

From: (b)(6)  
Sent: Thursday, May 20, 2010 5:56 PM  
To: info@whatworks.ed.gov  
Subject: IES Website: Contact Us: Topic Areas, Beginning Reading Review, Reference  
ID Number: 2076267247

info@whatworks.ed.gov, this email was automatically sent through the Contact link on the WWC website.

From: (b)(6)

Message: My goodness, What good does your organization do if none of the Reading Programs studies meet your standards. My wife teaches and loves the results from Reading Mastery. Really, either you folks standards are impossible or the textbook companies are not interested in having you make a determination. Either way you are of no help. I am a very strong proponent of government being able to make a positive difference. But gee, after all of this time you can't give the slightest bit of advice as to which programs work best? If you need some advice on how to do it. just ask. John Griffin.

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**From:** John Griffin (b)(6)  
**Sent:** Friday, May 21, 2010 10:36 AM  
**To:** WhatWorks  
**Subject:** Re: What Works Clearinghouse (WWCPC 2175)  
Hey folks,

Let me not make this too complicated.

After 8 years of study you have not found any regular reading program that fits the requirements of your research criteria that has had a positive impact of student learning?

Didja ever think that maybe those requirements are so strict as to make the effort a hopeless cause?

Perhaps it is the textbook authors who really don't care to provide the info you are looking for, maybe they like selling new series of texts or programs every few years. But for you guys to spend 8 years studying them, without ever coming to a conclusion is the exact problem some people have with the government being involved in education.

Honest, my wife and I are both government workers. We like to believe that government agencies can be a positive force in there kinds of places.

So I am sorry to give you a hard time with this because I doubt if it has been your personal responsibility to do things this way. But you guys are not being paid to study the issue forever, you are being paid to help school districts find those courses that are most effective at teaching kids.

At least in the area of beginning reading for the average classroom. You have not provided any of the information that you were set up to provide. Reading recovery is the exception but that does not apply to the regular classroom.

Who do I need to talk to? My Senators? My congressman? Arne Duncan? Who can change things so you can do the job you were set up to do?

Or are the lobbyists from the textbook companies the ones who set up the criteria knowing that it would so completely tie your hands that you'd never be able to do what you were set up to do?

My wife teaches at (b)(6) Elementary School. They are presently trying hard to decide which reading program will do the best for their students. That seems to be exactly the information that your program was set up to provide.

Go ahead, try to find one review on your site of a beginner reading program that works best for average k-2 students. Please let me know what that is.

John Griffin, Manitowoc, Wisconsin

