



## August Update 2014

The Read to Achieve program (RTA) was established in 2005 by the Kentucky General Assembly. RTA is a reading diagnostic and intervention program designed to ensure all students read proficiently by the end of the primary grades. The 2014/2015 Read to Achieve grant will be implemented in 321 schools across the state, 66 of which are new to the program.

This is my third year as the Read to Achieve Coordinator. I am a graduate of the University of Kentucky and worked in the Scott County School District most of my teaching career.

My email address is [Judith.Halasek@education.ky.gov](mailto:Judith.Halasek@education.ky.gov) and my phone number is 502-564-4970 extension 4101. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

## Responsibilities of RTA Teachers

Administer a diagnostic assessment to all primary students in the fall and spring of the school year

Plan and deliver daily individualized intervention instruction

Monitor the attendance and progress of each student using research recommended progress monitoring tools

Collect, analyze and interpret assessment data

Submit program reports to the RTA coordinator three times a year

Complete student information on the Intervention Tab in IC

Participate in quarterly webcasts hosted by the RTA coordinator and pursue other professional development on research-based reading interventions

## Responsibilities of RTA Principals

Monitor the implementation of the RTA grant program

Monitor the progress/ effectiveness of the grant and its impact on struggling readers

## Important Dates

August 26 – First Required Webcast

September 15 – Program Evaluation Report Due

October 31- Student information due in the Intervention Tab

November 18 – Second Required Webcast

## Contacts

Every teacher and principal of an RTA school should receive this newsletter. If you know of someone who is not on the contact list and wishes to be, please let me know. If you are receiving this update and want to be removed from the contact list I also need to know that.

## RTA Information

[Education.ky.gov](http://Education.ky.gov)  
Type RTA Resources in search box

or

[Judith.Halasek@education.ky.gov](mailto:Judith.Halasek@education.ky.gov)  
502-564-4970 extension 4101

## Webcasts

There will be four required webcasts for all RTA teachers per year. The first one is August 26 and the link will be sent that morning. Within that week, verification will need to be sent to me at KDE that the webcast was viewed and EILA certificates will be awarded. One hour of credit will be earned. All webcasts can be accessed on the media portal and on the RTA page of the KDE website. All webcasts except for the August one can be accessed through CIITS and can be added to your PD Profile.

## Intervention Tab

All RTA students' names and intervention information should be entered in the Intervention Tab by October 31. Explicit directions for completing this will be explained in the August webcast. There is also a step-by-step video on the media portal. To access it, go to [mediaportal.education.ky.gov](http://mediaportal.education.ky.gov) and type **Infinite Campus Intervention Tab**.

## Program Evaluation Reports

There will be three program evaluation reports due this year on the following dates:

- September 15, 2014
- January 15, 2015
- May 15, 2015

These reports will be completed on Survey Monkey and explicit instructions for completing the report will be in the September newsletter.

## PD 360

PD 360 is an online on demand PD platform. There are videos about various topics important to educators.

Directions to access PD 360:

- Log on to CIITS at [ciits.kyschools.us](http://ciits.kyschools.us)
- Click on PD 360 in the lower left hand side of the home page of CIITS
- In the search box type the topic that is of interest
- Click on the videos to find one about that topic

Videos of interest to interventionists:

What is Differentiation

Engaging Families

Working with Students from a Culture of Poverty

Supporting Writing and Editing with Student Rubrics

Kindergarten Extended Classroom: Main Idea and Details

2<sup>nd</sup> Grade: Using Text Features

Using Visualization to Build Reading Skills - Elementary

Exploring Theme and Character in Fiction

1<sup>st</sup> Grade: Identifying Facts in a Variety of Informational Texts

2<sup>nd</sup> Grade: Main Ideas of an Informational Text



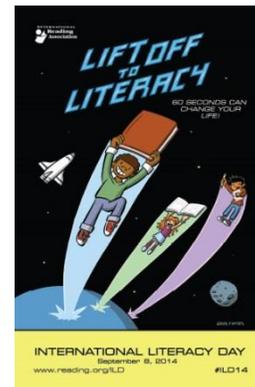
## Help Your Students "Lift Off to Literacy"

International Literacy Day (ILD) is going interplanetary to celebrate the power of literacy around the world!

For this year's celebration, "Lift Off to Literacy," the International Reading Association has partnered with NASA and Story Time From Space to inspire a literacy habit in your students.

Our mission begins **September 8, 2014**, the day the world celebrates International Literacy Day and the transformative power of literacy. How can you participate? Pledge to add an extra 60 seconds of literacy activities in your classroom for 60 days. It's that simple!

Not sure what to do for those extra 60 seconds? We've got you covered! Sign up at our ILD website ([www.reading.org/ILD](http://www.reading.org/ILD)) to pledge your participation and receive an activity kit of 60 fun, cross-curricular 60-second activities; by signing up, you'll be entered to win an out-of-this-world prize pack from NASA!



In addition, find other **FREE** resources to motivate and engage your students, including:

- The official ILD 2014 poster, designed by Dave Roman (graphic novelist of the Astronaut Academy series)
- A 60-day log to track your activities
- A sign to announce your class's participation and inspire other classrooms to join the mission
- Pre-designed banners for your personal or class blog and social media accounts

Share your participation by using **#ILD14** on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Instagram, or any other social media platform you use. Follow what others are doing and find related resources on our [ILD 2014 Pinterest board](#). We look forward to seeing photos, videos, and stories from your classrooms!

Won't you join our 60-for-60 mission?

Sign up NOW at [www.reading.org/ILD](http://www.reading.org/ILD)!

