

OCECD's "Mentoring 4 Reading Achievement"

The Mentoring 4 Reading Achievement (M4RA) Program is a coming together of parents, schools and volunteers to support the reading achievement of Ohio's students reading below grade level. The intent of this collaboration between M4RA & OCECD is to engage families in the reading achievement of their students. This will be accomplished by schools/organizations providing 1:1 reading mentoring for students needing supplemental reading intervention. M4RA uses an evidence-based model of 1:1 reading mentoring for students reading below 6th grade reading level, including students with disabilities. Students are mentored 3- 4 times per week by trained mentors using Reading A-Z's tutoring and mentoring packs. Schools/organizations using these mentoring materials need to purchase the annual license fee (currently \$79.95 for partnering schools) through www.readinga-z.com. These reading mentoring materials address the National Reading Panels 5 Big Ideas for reading instruction: Phonemic Awareness, Phonics, Fluency, Vocabulary and Comprehension

Students using this evidence-based model can make month for month reading level gains for each month of reading intervention.

OCECD received a 5 year federal grant starting in October 2015. This grant will allow M4RA to work with youth who are incarcerated in juvenile detention centers, juvenile prison schools as well as continuing to provide professional development opportunities for Ohio schools/organizations that want to provide 1:1 reading mentoring for their children and youth.

M4RA currently partners with approximately 50 schools throughout Ohio including all of the Ohio Department of Youth Services (DYS) prison schools. M4RA has developed a partnership with the Allen County Juvenile Detention Center School.

Any school/organization that has students who need intensive reading support can receive M4RA Reading Mentoring Instruction at **no cost** to the district/agency. These instructional sessions are scheduled at regional locations throughout the state on an as needed basis. These Reading Mentoring Instructional Sessions include:

- 2 days of instruction (1 full day and 1 half day)
- 2 M4RA Resource Guide Books
- Ongoing professional development support, etc.