

Differentiating Literacy Learning in Any Setting

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CORWIN Literacy

## Thank you

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Please enjoy this complimentary excerpt from Simply Small Groups, by Debbie Diller.

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## **Teacher Reflection**

- 1. What range of literacy levels do you have in your classroom? Use the How to Determine the Child's Developmental Reading Stage chart to help you.
- 2. Look at the levels of your students. Then choose a stage of reading you want to learn more about and read that section: emergent, early, transitional, or fluent. What will you try based on your reading?
- 3. What kinds of groups will best meet the needs of students in your classroom? Use the Types of Small Groups and Who Will Be in Each chart to think about this.
- 4. Once you have worked with small groups for a while, reflect on the following:

What are kids doing well with in small groups?

What do students need more of in small groups?

Which part of small group goes the best? Before, during, or after reading or writing?

Which part do you want to improve?

5. Use this rubric to evaluate how small group is going.

| Not Well                                                                  |   |   |   | Amazing |   |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|---|---|---------|---|
| The rest of the class is working independently of the teacher.            | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4       | 5 |
| Using a focus board is helping readers concentrate and improve.           |   |   |   |         |   |
| Students are accelerating and learning new skills.                        |   |   |   |         |   |
| Children are reading the books in small group with just a bit of support. |   |   |   |         |   |

6. Based on your ratings above, what could you do differently to make small group instruction even better?