S. E. P.
Skills
Enhancement Program

Necessity is the mother of all inventions.
Anonymous Substitute Teacher

S. E. P. Addresses Critical Academic Needs

- Reading
- Writing
- Time Management
- Organizational Skills
- Study Skills
- Added benefit of increased self-esteem
Program begins with first three sessions devoted to:

• V.A.R.K. testing
• Distribute/explain dated planner
• S.R.A. reading level assessment
• Study skills, time management, and organizational skills training (booklet)
• How to read/study their Social Studies textbook

V.A.R.K. Testing

Visual - Aural - Reading - Kinesthetic

• Helps boys and their teachers understand how they learn best.
• Helps identify strategies for the intake of information.
• Helps identify strategies for how to best prepare for assessments.

S.R.A. Reading Level Assessment

• Boys answer 40 short to moderate length reading passages that measure their understanding and ability to infer from clues in passage.
• Number correct determine what level they will start in the program.
Study Skills, Time Management, and Organizational Skills

- Boys are given the booklet *10 Steps To Great Grades*.
- After previewing, boys read two sections a week.
- Reading reviewed during one on one time.

How to Read Textbooks

- Look at all pictures and read captions.
- Read all section headings and any questions at the end of the section.
- Read the chapter review questions at the end of chapter.
- Boys are now ready to go back to the beginning of the chapter and begin reading.

It’s Time!!!!

By the third or fourth session, the boys are ready to begin their normal S.E.P. routine when they arrive each time.

The entire hour is self-directed and divided into 15 minute segments spent at 4 different stations.

Each time they arrive, they hand in their planner to be reviewed by me.
Station 1  SRA Reading
- Boys arrive, pull level card they are working on, and begin to read.
- They place their answers on the score sheet
- Boys check their answers against correct answers.
- Wrong answers are noted and score recorded.
- Wrong answers are checked by me before next session to look for reasons why and patterns.

Station 2  Writing
- Boys arrive here and select a book
- Read one of the short stories
- Close book
- Date and title paper
- Write as many details as they can remember w/o opening the book.
- Details written as complete sentences, punctuation, spelling, and handwriting are important.
Writing Continued

- By January, boys begin to organize their writing.
- Think about what they read.
- What can they talk about the most?
- Write a topic sentence that covers it.
- Support with details from the story.
- Again, mechanics and sentence structure are important.

Sequencing

- Basket of #’d envelopes, each containing a comic strip cut into its individual panels.
- Each envelope has the name of the comic strip and number of panels on the front.
- Panels are laid out and boy tries to place panels in correct order using dialogue and panel scenes as clues.
- Helps boys understand the importance of sequence in their writing as well as being a fun mental challenge.

Station 4 - One on One Conference

- Each boy sits with me for about 12-15 minutes.
- I review his dated planner for thoroughness.
- We talk about any recent test scores.
- We talk about any problems, social or academic, they may be having.
- Review previous week’s reading errors.
- Check their cubby for neatness.
Parental Contact

- Parents are given a copy of V.A.R.K. learning preferences along with strategies to study and prepare for assessments.
- Parents kept in the loop throughout the program via regular e-mails or notes home on how their son is doing.

Down The Stretch They Come

- Boys continue their routine through the remainder of the year.
- Near the end of the program, boys re-test in reading.
- Boys are also asked to submit a final writing sample. Topic is writing about a memorable moment in their life.

Program Resources

- Dated Planner: Design Type 750D
  Success by Design, 1-800-327-0057, www.successbydesign.com
- Study Skills, Time Management, Organization
  www.successbydesign.com
- 10 Steps To Great Success, Woodburn Press, P.O. Box 329, Dayton, Ohio USA 45409
- Learning Preferences
  V.A.R.K. www.vark-learn.com
- Reading Material:
  SRA Reading For Understanding www.rinehart.com USA
  www.sra.com
- Writing Materials:
  Questions Kids Ask, by Grolier Limited www.grolier.com
  Help for Vocabulary, LinguiSystems, Inc. www.linguisystems.com
  Sequence Materials
  Sunday Comics in the newspaper

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