Program Check Sheet: Optimize/ERI

Name of Teacher _____ Grade Level _____ Date _____

**Optimize is an early reading program geared toward developing pre-reading skills, such as letter name/sound recognition and phonemic awareness. It should be conducted in groups no larger than six (smaller if possible). In this program, the students are consistently responding to instruction by writing, pointing, or replying (either individually or chorally) to the instructor. ERI (Early Reading Intervention) is the newer, published version of Optimize. It is flashier and has some extra components, but is basically the same.**

| **Purpose of the Program** | **Observed** | **Comment** |
|---|---|---|
| **Materials Necessary (Observable & Ready)**<br>Direct instruction from binder (scripting for the lesson)<br>The rest of the materials will vary by lesson. Options:<br>• Letter Cards (large and small)<br>• Book of Pictures/Letters<br>• Picture Cards/Picture Scenes<br>• Worksheets<br>• Sound Strips (Elkonian Boxes)<br>• Game Boards/Game Accessories | | |
| **Teacher Introduction – Looks Like**<br>• Teacher introduces a new letter | | |
| **Program Routine – Looks Like**<br>Each lesson has two parts.<br>Part 1: (15 minutes)<br>• Introduce new letter name and sound<br>• Do a variety of activities to reinforce the alphabetic target skills and the key phonologic skills.<br>Part 2: (15 minutes)<br>• A writing activity to reinforce the letters<br>• A phonologic activity, focusing on key skills<br>• Phonologic/spelling activity. | | |
| **Student Behavior – Looks Like**<br>• Sitting in small group, close to instructor.<br>• Listening and responding to teacher cues. | | |
| **Student Engagement – Cueing Looks Like**<br>• Teacher uses a consistent cue throughout (i.e. hand signal or cue word).<br>• Students respond chorally or individually to cue. | | |
| **Key Words To Listen For Are**<br>The general format for the direct instruction should be:<br>• Teacher makes a statement: "The name of his letter is p".<br>• Teacher calls for a response: "What is the name of this letter, everyone?"<br>• Students respond: "P". | | |
| **Practice Of Day's Learning – Looks Like**<br>• Students practice each time the teacher teaches a skill. | | |
| **Assessment**<br>• Initial placement test (should be conducted fall, winter, spring). | | |
| **Daily**<br>• Teacher adjusts instruction based on student responses. | | |
| **As Program Requires**<br>• Teacher re-counts the initial placement test to move students in groups | | |