans or other manipulatives.

Idea

What a simple way to create a bonus station with extra activities related to your subject! Primary Writing teacher, **Chelsea Avant**, **Marietta Charter School, Marietta, GA**, uses a folder and index cards to create fun writing ideas for those students who finish early with their station work and need an "extra activity" to keep them learning! Good idea, Chelsea!



Ideas

Be sure to request lots of index cards as part of your supply list this year. Here's another great use for them! Primary Reading teacher, **Julie Reynolds**, **Marietta Charter School, Marietta, GA**, has her kindergarteners identifying letters, words and sentences in a 3-column chart. Not only a wonderful hands-on graphic organizer, but allows for quick assessment by the teacher.



Dr. NH Jones Hosts a Picnic for “Grandparents and Teddy Bears”



Project CHILD kindergartens at Dr. NH Jones, in Marion County, Florida celebrated National Grandparents Day by having a Teddy Bear picnic. The grandparents brought picnic baskets filled with their grandchild's favorite foods. They spread out blankets in the shade of the trees and enjoyed celebrating their special day with their favorite grandchild. Vincent, a kindergartener in Christina Etts' room, said his grandma couldn't travel to the picnic but she had sent her best "grandma cookies" with Vincent's mom.

Gavin, a kindergartener in Christina Etts' class, is enjoying the Teddy Bear Picnic with his mom and grandmother. Gavin said his favorite part of the picnic was eating his favorite turkey and cheese sandwich. The children worked on teddy bear activities across the cluster throughout the week. They graphed and sorted colored gummy bears in math, wrote special invitations to grandparents in their writing class, and read about bears in reading. What an exciting way to celebrate learning with the special people in your life!

Article by Paula Cannon, CHILD District Coordinator,
Marion County, FL

Essential Component #9: Cluster teachers meet weekly to plan and coordinate instruction.



Congratulations goes out to Julie Murphy, Primary Math teacher at Dodgertown Elementary in Indian River County, FL for her recent publication of the children's book, "Sammy's Summer Vacation." The story is both written and illustrated by Ms. Murphy. Publication was completed this summer and is now available through Amazon Books. "It is such an honor to be published," said Ms. Murphy. "I hope this creates a further love of reading for students everywhere." Congratulations to yet another published author in the CHILD family!



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Dear CHILD® Educators,

Welcome to another exciting year with Project CHILD! As you move through the year, keep the Essential Components of CHILD close at hand as you plan activities to keep your students engaged and motivated toward learning. Enjoy the opportunity that CHILD offers you to: 1) work productively in small groups while the rest of the class is engaged in meaningful activities, 2) specialize in a subject area that you enjoy teaching and are good at, and 3) work smarter with cluster, grade level and subject area support. And don't forget that ISI is just an email or phone call away with ideas and a listening ear! We love to hear success stories or help you create one of your own.

Have a wonderful year!

Diana Paulson, Senior Program Specialist, ISI



Redefining Classroom
Instruction Through
Technology and Active
Learning

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Check it out online !!!!

CLIPART ETC.

25,000 pieces of free educational clip art and growing every month. Excellent resource for student projects.

<http://etc.usf.edu/clipart/index.htm>



Essential
Component
#14:
Students have
frequent and
equitable access
to computers.

GAMEQUARIUM.COM

The site that swims with learning fun! Has tons of online activities and resources PreK-High School.

<http://www.gamequarium.com/index.htm>

ADRIAN BRUCE

Site includes resources for Reader's Theatre, online books, math games, motivational posters, ideas for teaching writing and more.

<http://www.adrianbruce.com/index.html>

GRAPHIC ORGANIZERS

A wealth of ideas from Houghton Mifflin.

<http://www.eduplace.com/graphicorganizer/>

QUICK! GET THE DIGITAL CAMERA!

Two dozen digital camera activities guaranteed to make life easier for you and more interesting for your students.

http://www.educationworld.com/a_tech/tech/tech148.shtml

PASSPORT TEACHER'S KIT

This kit is designed for students traveling to Australia, but the idea could be transferred to any country you're studying.

http://immigration.museum.vic.gov.au/pdf/Passport-Teachers_Kit.pdf



Go to...www.ifs.org
CHILD Educators Log in
Username: ifsi
Password: **celebratechild**

ISI assumes no liability for the content of these sites. Be sure to preview carefully before allowing students to use.