



Increasing Achievement with Early Intervention... and Pancakes!



Jennifer West

📍 Monroe Elementary School 📍 Monroe, GA

👤 User since 2018



ReadTheory is an all-in-one resource for early intervention teachers. It differentiates, tracks data, and generates progress reports that I can print for my students. When they see that needle start to move and the numbers go up, they trust me and are willing to do the work.

The Challenge



Jennifer West faced significant behavioral issues in her new role teaching the Early Intervention Program for grades 3 and 5 in Monroe, GA. Her students lacked accountability and awareness of their below-grade-level status. The school also lacked resources for their reading levels, making it hard to find suitable texts.

The Solution

Jennifer began using ReadTheory, which she calls an “all-in-one” resource, due to its ability to differentiate, track data, and generate progress reports. Since Jennifer’s students take state tests on computers, they have to read passages digitally and type answers digitally. **“ReadTheory prepares students for state-mandated diagnostics and assessments, because they practice these digital skills of reading and typing every day,”** Jennifer notes.

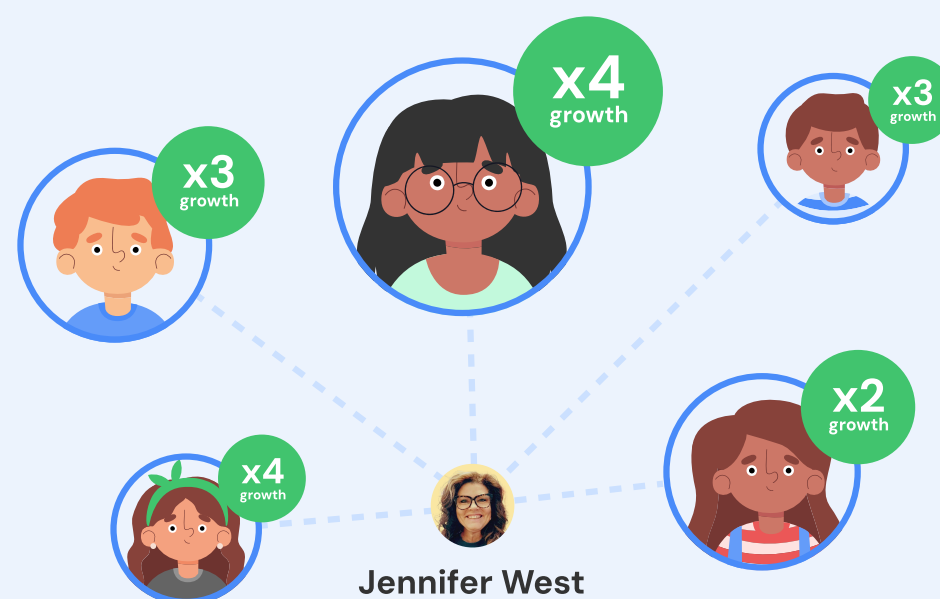
To meet administrative requirements, Jennifer keeps a binder with pre-test scores and weekly reports, sharing progress with her instructional coach. She monitors the classroom, assists students, and provides printed ReadTheory reports to show their growth.

Jennifer also holds discussions where students share favorite passages and lessons learned, reinforcing skills like genre identification and character description, aligning with standards, and encouraging deeper thinking.



The Impact

Students in Jennifer's class surpassed 2-4X expected grade level growth by using ReadTheory.



ReadTheory enhances Jennifer's instruction. For the "teamwork" month, she launched a 3rd vs. 5th grade Knowledge Points contest. Weekly updates kept students engaged, and the 5th graders won the "Pancakes for Points" prize. Jennifer decorated the room, rearranged furniture, and made pancakes on a griddle, delighting the students. These contests inspire students to do their best.

Jennifer uses ReadTheory data for Special Education referrals. A 3rd-grade non-reader, aiming to identify letters and sounds, wanted to use ReadTheory. By reading the questions and answers to her, Jennifer discovered the student had grade-level comprehension skills.



Image: Pancake Party

Two of Jennifer's biggest success stories include a 3rd grader improving from a 1st to a 4th-grade reading level and a 5th grader advancing from a 3rd to a 7th-grade level.

The 5th grader credited Jennifer for the progress, but she responded, "You earned this achievement by consistently reading and striving to do better."