How Evidence-Based Reform Will Transform Research and Practice in Education

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School Reform is Constantly Churning

- Accountability/Assessment
- Governance
- Charters
- Teacher Evaluation
- Centralization/Site-Based Management

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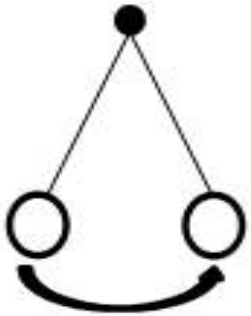
Stop the Pendulum, I Want to Get Off

- Fields lacking respect for evidence
- Fashion
- Art
- Education



- Innovation in Education
- Word of mouth
- Tradition
- Politics
- Marketing

This must change.

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Fashion vs. Evidence

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What Works is What Matters

- Evidence-Based Reform
- Modeled on medicine, agriculture, engineering
- Creates a dynamic of progressive improvement

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Major Movements Emphasizing Evidence in Education

- ESSA definitions of strong evidence
- Investing in Innovation (i3)
- Education Innovation and Research (EIR)
- Institute for Education Sciences
- Education Endowment Foundation (EEF)

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Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Evidence Standards

- Defines strength of evidence supporting programs and practices
  - Strong: At least 1 *randomized* study with positive effects
  - Moderate: At least 1 *quasi-experiment*
  - Promising: At least 1 *correlational* study

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Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Evidence Standards

- Programs meeting standards may qualify for preference points
  - School improvement
  - Seven others
- ESSA encourages use of proven programs throughout

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Investing in Innovation (i3) (Now Evidence Innovation and Research (EIR))

- Began in 2009 as part of ARRA
- Funding for education innovation pipeline
  - Development
  - Validation
  - Scale-up
- Validation and Scale-up
  - Third party, randomized evaluations

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Institute for Education Sciences (IES)

- Supports development and evaluation of scalable programs – 3 levels
- Advances the methodological capacity necessary for i3/EIR

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Education Endowment Foundation (EEF)

- Established in UK in 2010
- Funds studies of replicable studies
  - All use third-party evaluations
  - Most use randomized evaluations

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Reviews of Research on Replicable Programs

- What Works Clearinghouse
- Best Evidence Encyclopedia (BEE)
- Evidence for ESSA

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Evidence at Work: Struggling Readers

- Many programs proven to help struggling readers
- Whole school/whole class
- One-to-small group tutoring
- One-to-one tutoring
- Teachers vs. Teacher Assistants

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Whole Class/Whole School

- Success for All
- Enhanced Core Reading Instruction
- Wilson Reading
- Spell Read
- CIRC

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One-to-Small Group Tutoring

- Lectura Proactiva (1-3/5)
- Quick Reads (1-2)
- Read, Write, & Type! (1-3)
- Early Reading Intervention (1-3/5)
- Passport to Literacy (1-4/7)
- Tutoring With the Lightning Squad (1-6)

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One-to-One Tutoring

- Sound Partners (Paras)
- Lindamood (Teachers/Paras)
- Reading Recovery (Teachers)
- Target Reading Intervention (Teachers)
- SMART (Volunteers)
- Reading Partners (Volunteers)
- Reading Rescue (Teachers/Paras)
- Tutoring With the Lightning Squad (Para)

Response to Interventions with Proven Components

Proven Whole Class / Whole School Approach

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Proven One-to-Small Group Tutoring by Paras

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Proven One-to-One Tutoring by Teachers/Paras

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A Vision for the Future

- Teachers and administrators choosing among proven programs and practices
- Robust research and development enterprise to create, evaluate, and disseminate new programs
- Networks of schools supporting each other in using and refining proven programs
- Funding from government focused on proven programs

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For More Information

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www.bestevidence.org

www.evidenceforessa.org