

#### September 29, 2016

In this edition of NIFDI News!

- Recently Published Paper Explores Problems with What Works Clearinghouse
- Academic Core Series Completed

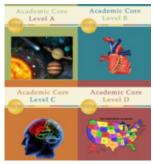
- Additional Member Resources Released
- Still Time to Register for Fall Professional Development!

If you have questions or need additional information, you can reach us at 877.485.1973 or info@nifdi.org.

# Recently Published Paper Explores Problems with What Works Clearinghouse

The What Works Clearinghouse (WWC) was established by Institute of Education Sciences to summarize the research evidence on curricular programs. Yet, WWC conclusions differ dramatically from those found in reviews and meta-analyses in the scholarly literature, and involve data from only a small portion of the available evidence. An article written by NIFDI Research staff and published in the American Journal of Evaluation explains why these discrepancies occur. An op-ed piece describing the conclusions and a link to a free download of the article can be found at <a href="http://www.socialsciencespace.com/2016/09/best-evidence-and-the-what-works-clearinghouse/">http://www.socialsciencespace.com/2016/09/best-evidence-and-the-what-works-clearinghouse/</a>

## Academic Core Series Completed



NIFDI is proud to announce availability of the complete 4-level Academic Core. Levels A-D can be ordered in the store at the NIFDI website.

Academic Core has been designed as a supplement to help teach students important science facts and information. It is a highly structured four-level program that ensures mastery of sophisticated information. Lessons are short... 15-20 minutes. The program includes a reward system to motivate and reinforce students. The general categories include Earth Science, Life Science, Physical Science, Measurement, and Geography of the United States. Specific topics for each category, the Teacher's Guide and a sample unit are available on each levels' web page. Academic Core is available exclusively through NIFDI for only \$129.00

per level plus shipping and handling. Buy 3 or more levels of Academic Core and use coupon code buy3 for a 16% discount! <u>Click here</u> to for additional information.

### Additional Member Resources Released

As a service to our membership, NIFDI periodically releases various resources to our members. This month we added three new files:

\* **2-Minute Observation Form-**allows the observer to get into and out of classrooms quickly by focusing on one and only one important aspect of instruction: on-task behavior. The main thing the form is designed to capture is the approximate percent or number of students that are following the teacher's instructions consistently.



\* **5-Minute Observation Form-**provides a broad overview of how a classroom is functioning. It focuses the observer on required fundamental elements. Without the basics established, students will not be able to benefit from the sophisticated design of the DI programs.



\* Lesson Progress Chart- Teachers and Assistants use this form to summarize and report lesson gains, mastery tests, and results and to communicate questions or comments to coaches and supervisors. Principals, coordinators, or coaches use this information to analyze the overall status of an implementation, to continuously monitor mastery and lesson progress and to determine areas that require change, and to identify solutions.

Members will find these documents when you log in and click on the Members Only Documents tab, found under the Members tab on the main web page. If you are not currently a member of NIFDI, <u>click here</u> to explore benefits and sign up!

There's Still Time to Register for Fall Professional Development!



NIFDI has two exciting professional development opportunities planned for this Fall. Join the National Institute for Direct Instruction (NIFDI) for our **Direct Instruction Leadership Academy** in Columbus, Ohio October 17 & 18. This two-day training, co-sponsored by McGraw-Hill Education, is designed for administrators, instructional coaches, curriculum directors and school board members and will focus on the essential features of a successful Direct Instruction (DI) implementation. For a complete brochure and registration information, <u>click here.</u>

On November 17 & 18, NIFDI will present **Analyzing Data, Classroom Observations & Providing Feedback, a Direct Instruction Coaching Academy**. This two-day training, co-sponsored by McGraw-Hill Education, is designed for instructional coaches, peer coaches and others responsible for observing instruction and improving student performance. For a complete brochure and registration information, <u>click here.</u>



Know other DI users or supporters who would benefit from receiving NIFDI News? Share this sign up link: <u>http://www.nifdi.org/component/content/article/61-uncategorised/226-nifdi-news-signup</u>. Interested parties can also sign up via their mobile device by texting NIFDI to 22828 to get started!

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