Technology and Learning Connections

Increasing student achievement through the systemic alignment of technology, policies, and curriculum in a multi-tiered system of supports.

About Us

The Technology & Learning Connections (TLC) Team is a part of Florida's Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) through the Problem Solving/ Response to Intervention Project at the University of South Florida. Our services support the local development of highly effective classrooms for all students in a multi-tiered system of supports.

The TLC Team provides guidelines and resources to support the implementation of:

- The Florida Standards
- Assistive & Instructional Technology
- Accessible Instructional Materials
- Universal Design for Learning

Our staff includes Regional Technology Coordinators and Regional Technology Specialists housed at Assistive Technology & Universal Design for Learning Centers. Check the back page of this brochure for contact information.

The Team also supports the Regional and District Local Assistive Technology Specialists and their activities.

MTSS Online Resources

Florida's MTSS — A Multi-Tiered System of Supports

Technology & Learning Connections
www.tlc-mtss.com

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Florida's MTSS Projects .
www.florida-rti.org

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Florida's MTSS Technical Assistance Contacts . www.floridarti.usf.edu/contact/mtss_ta/index.html

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Problem Solving/Response to Intervention Project .
www.floridarti.usf.edu/

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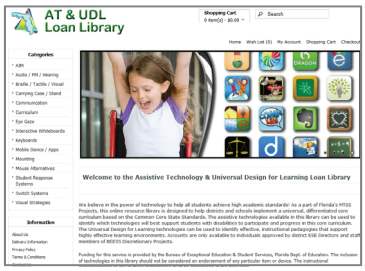
Florida's Positive Behavior Support Project . http://flpbs.fmhi.usf.edu/

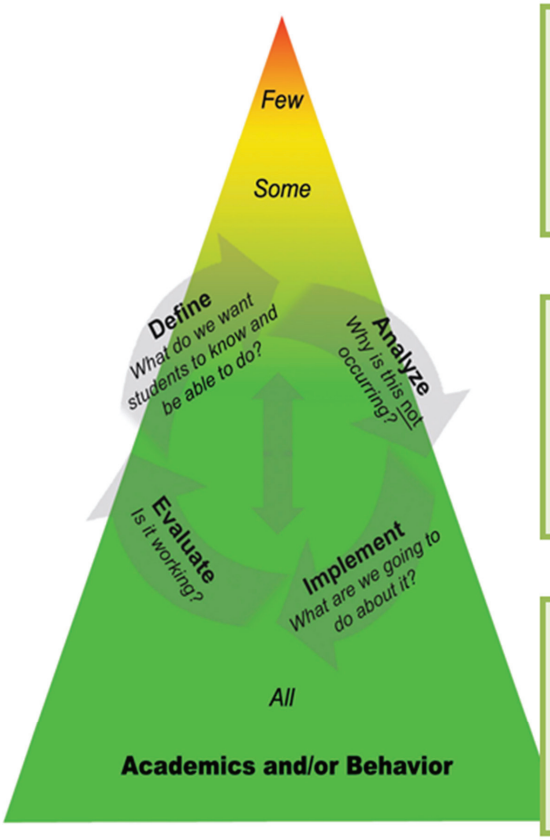
Resources



Assistive Technology & Universal Design for Learning Loan Library

The AT & UDL Loan Library provides access to assistive technologies and UDL technologies. The Library services are designed to help ensure students with disabilities have access to the general curriculum and to help schools implement highly effective classrooms based on UDL Principles and 21st Century Skills. BEESS discretionary project staff, Local Assistive Technology Specialists (LATS), Regional Local Assistive Technology Specialists (RLATS), and other district authorized users are able to request and check out equipment. http://www.at-udl.net

What is an MTSS that Uses Student-Centered, Response to Instruction/Intervention Data?



Intensive, Individualized Supports

- Intensive interventions based on individual student needs
- Students receiving prolonged interventions may be several grade levels behind or ahead
- Progress monitoring occurs the most frequently to ensure maximum acceleration
- If more than 5% of students are receiving support at this level, engage in Tier 1 and Tier 2 problem-solving

Targeted, Supplemental Supports

- Interventions based on data revealing that students need more than core, universal instruction
- Interventions and progress monitoring are targeted to specific skills to remediate or enrich, as appropriate
- Progress monitoring occurs more frequently to ensure that the intervention is working
- If more than 15% of students are receiving support at this level, engage in Tier 1 problem-solving

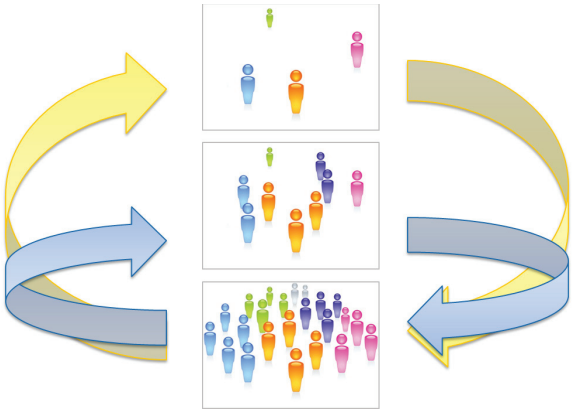
Core, Universal Supports

- Research-based, high-quality, general education instruction and support
- Screening and benchmark assessments for all students
- Assessments occur for all students
- Data collection continues to inform instruction
- If less than 80% of students are successful given core, universal instruction, engage in Tier 1 problem-solving

Problem Solving with Technology

Technology can provide a wide range of problem solving solutions at each Tier. For example, all students should be active and independent learners, regardless of the level of supports being provided. Reading support tools, such as text-to-speech utilities, can enable a struggling reader to independently participate in lessons based on the comprehension instructional sequence. Digital writing tools and digital graphic organizers can support active student participation in written response activities. When working with students receiving Tier 2 and Tier 3 supports, consider using technology to increase the students' levels of active, independent engagement and participation in the interventions and instructions being provided.

