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In this edition of NIFDI News!

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

Newly Released Videos: Siegfried "Zig" Engelmann on Instruction

There are many myths and misperceptions related to Direct Instruction. We compiled a list of some of the most common ones and tried to find an expert to help us respond to them. Fortunately, we had the perfect spokesperson for the job... Zig Engelmann, creator of DI!

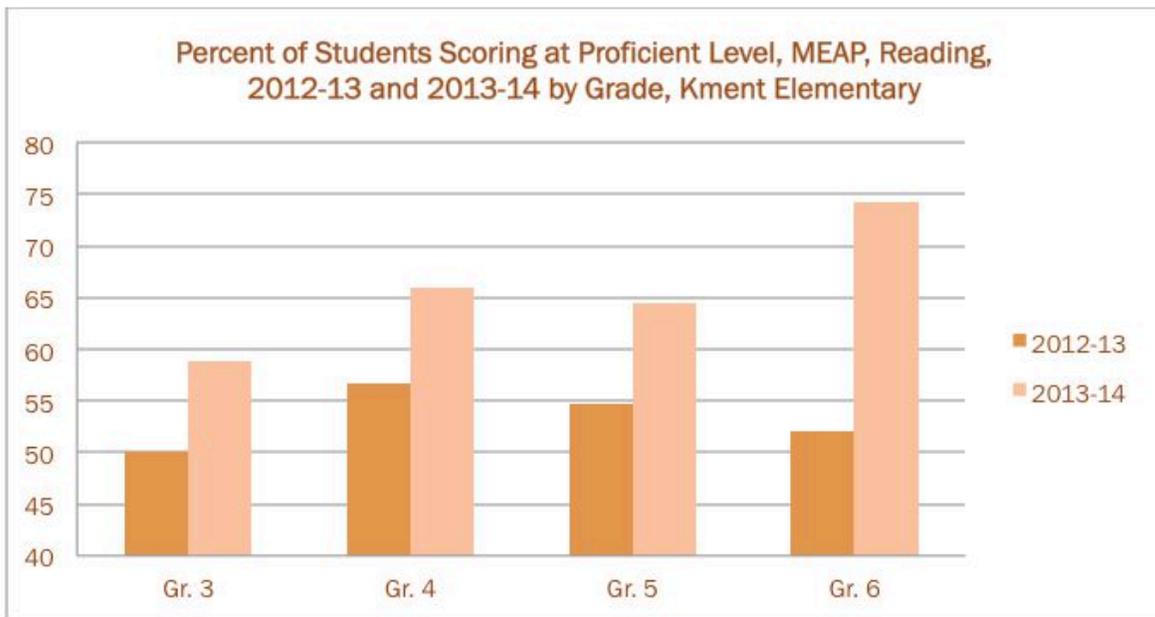
In these five short (2-3 minute) [videos](#), Zig tackles topics ranging from rote learning to higher order thinking skills to teacher creativity. DI users may find them useful to be able to help educate others on some key features of DI programs. NIFDI members may recognize these videos, as they were previously available only to our members in the Members-Only portion of our website.



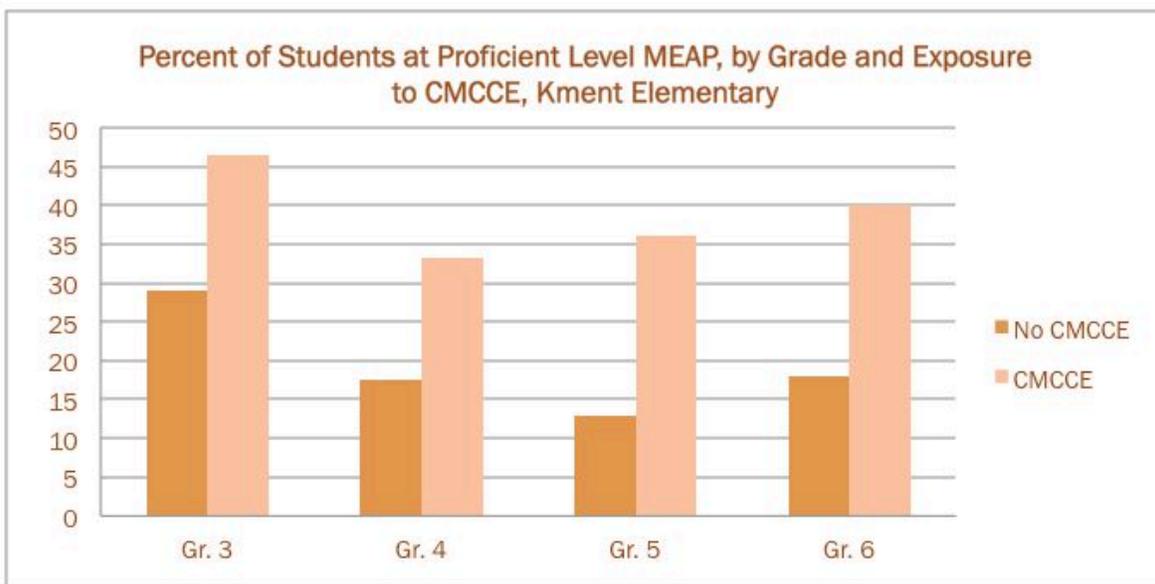
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Michigan Students Demonstrate Growth on Standardized Assessments with DI Programs

