EPS

Literacy and Intervention

SUPPORTING COMMON CORE STATE STANDARDS

Explode The Code®
& Explode The Code® *Online*

**Break Through the Code
with Direct Phonics Instruction**

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ORTON-GILLINGHAM
CG
BASED PROGRAM

Aligned to the
Common Core
STATE STANDARDS

Meet the Common Core State Standards with *Explode The Code®*

Explode The Code® is a research-based, teacher-tested program that builds essential literacy skills. Because of its primary focus on phonological awareness and phonics, *Explode The Code* conforms to the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) for Reading, particularly Foundational Skills 1–4 (grades K–5): *"Demonstrate understanding of…features of print;…spoken words, syllables, and sounds;…grade-level phonics and word analysis skills in decoding words; read with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support comprehension."* In addition to providing detailed lesson plans for phonemic awareness and phonics, *The Teacher's Guides provide lessons* for vocabulary, comprehension, fluency, and writing, too.

One of *Explode The Code's* signature features is the wealth of practice materials available for students who struggle, provided in the "1/2 books" that accompany Student Books 1–6. Each of these resources gives additional practice with all of the skills covered in Books 1-6.

In the words of the CCSS, *"…good readers will need much less practice with these concepts than struggling readers will. The point is to teach students what they need to learn and not what they already know…".*

To address this recommendation, an *Explode The Code Placement Test* helps place students where they will most benefit from instruction.

Differentiated Instruction

The CCSS state: *"Instruction should be differentiated."* *Explode The Code* provides for differentiation in a variety of ways:

- *Teacher's Guide for English Language Learners, which* provides lesson plans and over 100 reproducible exercises tailored to the needs of students who are learning English.

- "1/2 books," which provide additional practice with skills covered in Books 1-6, for students who require additional practice and reinforcement.

- *Explode The Code* is frequently used for intervention with struggling students, even those in higher grades. It provides a clear, explicit instructional plan with strong teacher support and an abundance of practice opportunities. *Explode The Code* can help struggling students toward the goal of being on-level readers by providing direct instruction and sufficient practice in the Foundational Skills that will lead them there. *"The Standards set grade-specific standards but do not define the intervention methods or materials necessary to support students who are well below or well above grade-level expectations."*

Meet the Common Core State Standards with *Explode The Code® Online*

Explode The Code® Online presents the same time-tested content as *Explode The Code* in an interactive online format. Visual and auditory cues, immediate feedback, and a rewards system provide scaffolding and motivation for today's tech-savvy learners. The CCSS states, *"…good readers will need much less practice with these concepts than struggling readers will. The point is to teach students what they need to learn and not what they already know…".* Continuous assessment and sophisticated branching techniques, assure that beginning, struggling, and advanced readers work only on their areas of need.

The CCSS recognize the importance of the teacher's professional judgment, stating, *"Teachers are thus free to provide students with whatever tools and knowledge their professional judgment and experience identify as most helpful for meeting the goals set out in the Standards."* *Explode The Code Online's* reporting system puts ongoing progress monitoring at the teacher's fingertips. Detailed reports allow the teacher to check skills mastered and plan instruction for an individual or an entire group.

Whether in the print or online format, the *Explode The Code* program presents a time-tested pedagogy that takes students from the earliest stages of literacy to reading proficiency.