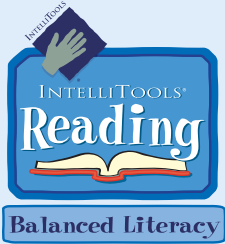


# NCLB's 21st Century Community Learning Centers and IntelliTools® Reading: Balanced Literacy

Title IV, Part B, of the No Child Left Behind Act funds 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) for after-school expanded academic enrichment opportunities. The program is designed to supplement the education of children who attend low-performing schools and live in high-poverty areas. States receive funding based on their share of Title I, Part A allocations and make competitive grant awards to eligible districts.

The 21st CCLC programs provide tutorial services and academic enrichment activities to help students meet local and state academic standards in subjects such as reading and math. In addition, 21st CCLC programs must provide a range of high-quality services to support student learning, including tutoring and mentoring, homework assistance, and academic enrichment (such as hands-on technology programs).

**IntelliTools Reading: Balanced Literacy** is an excellent program for 21st Century Community Learning Centers. It was developed with the help of a grant from the National Institutes of Health and was researched and evaluated by teachers around the country. In addition to their measurable gains in early reading skills, children in the experimental group demonstrated increased confidence and motivation in reading.

<p><b>21st CCLC Strategies</b></p> <p><b>Provide after school enrichment activities</b></p> <p><b>Serve students at low-performing schools</b></p> <p><b>Supplement regular school day instruction</b></p> <p><b>Address skills to meet reading standards</b></p> <p><b>Provide hands-on technology program</b></p>	<p><b>IntelliTools Reading: Balanced Literacy Solutions</b></p> <p><i>Balanced Literacy</i> is ideal for <b>after school</b> strategies to increase learning time. Day-by-day lesson plans and hands on-activities are automatically sequenced for a single student, small group, or classroom assignments. Teachers are provided instructions for planning computer time, planning for cooperative learning, and adapting the materials and resources provided.</p> <p><i>Balanced Literacy</i> ensures that all beginning readers receive an individualized approach to balanced literacy instruction. Lessons are organized in a spiral manner. They are sequential, intentional in skill building, and provide the systematic practice and repetition that <b>struggling students</b> need to achieve mastery.</p> <p><i>Balanced Literacy</i> is an excellent <b>supplement</b> to core academic programs, including Reading First programs. It provides a balanced approach to early literacy instruction for beginning readers, supporting the five essential components of reading instruction. It integrates guided reading, supported writing, and word study or phonics activities.</p> <p><i>Balanced Literacy's</i> <b>lessons correlate</b> to state standards for English Language Arts, TESOL standards for English language learners, and ISTE's NETS Standards for Students. The program's activities have embedded answer-tracking, helping teachers identify patterns of errors and the critical skills needed for mastery.</p> <p><i>Balanced Literacy's</i> <b>hands-on</b> lessons help students hear, identify, and manipulate spoken sounds and words in game-like activities. Colorfully illustrated on-screen Anchor Books, with engaging animal themes, feature predictable text, repetition, rhyme, and music. Explore and Review activities provide practice and record student performance.</p> 
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- Additional Classroom Benefits of *Balanced Literacy***
- The program is customizable to support different learning styles and is fully accessible for special needs students using scanning or an IntelliKeys adaptive keyboard.
  - Structured writing activities and spelling are included in each unit to support students' emerging writing fluency.
  - Teachers can use its real-time embedded assessment to decide what practice the student needs next and tailor instruction accordingly.



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