Students in Roseville, Michigan are demonstrating significant growth in reading and math competencies after Kment School District introduced Direct Instruction at district elementary schools in the fall of 2012. The implementation began with *Corrective Reading* as an intensive intervention for low performing students in 4th and 5th grade while *Reading Mastery* was concurrently introduced as a core program for students in kindergarten through grade 2. The next year, the district added grades 3 and 4 to the implementation, and by 2015, all seven elementary schools in the district were implementing Direct Instruction in kindergarten through grade 5. The efforts are paying off. In 2012, only half of Kment Elementary's 3rd graders were passing the state exam. Just a year later, nearly 60% were passing. The performance of the cohorts is also improving. The group of 3rd graders who had a 50% pass rate in 2012-13 had nearly 70% of the group passing the following year.

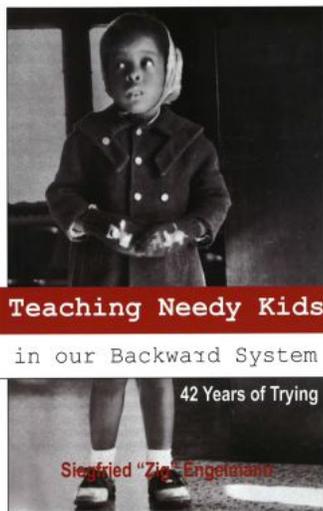


With the success Kment was finding with Direct Instruction reading programs, the district rolled out DI math programs shortly after. The model was similar to reading. One site, Kment, began using *Connecting Math Concepts: Comprehensive Edition (CMCCE)* as the core math program school wide, K through 4. The following year, the other six elementary schools added the math program, and this fall, all seven Kment elementary schools will add level five of *CMCCE*. Results of implementing DI math programs has yielded positive results, as well. In the fall of 2013 when the district introduced *CMCCE*, only 48% of the students scored at the Tier 1 level on the AIMSweb measure of Computational Skills (COMP) and even fewer (37%) were at this level on the measure of Concepts and Applications (CAP). By the spring of 2014, after only one year of instruction with *CMCCE*, 80% of the students were in Tier 1 on the measure of Computations and 62% were in Tier 1 on the measure of Concepts and Applications.



NIFDI's Department of Research has released a [technical report](#) with additional details of the results at Kment Elementary in Roseville, Michigan, which you can download free. For questions about the report, feel free to contact NIFDI's Director of Research, Dr. Jean Stockard, at research@nifdi.org or 877.485.1973.

E-book



As tablets, Kindles and e-readers have become more popular in recent years, the demand for previously published titles to be offered in an e-format has increased. NIFDI continues to add titles to our e-book offerings and has just released Zig's 2007 book, *Teaching Needy Kids in our Backward System*, to available e-book titles.

Through a tapestry of vignettes that start in the 60s and continue through 2006, Professor Engelmann describes the battles he has fought to provide effective instruction for at-risk kids, particularly children of poverty. You'll also enjoy a number of personal stories from Zig throughout.

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\$9.99 E-book
\$32.00 Print Edition

WANTED! Theses and Dissertations on DI

As readers of NIFDI News! likely know, there is a vast amount of writing related to Direct Instruction, and new work continues to appear. NIFDI's Department of Research and Evaluation regularly searches for and reviews both past and new writings on Direct Instruction for inclusion in the [Research Database](#). In recent months, the office has identified and reviewed a lesser widely distributed category of studies: theses and dissertations on DI.

Given the size of the DI literature base, the office is confident there are still other important and relevant works, such as dissertations, not yet discovered and we are asking NIFDI News! readers for their help. If you have students who recently completed DI-related projects or know of writings that are not currently included in the database, we ask that you contact NIFDI's Office of Research and Evaluation to share these citations.

You can reach the Research Office at research@nifdi.org or 877.485.1973.



Group discounts available for upcoming summer trainings!

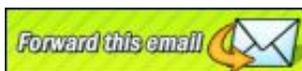
3rd Annual Southwest DI Conference

June 8-11, 2015
San Antonio, Texas

41st National Direct Instruction Conference & Institutes

July 27-31, 2015
Eugene, Oregon

Contact Bryan Wickman at 877.485.1973 or bwickman@nifdi.org for more information or to sign up!



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