



## Child Diagnostics, Inc.

### *The Dianne Craft Learning System*

*"If students don't learn the way we teach, we teach the way they learn!"*

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#### **Welcome Teacher Comrades!**

Good for you for seeking alternative teaching methods for your bright, hard working students! This reading program has been carefully designed to help a child become successful right from the first page. The students will love the zany presentation of the sight words, so that they will be able to remember them so easily...and even spell them, because they go directly into their photographic memory. It's perfect for any reading intervention.

Follow the following Teacher's Guide to determine which reading plan to use to best fit the learning needs of each student. In this guide you will be introduced to three "options". If you have the students for at least an hour, you will have the most success in reading intervention by following "Option Three". If you have less time working with the student (s), follow option one, but combine it with the first fifteen minutes of the Writing Eight Exercise. If you are doing the Writing Eight Exercise with a group of students, follow the pace and use choral reading explained in the "Writing Eight Exercise Success" document.

To successfully use the Right Brain Reading method that I used in my resource room, there are just a few products that you will need: *(Use the Craft Right Brain Reader Placement Test to determine the appropriate reader)*

1. **First and Second Grade Craft Right Brain Decodable Student Readers** - Each book comes with its own set of Sight Word Cards for each story, which will be used for pre-reading, and two reading transparencies to help with eye fatigue (one blue, one green).
  - Level 1A: At Bat!
  - Level 1B: The Big Win
  - Level 1C: You Rock!
  - Level 2A: Looking Up
  - Level 2B: Think Big
  - Level 2C: Grand Slam
  - Level 2D: Game On!
1. **Right Brain Phonics Book**
2. **Right Brain Phonics Cards**
3. **Brain Integration Therapy Manual** (Only one needed for teacher)

Questions can be sent to Dianne Craft at [craft@ecentral.com](mailto:craft@ecentral.com). Please title the subject line of your questions “Reading Intervention in the Classroom” so we give you priority in the normal flow of emails Dianne receives.

Enjoy making learning easier for your bright, hard working students!

My Best,

*Dianne Craft*

Dianne Craft, MA, CNHP  
Master’s in Special Education  
Certified Natural Health Professional  
Dianne Craft Learning System

# Dianne Craft Learning System Reading Teaching Guide

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## **Craft Right Brain Reader's Teaching Guide**

*The Boring Little Books that Always Work!*

### **About this program**

Congratulations. You have in your hands a unique reader specifically designed for fast success with even the most struggling reader, including students with dyslexia. Originally created for struggling readers of all ages, this method is truly one of a kind. Anyone can use the readers and find success!



This carefully engineered, Orton Gillingham based phonics method, introduces sounds and sight words in a manner that ensures success for even the most struggling student. Experience has shown that this this Right Brain visual reading method will work when others haven't. The Right Brain Reader uses the imbedding technique to teach phonemes with picture and color directly on the reading pages. This imbedding takes all the stress out of memorizing sounds.

The "Instant Success" Sight Word cards created specifically for the stories are included with each Reader. This makes word memorization much easier. We have also found, that by using colored transparencies (also included) we can greatly reduces the stress on a child's visual system. This helps to reduce reversals, "wiggling words," and skipping of words.

### **What's included in this Craft Right Brain Reader purchase?**

1. A leveled Reader of your choice
2. Right Brain "Instant Success" Sight Word Cards for each story.
3. Colored Reading Transparencies *(to ease the eye strain while reading)*.
4. Ongoing support via email. [craft@ecentral.com](mailto:craft@ecentral.com)

## Who benefits from this unique Right Brain approach to reading?

1. Any student who is working too hard to read  
*(Watch them bloom with these Right Brain tools)*
2. Students in the low reading group  
*(These wonderful struggling readers who are usually reading a year behind their grade level)*
3. Auditory Processing Problems  
*(Those who can't remember words or sounds easily...applying phonics is a mystery to them)*
4. Any student with an IEP for reading  
*(Originally created for Resource Room students, many of whom were labeled "twice exceptional" ....or gifted with a glitch)*
5. ESL *(English as a Second Language)*  
*(Right Brain, visual/picture imbedding method works so well for this population)*
6. Any beginning reader  
*(Prevent problems before they start! With the "Instant Success" Right Brain Sight Word Cards, and Right Brain Phonics Cards, this is the fastest start for any student)*

## Right Brain Teaching Strategies

Are all struggling students right brain learners? No. We call right brain teaching, "Plan B: We know that the right brain is more of our "visual" brain. It works best and stores information better when color, picture, emotion and meaning are attached to the data. The right brain is our long-term memory storage unit.

