



**LEXIA READING SUPPORTS TARGETED INSTRUCTION  
FOR RTI STRATEGIES**  
**Rural Community Sees Continued Improvement Using Student  
Progress Tracking and Scaffolded Support**

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- Jann Herdt,  
Principal, Chubbuck Elementary School  
Chubbuck, Idaho

**Profile:**

Located in the southeast corner of Idaho, Chubbuck is a town of approximately 10,000 people, located near Pocatello (population 50,000), both of which are served by the Pocatello School District. As described by Chubbuck Elementary School Principal Jann Herdt, Chubbuck is a small town with a supportive parent base and a small-town school feel. Chubbuck Elementary is a Title I school, serving approximately 620 students in grades K–6, with 40 percent of students eligible for free or reduced-price lunch.

**Challenge**

“We were using a different ‘big name’ product in the classroom, which wasn’t meeting students’ needs in the lower grades and wasn’t user friendly for teachers or students,” said Herdt. “We wanted something more tied to core reading skills.”

**Solution:**

As part of a district initiative, Chubbuck Elementary implemented *Lexia Primary Reading*, and has been using the program for three years. Later, the school also implemented Lexia’s *Strategies for Older Students* on a limited basis.

**Results:**

Chubbuck Elementary uses Lexia as a Tier II intervention, four days per week with students in grades K–3. Lexia has proven to be an effective tool in supporting Chubbuck Elementary Response to Intervention (RTI) program.

“Lexia helps us move kids in and out,” said Herdt. “The program helps us get students from Tier II to Tier I. It’s a very flexible tool.”

The results on reading achievement tests have been positive, as well.

“We recently finished IRI (Idaho Reading Indicator) kindergarten reading test, and we will be at 80 percent passing rate— which is great!” said Herdt. “Lexia definitely aligns with IRI such that, if we see there is a low spot, we can pull that up and correlate with Lexia.

“The state has raised the performance guidelines each year, and we’ve kept pace,” she continued. “Lexia has been part of the solution to keep pace. Title I has expanded as a program at Chubbuck Elementary, and in the meantime, our basal textbook program has changed as well. We feel that Lexia is a huge piece in contributing to our students’ success.”

Part of the success of the program can be attributed to the student enjoyment and ease-of-use of the program.

“The students really like the flexibility, and are very excited to see the stars fill up on their progress screens,” said Herdt.

The easy-to-follow instructions allow students to progress at their own pace, and require less hands-on time from the teacher, freeing them to spend time targeting instruction to those who need it. Herdt explained that students work well independently because they know how and when they can get help from the program, based on online cues and prompts.

Because Lexia offers age-appropriate, scaffolded support, each student can work at a comfortable level to improve their skills.

“Even my first graders can start at the lower level and work their way up to the higher levels, said Herdt. “Lexia offers them a huge range of skills.”

### **Conclusion:**

Under Principal Jann Herdt’s leadership, Chubbuck Elementary has successfully implemented the *Lexia Reading* program to help improve performance of struggling students.

The user-friendly interface has helped teachers and students embrace the technology and leverage the full benefits of the program. With strong correlations to state standards, and student progress tracking, Chubbuck Elementary has been able to target instruction to help students continue to achieve and keep pace with increased state performance levels.

“We like it so much that the District is buying it for every school,” said Herdt. “We’ll have all of the Lexia programs—*Early Reading*, *Primary Reading* and *Strategies for Older Students*. We’re excited about that!”

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