

Strategic Adolescent Reading Intervention

STARI is a literature-focused, Tier II intervention for students in grades 6-9 who are reading 2-4 years below grade level.

Using research-based practices and highly engaging texts, STARI addresses gaps in **fluency, decoding, reading stamina,** and **reading comprehension**, aiming to move struggling students to higher levels of proficiency at the end of one year. STARI actively engages students in discussions of cognitively challenging content aligned to the Common Core and other 21st century standards.



STARI is built around key research findings:

- ▶ Adolescent struggling readers need to work on both basic reading skills and the skills that underlie deep comprehension.
- ▶ Texts need to engage students with issues in their lives and in the world.
- ▶ Peer talk about text can develop reading engagement, perspective-taking, and critical reading.

In a 2013-14 randomized, clinical trial, STARI students outperformed control students in decoding, fluency, vocabulary, sentence structure, and comprehension.



STARI has **two levels** that address the same set of skills; level 1 content targets the lower end of the age range, and level 2 content targets the upper end. Each STARI level is designed around four strategically chosen and **engaging themes**.

Each unit includes:

- a full-length novel and a selection of poetry, short stories, and/or nonfiction to expose students to realistic reading demands for secondary school;
- leveled fluency passages to develop reading rate and stamina and build background knowledge;
- debate(s) related to the unit's guiding question;
- comprehension and decoding workbooks that guide partner work; and
- daily lesson plans that help teachers deliver effective mini-lessons and lead guided reading discussion.

stari.serpmedia.org

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