We call teaching that is more left brain in its approach, "Plan A". The left-brain tends to be more "auditory" and data driven, learning facts that are unrelated easily. When a student is struggling with learning, it is often best to try a completely different approach. Since most reading programs rely on the more left brain strengths of auditory memorization of phonemes, phonics rules, and sight words, we change the teaching technique to include more strategies that teach to the right brain strengths such as picture, humor, story, color and emotion. This process takes the stress out of the system for a student with an Auditory Processing Problem.

We can think of this as the "Universal Learning Method" because pictures are the universal method of communication. As we know, "A picture is worth a thousand words."

## Why no pictures?

Our struggling readers are very bright, and quickly learn to “guess” at words on the page by using the picture as their guide. They often appear to be able to read much better than they can, by using this method very expertly. It is only when they need to read a page without pictures that we realize how dependent they had become on picture-clues. Thus, we have found for this population, that it is best to omit the pictures.

That’s why we call these, “The Boring Little Books That Always Work!”

## Guide for Daily Reading Sessions

How do I use these Readers?

### Three options to achieve reading success:

(Depending on the level of needs of the student, and the time available for reading)

**Option #1:** Using Right Brain Readers Only (*20-30 minute session*)

For students with mild-moderate reading difficulties

**Option #2:** Using Right Brain Readers plus Right Brain Phonics Book  
(*35-45 minute session*)

For students with moderate reading difficulties

**Option #3:** Using Right Brain Readers with Right Brain Phonics Practice plus Brain Integration Therapy. (*45 minute-1 hour session*)

For “brittle” readers

## Option #1

For the student with “mild to moderate” reading difficulties

### **Success using the Readers** (20-30 minutes...4 days/week)

#### ***What does an Option #1 reading session look like using these unique readers?***

Each student should have his/her own reading book.

**Step 1:** Right Brain Sight Word Cards... Talk about the zany pictures imbedded in the Sight Words for the story. Practice the Sight Words together by taking a mental “picture” of them. Then keep the cards on the table during the oral reading.

**Step 2:** Pre-Reading...practice reading the words from the Pre-Reading list in the front of the story. Some use a flip chart or white board to write the words in colored marker, to review quickly all week at the beginning of each lesson.

**Step 3:** Oral Reading... Have students take turns reading a short passage aloud, correcting them as little as possible.

Begin a new story the next day, but before you do, review the Sight Word Cards from the previous story and Pre-Reading words before teaching any new words. No need to re-read the stories, since there is so much repetition built into the stories.

(For more details see the Daily Lesson Plans for a Struggling Reader in downloadable form on website, [www.diannecraft.org](http://www.diannecraft.org))

## Option #2

For the student with moderate reading difficulties

### **More success** (35-45 minute session)

**Replace.** *Replace* your traditional phonics program with the Right Brain Phonics Book. With these additional Right Brain strategies, you will experience even more success with your students. Using the Right Brain Phonics Cards, you will see much faster success with decoding words. No writing. No rules. No memorization. This method only uses the Right Brain Phonics cards, lists of words with the decoding unit in color for easy reading, and daily oral practice using these specific, imbedded Right Brain Teaching Strategies. Kids feel so smart using these cards and practice method.

