**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.