***Initial Sound Fluency***

**What is Initial Sound Fluency?**

The DIBELS Initial Sound Fluency (ISF) measure is a standardized, individually administered measure of phonological awareness that assesses a child's ability to recognize and produce the initial sound in an orally presented word. The examiner presents four pictures to the child, names each picture, and then asks the child to identify (i.e., point to or say) the picture that begins with the sound produced orally by the examiner. For example, the examiner says, "This is sink, cat, gloves, and hat. Which picture begins with /s/?" and the student points to the correct picture. The child is also asked to orally produce the beginning sound for an orally presented word that matches one of the given pictures. The examiner calculates the amount of time taken to identify/produce the correct sound and converts the score into the number of initial sounds correct in a minute. The ISF measure takes about 3 minutes to administer and score and has over 20 alternate forms to monitor progress.

**What can we do to improve performance on the ISF measure?**

* **Letterland Resource Notebook:** Sounds Trick p. 4, Sound Detectives p.6, Who Likes What p.6, Picture Card Game p. 9, Who Starts the Word p. A4, Eyes Shut Riddle Game: Who Am I? p. A13
* **Skill Specific Reading Assessment and Intervention Packet: 2007-2008:**  Phoneme Identification activities (oral) p. 3
* **FCRR Activities: Phonological Awareness Part 3(K-1 book):** One Card Out, Sound Snacker-Sound Smacker, Hoop It!, Sound Train,Sound Discovery, Pack-A-Backpack, Sound Pictures and Picture Puzzles, Object-Initial Sound Matching, Sound It- Bag It, Phoneme Go Fish, Phoneme Dominoes, Feel It-Sound It, The Missing Link
* **Marilyn Adams’ Phonemic Awareness in Young Children:**Guess Who p. 58, Different Words Same Initial Phoneme p. 59, Finding Things: Initial Phonemes p. 61, I’m thinking of Something p. 62, Word Pairs I p. 64, Word Pairs II p.65
* **Road to the Code**(Blachman, Ball, Black, Tangel): This book has step-by-step lessons that introduce each letter and letter sound. Each lesson has three parts specific to phoneme segmentation, **letter name and sound instruction**, and phonological awareness practice. In addition to specific lessons, reproducible materials are located in the back of the manual.
* **Interventions for Reading Problems: Designing and Evaluation Effective Strategies:**(Daly, Chafouleas, Skinner): Phonological Awareness: Whole-Word Segmentation p. 52, Sound Bingo pp. 66-71
* **Interventions For Reading Success:** (Daly, Chafouleas, Skinner):Find the Picture: Listening for Initial Consonant Sounds p. 71