(For more details see the Daily Lesson Plans for a Struggling Reader in downloadable form on website, [www.diannecraft.org](http://www.diannecraft.org))

### ***What does an Option #2 reading session look like using the readers plus the phonics practice?***

**Step 1:** Oral Decoding Practice from the Right Brain Phonics Book (*Detailed instructions on how to use these colorful word lists can be found in the front of the Right Brain Phonics Book*)

*This daily oral decoding practice can be done with each student having a copy of the Right Brain Phonics Book in front of them, or using a Smart Board or Opaque Projector with the list of words in color.*

*When teaching more than one student at a time, it is best to have the phonics card (decoding unit....such as “au/aw” or “oi/oy”) that you are using for that lesson, clearly visible to all for quick retrieval. If the students have their own book, they will have the Right Brain Decoding Unit (card) in front of them on each page.*



*Set the timer for 15 minutes.*

*During the 15 minutes, each student takes a turn reading (decoding) a word in the list. If he/she has trouble with the word, re-write it, with a colored marker on blank paper or a white board, etc. Make it larger. Show the right brain phonics card again. They usually “get” the word after working with it in that manner. Thus, they will become more confident each day with this “code” reading with the aid of color and picture.*

*Stop reading when the timer goes off. The next day you will start your session on the same page, and continue to read words with the decoding unit in color for 15 minutes. We do this four days a week. We are not reading to mastery, but to expose the child’s “camera” to the phoneme and its’ sound, visually. (These instructions are also in the front of the Right Brain Phonics Book.) This is so worth the time. Rapid progress is seen using this method. No writing, No Rules and No Memorization makes it so much easier for students to quickly learn how to decode words.*

**Step 2:** *Sight Word introduction.... (As in Option #1)*

**Step 3:** *Pre-Reading.... (As in Option #1)*

**Step 4:** *Oral Reading.... (As in Option #1)*

## Option #3

For the student with significant reading difficulties

### **Most success** *(for very brittle readers)* (45 minute-1 hour session)

For students who experience **reversals** in reading or writing (on/no, was/saw), or have an **Auditory Processing Problem** or an **IEP** or test **2 years behind in reading**, I incorporated the powerful daily midline exercises found in the **Brain Integration Therapy Manual**. This made a huge difference in my students' processing abilities, (eye tracking ability; auditory Processing...hearing sounds and syllables in words; and writing processing...fluency, spacing, etc.).

I used this method for my most brittle readers, and those with dyslexic-like tendencies. In my Resource Room, I almost always saw a **two-year growth in one year** with these very struggling readers (two or more years behind in reading), when I used the Three Pronged Approach of:

1) Craft Right Brain Readers; 2) Right Brain Phonics Practice; 3) Brain Integration Therapy. It was most gratifying to see the students change from experiencing failure to success as the teaching year unfolded.

In my years in the classroom working with struggling learners, and in my private clinic , Child Diagnostics, Inc., in Denver for fifteen years, I have seen nothing else that reduces learning blocks and disabilities in children and teens faster and better than Brain Integration Therapy with its' daily targeted midline exercises and the powerful once-a-week individual Brain Trainings. You will actually see reading and writing reversals be greatly reduced or usually totally eliminated in nine months, no matter what age the student is. It is the most remarkable tool I have found to greatly reduce the effect of Auditory Processing Problems. Students find they can sequence auditory information, sound out long words, and remember the names of words, after doing the Brain exercises for the school year. I have never found this method of using the body to strengthen brain connections to be ineffective. It is my greatest weapon in my battle to release students from dyslexia, auditory processing problems, dysgraphia, dyspraxia, and memory issues.

If you have the time, this would be the most thorough remediation method. However, not all students need this more intensive approach. You will decide what works best for your student. Again, for more details on how to use these three teaching/therapy methods with your struggling students, download the free Daily Lesson Plans for the Struggling Reader from my website.

