

Using the Stevenson Program in Grades 6-12

This version of this information piece is temporary. We have recently published two important new books: *The Overlapping Strategy Teacher's Manual* and *The Overlapping Strategy Student Book*. Most teachers of students in Grades 6-12 who use the Stevenson Program will need these books. This information piece is being rewritten to include discussion on applying the new materials. In the revision, we will discuss four groups of students you see listed below. Most students will fall into Categories 2A and 2B, and you will apply the Overlapping Strategy with them. For now, we can suggest you use similar categories from our information piece entitled *Using the Stevenson Program in Grades K-5* to help you select materials. Although the details will differ, the list of books will be the same when the new 6-12 information piece is complete. You may also call us at 1-800-343-1211 and ask for a consultant if you would like help selecting books.

The Overlapping Strategy is a way of covering essential ingredients of Stevenson's Beginning Green Level and overlapping them with the second level, the Basic Blue. The way that the Stevenson Program is designed, all students need to start at the beginning one way or another. This approach allows them to build a solid foundation and to learn certain key mnemonic strategies that can be used with both simple one-syllable words and sophisticated multi-syllable words. By overlapping the content of the first two levels, older students can move through the program more quickly. To implement this strategy, teachers will need the two Overlapping Strategy books as well as the *Basic Blue Level Core Manual*, *Basic Blue Level Spelling Manual*, *Basic Blue Reading Books One, Two and Three* and *Workbooks A, B and C*. (Other supplementary materials are optional.) These books will be covered in approximately one academic year before the student moves on to the Intermediate Level of the Stevenson Program.

Category 1 **Students with Serious Learning Problems,** **Probably Including Cognitive Impairment**

These students will be reading at a very low level and perhaps they will even be non-readers. They will probably be developmentally delayed and/or have multiple learning issues. They will need to complete the full Beginning Green Level of the Stevenson Program. You can select the same materials for them as you would for the Category 5 students in the *Using the Stevenson Program in Grades K-5* piece.

Category 2A **Students with Moderate to Severe Specific Learning** **Disabilities, but Minimal or No Cognitive Impairment**

These students will be reading at second or third grade level. They may be severely dyslexic, have persistent blending problems and other issues, but they either will not be developmentally delayed or only mildly so. Their comprehension may be problematic, but not severely impaired. They will use the Overlapping Strategy, but require careful assistance and may require more than one year to complete the Basic Blue Level. You can select the same materials for them as you would for the Category 6 students in the *Using the Stevenson Program in Grades K-5* piece.

Category 2B
Students with Moderate Specific Learning
Disabilities and No Cognitive Impairment

These students will be reading at third or early fourth grade level, and they will spell worse than they read. They may be dyslexic or have other issues, but they will not have severe, persistent blending problems. They will not be developmentally delayed and their reading comprehension may be problematic, but not severely so. They will be able to use the Overlapping Strategy and finish the Basic Blue Level in one academic year or less. You can select the same materials for them as you would for Category 2A above (the same as Category 6 students in the *Using the Stevenson Program in Grades K-5* piece). However, these students will cover this material more quickly than Category 2A students. You will also be able to omit certain pages for them, and you will need to place more emphasis on spelling and less on reading.

Category 3
Students with Minimal Reading Problems
But Very Severe Spelling Issues

These students will be reading at a fourth, fifth or even sixth grade level, but they will have very severe spelling problems. This is a very challenging group with which to use the Stevenson materials, and we do not recommend that you use the program with them if you are brand new to Stevenson. In the future, we will produce an outline describing what materials to get and how to proceed with these students. However, currently we recommend you call us at 800-343-1211 if you want to try our methods with these pupils.