

## Elements of High-Impact Reading Programs

Below are research-backed program features proven to contribute to program effectiveness for students in our age group.

**J3's Cozy Reading Club expanded this year to include these elements.**

### Frequency

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Elementary students benefit from **shorter but more frequent sessions**.

- The most effective tutoring interventions involve three or more sessions per week with sessions that last for about 30-60 minutes per day.

### Scheduling

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The effects of reading programs that occur during the regular school day are **nearly twice as effective** as those conducted outside of school time.

Mandatory summer programs are less effective, but after-school programs are the least effective option.

- The challenge for OST program organizers is to **design program features to minimize the barriers to participation**, especially for the students most in need of program services and most likely to benefit from them.
- **Scheduling decisions should be made equitably** to ensure students and families who already face the most injustices do not face additional barriers.

### Group Size

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High-impact reading intervention occurs in **groups of 4-6 students or fewer**.

- The impacts of intervention diminish substantially in larger groups.

The way students are grouped matters.

- The research on supplemental educational supports suggests **grouping students based on skill level or language learner status may be most effective**.

### Personnel

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Successful programs have **drawn on talented teachers** who are likely better able to serve small groups than inexperienced volunteers or paraprofessionals.

- Successful teachers are given explicit training in **cultural competency and SEL**.
- Teachers who receive higher levels of **ongoing coaching and support will be more effective** than those who receive less.

### Relationships

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Ensuring students have a **consistent teacher over time facilitates positive teacher- student relationships**, a stronger understanding of students' learning needs, and better academic outcomes.

### Curriculum

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High-impact programs tend to use **high-quality instructional materials** that align with their core classroom content or grade-level standards.

### Measurement

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Many of the most successful reading interventions to date **collect ongoing implementation data and use it to continuously improve their programs**.