Step 1: **Inquire about the early identification of academic problems in neighborhood schools.**
- How are struggling students identified in grades K-2?
- What program(s) are used with these students?
- What is the evidence of effectiveness of these programs?
- How is implementation fidelity of these programs ensured?
- How is student success measured in grades K-2?
- What actions will be taken if the program is not successful?

Step 2: **Review resources on Direct Instruction’s evidence of effectiveness.**
- Clear Teaching on education-consumers.org website
- Searchable database of abstracts on NIFDI’s website (www.nifdi.org) of more than 130 research articles.
- Email NIFDI’s Research Department at research@nifdi.org.
- Videos and other resources on NIFDI’s website
- Research resources on McGraw-Hill website. Research is located under “Other Resources” when you click the “Learn More” button on the program’s page.

Handouts: The Research Base for Reading Mastery  
Scientifically Based Research  
Myths and Truths about Direct Instruction  
Unique Characteristics of Direct Instruction

Step 3: **Review what needs to be in place to make Direct Instruction a success.**
- Identify a high-level administrator who will ensure implementation of all aspects of the model.
- Arrange a phone conference with the National Institute for Direct Instruction.
- Garner additional support for the implementation.

Handouts: Essential elements  
Check-off form for new implementations

Step 4: **Visit a Model Direct Instruction School.**
- City Springs in Baltimore or other sites recommended by NIFDI

Handout: Profile of City Springs School, Baltimore

Step 5: **Contract with NIFDI to ensure that the implementation is a success.**
Handouts: NIFDI Services  
Implementation options  
NIFDI Advantage  
School data form

Step 6: **Once DI has been adopted, monitor the implementation in coordination with NIFDI.**