Problem Solving within Tiers



As you increase the levels of support and start to problem solve in those Tiers, look for highly effective technology solutions in Tier 2 or Tier 3 that can be implemented in Tier 1 or Tier 2. Moving technology solutions can increase the effectiveness of a lower Tier for all students.

Increase Levels of Engagement (Academic, Psychological, Social)

Technology can provide a highly diverse and creative set of tools and solutions to help increase active student engagement, intrinsic motivation, a positive classroom and school climate, and decrease disengagement.

Academic—"I can"

Provide curriculum based technology supports for reading, writing, math, and science. Use graphic rich, interactive simulations to help students understand math and science concepts. Make task and time management tools available that can also be accessed at home. Provide school and home access to online help systems so students can get support "just-in-time." Teach students digital citizenship, global/cultural awareness, and 21st century skills.

Psychological—"I want to"

Teach students self-discipline and impulse control through apps that target self-awareness, stress management, and anger management. Provide class and life organization tools to help students become self-confident in their ability to plan and problem solve independently. Teach students to use personal calendars. Provide tools that help students set goals and then monitor their own progress. Give students quick access to their grades.

Social—"I belong"

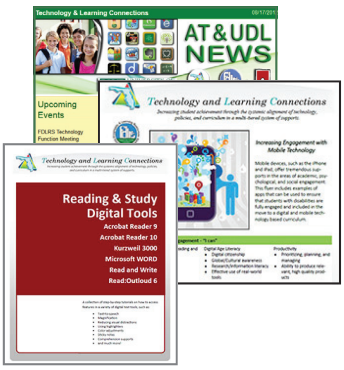
Increase student understanding of diverse cultures and customs. Use the Internet and secure social media apps to connect diverse groups of students. Provide conflict resolution apps and online tools. Support group learning activities with online collaborative whiteboards. Use group project tools to connect students in project based activities. Build learning communities of students with virtual meeting software and online blended learning services.

Disproportionality

The goal of an MTSS is positive student growth and performance data with no disproportionate representation of student subgroups (e.g. race, economically disadvantaged, students with disabilities, etc.). When problem solving for disproportionality, consider the following:

- Ensure assistive technology supports for all students with disabilities.
- Provide all instructional materials in accessible formats and media.
- Provide online access to multicultural information, resources, and materials.
- Provide digital access to instructional materials in multiple languages.

Resources



AT & UDL Newsletter . News on applying assistive technology & Universal Design for Learning in an MTSS . sign up at http://bit.ly/1UdHS3I

Academic, Psychological, & Social Engagement Apps for iOS Mobile Devices Handout . download at http://www.efdlrs.net/docs/Engagement_Apps_All_Grades_Handout.pdf

Reading & Study Digital Tools . Tutorials on using a wide variety of digital tools (e.g. highlighting, magnification, commenting) in programs like Acrobat, WORD, and others . download at http://www.tlc-mtss.com/assets/digital_tools.pdf

Technology & Learning Connections Contact Information

David Davis, State Coordinator, david@tlc-mtss.com
Suite N - Danley Building, 4440 Lafayette Street
Marianna, FL 32446
850-778-1641

Region 1 AT & UDL Technology Center
Judy Peacock, Region 1 Technology Coordinator, judypeacock@usf.edu
4286 Woodbine Road, Suite A, Pace, FL 32571
toll free - 1-844-317-7784

Region 2 AT & UDL Technology Center
Gary Pearcy, Region 2 Technology Coordinator, gmpearcy@usf.edu
111 W. Main St., Suite 200, Inverness, FL 34450
toll free - 1-844-365-3045

Region 3 AT & UDL Technology Center
Janet Good, Region 3 Technology Coordinator, jgood@usf.edu
4558 S. Clyde Morris Blvd. Suite 2, Port Orange, FL 32129
toll free - 1-844-848-8936

Region 4 AT & UDL Technology Center
Dr. Tara Jeffs, Region 4 Technology Coordinator, tjeffs@usf.edu
5328 Primrose Lake Circle, Suite B, Tampa, FL 33647
toll free - 1-844-873-2127

Region 5 AT & UDL Technology Center
Tony Dutra, Region 5 Technology Coordinator, tdutra@usf.edu
2514 Hollywood Blvd., Suite 508, Hollywood, Fl 33020
toll free - 1-844-705-4385

Regional Local Assistive Technology Specialists (R-LATS)

Saundra Brooker - saundra.brooker1@jcsb.org - Calhoun, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Walton, Washington

Missy West - Melissa.West@wcsb.us - Franklin, Gadsden, Jefferson, Liberty, Madison, Taylor, Wakulla

Cheryl Libbert - libbertc@columbiak12.com - Baker, Columbia, Hamilton, Lafayette, Nassau, Suwannee

Teresa Pinder - pindert@levy.k12.fl.us - Bradford, Dixie, Flagler, Gilchrist, Levy, Sumter, Union

Kennon Alderman - kennon.alderman@desoto.k12.fl.us - DeSoto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands, Monroe, Okeechobee

Local Technology Service Partners

The Florida Diagnostic & Learning Resources System (FDLRS): providing services in the areas of Childfind, HRD, Parent Services, and Technology; including local TA&D, professional development, and capacity building in the areas of accessible instructional materials, assistive & Instructional technologies, UDL, and online learning supports.

Local Assistive Technology Specialists (LATS): providing local support for assistive technology assessments, evaluations, and related assistive technology services.