**What does an Option #3 reading session look like using the 1) Readers; 2) Right Brain Phonics practice; 3) and Brain Integration Therapy?**

**For a 45 minute- 1 hour daily remedial reading session with a small group:**

**Monday – Thursday:**

**Step 1:** Brain Integration Therapy Exercises

Do the daily exercises (cross crawls, ear eights and toe touch done all together. Eye eights are best done one-on-one if possible)

Do the Writing Eights exercise together (1/2 the alphabet each day)

**Step 2:** Oral Decoding Practice from the Right Brain Phonics Book

**Step 3:** Sight Word introduction

**Step 4:** Pre-Reading

**Step 5:** Oral Reading

**Friday:**

This day was dedicated to Brain Integration Therapy in the classroom. Instead of doing the daily exercises, the students are worked with, one-on-one, doing the appropriate **Brain Training** (either for the Visual Processing system, the Writing system, or the Auditory Processing System...according to the schedule laid out in the Brain Integration Therapy Manual).

While I worked with the students doing the one-on-one Brain Training (most powerful intervention) in a corner of the room, I had the other students listen to stories on CD. That way they enjoyed the time learning, and I didn't have anything to correct.

This Brain Training must be done one-on-one. While it may be tempting to do this with a small group of students, it has no value when done with a group, in my experience. Believe me.

As you progress through the year, you will see progress right away, but you generally will see a big leap by Christmas. It will be like the floodgates of learning have opened up for most of your students. It is so worth the extra effort!!

**What about the lesson for that day?**

In my Resource Room the reading lesson on Friday was listening to a classical story on CD. This freed up the time I needed to rotate the students doing the one-on-one individual Brain Training.

Many teachers of small groups did the exercises and Brain Trainings and teaching, as I did. However, I

have worked as a consultant with some schools who have employed a helper (usually an interested mom or a para-pro) who they trained to do the exercises and once –a- week individual Brain Trainings. These helpers pulled out the students one by one into a nearby room to do the once a week Brain Training. This way the teacher could use Friday to do another reading session. But the reality is, that most schools, have only one teacher in charge of their program. This four-day a week teaching and one day a week brain training schedule worked very well, and brought huge benefits by the end of the year.

It is so important to find a way to get the 15-20 minute once-a-week Brain Training session done with each student. This is what eliminates the blocked learning gates so that the child can make the two-year growth in reading and writing by the end of the school year.

The success of this reading program was based on four days a week of direct instruction with an individual or small group.

**IF** you have already done the individual once-a-week Brain Trainings with the students during the week, then you can follow this schedule for your Friday reading session:

**Step 2:** *Oral Phonics practice*

**Step 3:** *Sight Word introduction*

**Step 4:** *Pre-Reading*

**Step 5:** *Oral Reading*

## **Some “Nitty Gritty” Details**

I usually had about 5 students come to my Resource Room at one time for a reading session. I had tested them previously, so that I knew they were fairly homogeneous in their needs. (i.e., beginning reading, or dysgraphia/spelling, etc.) just so I could work in a group as much as possible. They were usually at about the same level of learning (not grade, of course).

When the students first came into the classroom, we all did the Brain Integration exercises together. I had them stand on a masking tape line I had placed on the floor, and stood in front of them modeling the exercises. I called out the exercises like a "sergeant". For the ear eight, I did it with them (I frequently had my hands on one of them helping them) saying, "around up, cross the midline up, around up, cross the midline up, around up, cross the midline up...change arms, around up....etc."

For the eye eight exercise some of them had to stand still while I worked with one at a time, if they made their circles too wide, too fast, or didn't keep their eyes on their thumb. This is such an important one, that I frequently had to do it one on one while the others waited.

Then we sat down and did the writing eight together, while I called out, " up and around 1, up and around 2, up and around 3, 'a', up and around 1, up and around 2, up and around 3, 'b'....etc.) for the entire alphabet. If some of them went too fast or too sloppy then they received a "lunch voucher" from me, inviting them to eat their lunch with me in the classroom, after which we did the writing eight together one on one. That was very effective. I told them I loved their company and hoped they would join me for lunch and the writing eight more often. Of course, that was not their desire. (However, I found that I always enjoyed their company).

