

Washington Paraeducator Knowledge and Skill Requirements for Reading and Assisting with Instruction in Reading

Knowledge of Reading

The ability to understand and apply reading skills to interpret and analyze a wide range of text; including information, literary, and graphic text.

Assist with Instruction

Under the supervision of a highly qualified teacher and as part of an instructional team, the paraeducator has an awareness of Washington's Essential Academic Learning Requirements and assessment practices and is able to demonstrate specific instructional techniques to assist in instruction in reading readiness and reading:

The elements of **specific instructional techniques to support:**

Reading Readiness (developmentally appropriate, prerequisite skills) includes:

- Oral language development – vocabulary, syntax, listening, comprehension, discourse/conversation
- Phonological awareness
- Alphabetic principle
- Print awareness and concepts
- Book knowledge and appreciation

Reading includes:

- Phonemic awareness instruction (*EALR 1*)
- Building fluency to aid comprehension (*EALR 1*)
- Vocabulary building strategies (*EALR 1*)
- Know how to use text features/components in various kinds of text to aid comprehension (*EALR 2*)
- Understanding organizational structures of text and how to use that knowledge to find information in a text and organize it (*EALR 2*)
- Text comprehension instruction (*EALR 2*)
- Research-based comprehension strategies (*EALR 2*)
- Literacy elements and story structure (*EALR 2*)
- How to assist students in reading different materials for a variety of purposes (*EALR 3*)
- How to assess strengths and needs for improvement (*EALR 4*)

Washington Paraeducator Knowledge and Skill Requirements for Writing and Assisting with Instruction in Writing

Knowledge of Writing

The ability to understand the components and processes of writing and apply them as working knowledge to develop a topic or theme in a variety of forms for different audiences and purposes, using:

- Knowledge of the writing process, i.e., prewriting, drafting, revision, and editing
- Knowledge of the components of good writing, i.e., idea development, organization, voice, a variety of sentence structures and lengths, and word choice
- Knowledge of conventions
- Understand that writing changes for different audiences and purposes
- Individual and group editing techniques

Assist with Instruction

Under the supervision of a highly qualified teacher and as part of an instructional team, the paraeducator has an awareness of Washington's Essential Academic Learning Requirements and assessment practices and is able to demonstrate specific instructional techniques to assist in instruction in writing readiness and writing:

The elements of **specific instructional techniques to support:**

Writing Readiness (developmentally appropriate, prerequisite skills) includes:

- Purpose of writing: What print is used for?
- Composing: How to put ideas into print; using play, scribbles, pictures, dictation, and print to express ideas.
- Structure: How letters, words, and text are organized; letter shapes, names, organizing pictures and scribbles, and print on paper.
- Sound letter links: How to link sounds to letters.

Writing includes:

- How to use appropriate conventions, i.e., spelling, punctuation, capitalization, usage, paragraphing, and complete sentences (*EALR 1*)
- How to assist students to develop and focus and organize their ideas, make effective word choices, and vary sentence structures (*EALR 1*)
- How to write for different audiences and purposes, choosing appropriate forms and voice (*EALR 2*)
- How to use the steps of the writing process effectively (*EALR 3*)
- How to assist students to analyze and evaluate their own written work as well as the works of others (*EALR 4*)

Washington Paraeducator Knowledge and Skill Requirements for Mathematics and Assisting with Instruction in Mathematics

Knowledge of Mathematics

The ability to understand mathematical concepts and apply them as working knowledge to abstract and real-life situations in the areas of:

- Number Sense
- Measurement
- Geometry
- Data Analysis, Probability, and Statistics
- Algebra

Assist with Instruction

Under the supervision of a highly qualified teacher and as part of an instructional team, the paraeducator has an awareness of Washington's Essential Academic Learning Requirements and assessment practices and is able to demonstrate specific instructional techniques to assist in instruction in mathematics readiness and mathematics:

The elements of **specific instructional techniques to support:**

Mathematics Readiness (developmentally appropriate, prerequisite skills) include:

- Number and operations: writing and ordering, grouping and place values, composing and decomposing adding to/taking away equal (fairness)
- Geometry: Shapes, transformations and symmetry (slides, flips, turns), visualizations and spatial reasoning (size, position), locations, directions
- Measurement: Attributes, units techniques and tools
- Algebraic thinking (patterns and descriptions), data analysis (describing information using visual representations such as charts and graphs), predictions

Mathematics in understanding and applying concepts and procedures from:

- Number Sense – number and numeration, computation and estimation (*EALR 1*)
- Geometric Sense – properties and relationships and locations and transformations (*EALR 1*)
- Probability and Statistics – probability, statistics, and prediction and inference. (*EALR 1*)
- Algebraic Sense – patterns, representations, and operations (*EALR 1*)
- Measurement – attributes and dimensions, approximation and precisions, and systems and tools. (*EALR 1*)
- Problem Solving - investigate situations; formulate questions and define the problem, construct solutions (*EALR 2*)
- Mathematical Reasoning – analyze information from a variety of sources; predict results, and make conjectures; draw conclusions and verify results. (*EALR 3*)
- Communication (related to mathematics) - gather information; organize and interpret information; represent and share information (*EALR 4*)
- Connections – understand how mathematical ideas connect within mathematics, to other subject areas, and to real-life situations (*EALR 5*)

Assisting with instruction in mathematics also includes the:

- Use of manipulatives,
- Questioning strategies
- Techniques that support student thinking