We are looking forward to working with you! Feel free to email me questions about your students, (no names, of course), and I will help you think through the next step. [craft@ecentral.com](mailto:craft@ecentral.com)

## **Craft Right Brain Reader Placement Test Instructions**

**By Dianne Craft, MA, CNHP, [www.diannecraft.org](http://www.diannecraft.org)**

The Placement Test for The Craft Right Brain Readers is designed to place students at the appropriate reading level. This starting point of instruction should allow the student a chance to perform at a level that is comfortable for him/her. This “instructional level” is found by using the attached word lists. The word lists will correspond to an appropriate Craft Right Brain Reader. Again, our goal is to find a level that feels “just right” for our readers. We don’t want them to be frustrated during this process.

The word lists cover phonetic words and common sight words for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade. If your child tests at a 3<sup>rd</sup> grade level or above, then you will need to use the Quick Score Reading Test, which is also enclosed in this reading packet. The red spiraled, Right Brain Phonics Program book will still be the main teaching manual, up to 5<sup>th</sup> grade, but the books the student will read a “story” from may be different than our Craft Right Brain Readers. At this point, we do not have all of the Craft Right Brain Readers available. Eventually, our goal is to have readers up through the end of 3<sup>rd</sup> grade.

### **Our Population:**

In designing this assessment we have taken our population into consideration. Often these children/teens have been identified as struggling readers, many times with Dyslexia (*two or more years behind in reading, with frequent reading and auditory reversals*). Remember that these bright, hardworking, but very brittle readers will often know a word one day, and not the next. They may know a word on one list, but not another. Their words often scramble, or the letters reverse as they look at them. They may be able to read harder words, and then struggle with easier ones. Fluent reading is not what they do. They may need to stop and sound words out, rather than just reading them, “fluently.”

That’s why we ask, as you start this assessment process, that you use your best judgment/common sense when counting errors. We have not come up with all the “possibilities” of how a struggling reader could read, or misread words. That’s why we give a larger margin of word errors for these children than most assessments would. We know our population. They are the ones you have in front of you every day... puzzling in so many ways. But they are so bright, and so easily taught when we use the right methods.

Our method is a Three-Pronged Approach: 1) Brain Integration Therapy; 2) Right Brain Teaching Strategies; 3) Targeted Nutritional Interventions, that brings us the success we are looking for.

### **Test Administration:**

Find a quiet place to work. Before you get started, you may find it helpful to have blank paper and magic markers available, so you won't have to interrupt testing.

Start the student on List #1-A, no matter where you think he is. If the words are too easy, that will be positive for the child. If some of them are hard, then you know where to begin your remediation.

To help the child feel less nervous while taking the assessment, DON'T use watches to keep track of time or write down errors. Keep track of errors and time in your head...(don't worry, you only need to count to 5 and 10).

Have the student read the word list, starting from the top. Use a blank piece of paper to cover up all the words on the list, except for the word the child is reading. Tell the student to read the words on the list the best he can. If reading the word list is challenging for your child, you may get better results by writing one word at a time from the list, with magic marker, on a separate piece of paper. Often, when the word is written out in front of the child, with no teacher coaching, he will feel more confident sounding out the new word. This is because the word is written larger, and not on a "test" paper.

If your child/student pauses at a word for more than **10** seconds, tell him he can skip that word and continue to the next. If he says a word incorrectly, you can ask him to read it again. If it is still incorrect, just say, "Thank you" and move on. (DON'T tell them the word.) Count these both as errors. (In your HEAD, remember, you can do it!)

As mentioned above, most of these children will have to sound out the words and will struggle with their fluency; we still count the word as correct, as long as we are NOT giving clues to the child as he is attempting to read the word. If your child reads a word wrong, and then corrects it, this is also considered correct.

### **Test Conclusions:**

If the student misses 0-5 words on a list, this level is considered his Independent Level. The Independent Level would be too easy for your child. This level of reader would be one the student would read recreationally, not instructionally. Have the student read the next higher list, if available.

If the student misses 6-10 words on a list, this is the Instructional Level we are striving for. This should be the appropriate level of text for them.

If the student misses 11- or more words on a list (not necessarily in a row, but in the whole column), then this reading level is too difficult for your student. This is the Frustration Level. Stop testing and start at the list just before that word list. This should be his Instructional Level.

What happens if your student is basically a “non-reader” and gets many of the words wrong, or can’t even attempt them in the first reading list? (Those are our favorite students, by the way.) If he gets more than 15-20 words wrong in List #1-A, you would still start with the very first reader. By introducing the sight words slowly, like we do in the Craft Right Brain Readers, your child will soon get these words. Also, starting with basic sounds in the First Reader and the Right Brain Phonics Reading Book, and by using the Right Brain Phonics Cards and Sight Word Cards, (which should always be on the table in front of the child), he will begin to learn these words...even when other methods have failed. By using these right brain methods along with the Brain Integration Therapy, more connections to the long-term memory are being created. Just trust us. It will happen!

Lastly, remember these word lists are guides. You ultimately know your student best. Err on the side of caution. It’s better to start in an easier Reader and go up, then one that’s too challenging. Again, we don’t want to frustrate the student. We want to help them feel successful, especially when it comes to reading.

Start with Reader #1-A (*At Bat!*) if the student missed 6-10 **or more** words in List #1-A.

Start with Reader #1-B (*The Big Win!*) if the child missed 6-10 words in List #1-B. Start

with Reader #1-C (*You Rock!*) if the child missed 6-10 words in List #1-C. Start with

Reader #2-A (*Looking Up!*) if the child missed 6-10 words in List #2-A.

Start with Reader #2-B (*Think Big*) if the child missed 6-10 words in list #2-B

Start with Reader #2-C (*Grand Slam*) if the child missed 6-10 words in list #2-C

Start with Reader #2-D (*Game On!*) if the child missed 6-10 words in list #2-D

\*\*\*Be sure to use the “Daily Lesson Plans for the Struggling Reader” as your complete reading session each day. \*\*\*

If you find yourself struggling with questions and are really confused, you can email us questions at [craft@ecentral.com](mailto:craft@ecentral.com).

Dianne Craft, MA, CNHP



## Craft Right Brain Reader Placement Tests

### **List #1-A (*At Bat!*)**

my  
hat  
look  
pat  
mad  
van  
tap  
naps  
ham  
lad  
bam  
rag  
see  
lab  
fan  
dab  
cap  
jam  
her  
jab  
wag  
sat  
bad  
an  
his  
pan  
map  
by  
yam  
she

### **List #1-B (*The Big Win!*)**

are  
mix  
fit  
pin  
kid  
said  
rid  
fig  
dim  
lip  
little  
cut  
bun  
rub  
pug  
have  
jug  
pup  
yum  
suds  
happ  
y six  
took  
from  
bit  
wig  
rim  
zip  
with

**List #1-C (*You Rock!*)**

fog  
cop  
cot  
box  
bet  
good  
fed  
men  
peg  
sell  
down  
very  
mill  
hiss  
kick  
mock  
duck  
chap  
play  
math  
thick  
fuss  
batch  
pitch  
wick  
make  
bench  
punch  
they  
less

**List #2-A (*Looking Up!*)**

shop  
shack  
fish  
hash  
hall  
hang  
song  
king  
ripped  
begged  
missing  
hummi  
ng mend  
wind  
fond  
dent  
pants  
sink  
ban  
k last  
fist  
chest  
mask  
gift  
left  
kept  
help  
belt  
milk  
jump

<b>Level 2-B (<i>Think Big!</i>)</b>	<b>Level 2-C (<i>Grand Slam!</i>)</b>	<b>Level 2-D (<i>Game On!</i>)</b>
chest	floss	blame
nest	flap	tame
vest	slim	rake
past	sled	alive
last	clam	tape
dust	clock	safe
must	glum	cane
fist	glob	side
mist	bliss	pipe
dump	black	wife
jump	pluck	male
camp	plot	brave
task	grill	rose
mask	grip	cove
desk	drop	bone
disk	dress	jeep
gift	crab	street
loft	crush	tree
soft	fret	heel
belt	frog	mail
welt	trim	paid
milk	trap	rain
silk	bring	hair
hulk	skip	weak
sulk	stem	leaf
bank	swam	star
thank	brand	farm
sink	spend	baking
bunk	slant	diving
junk	mint	smiled