Boost your GED® program's effectiveness with action research

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You have to know the past
to understand the present.

Carl Sagan

Previous Pass Rates:

- Prior to 2020, 3-4 GED passers per year
- Improved to 5-6 in 2022 (switched to more case management)
- 2023-24 school year, 14 Passers (Action research with case management)

In case you're wondering…

Action research is a form of investigation designed for use by teachers to attempt to solve problems and improve professional practices in their own classrooms. It involves systematic observations and data collection which can be then used by the practitioner-researcher in reflection, decision making and the development of more effective classroom strategies.
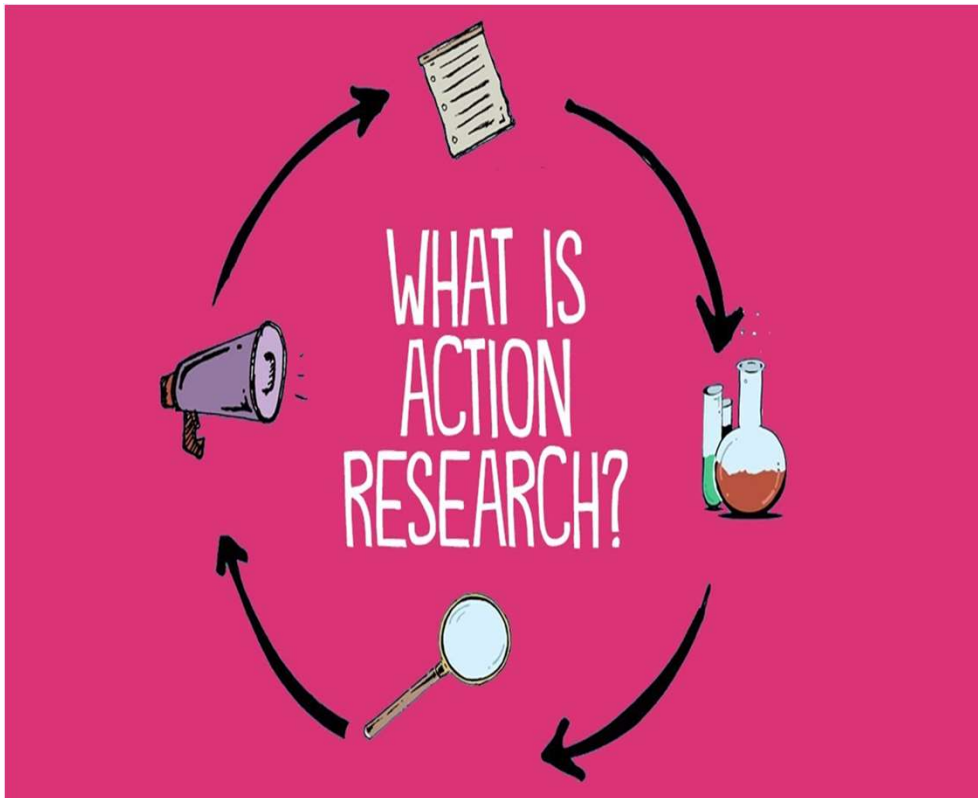
- Parsons and Brown (2002)

What non-work related areas of your life would you like to see improvement?

Action Research: RAISE the bar

- **R**esearch Question
- **A**ssess & Collect Data
- **I**nspect & Specify Aim
- **S**ynthesize & Plan
- **E**nact & Evaluate

Research Question

"Why..?"
or
"How..?"

Questions should start big and get right to the heart of the issue. It's the jumping off point for everything that follows.

What BIG question do you have about how to improve your program?

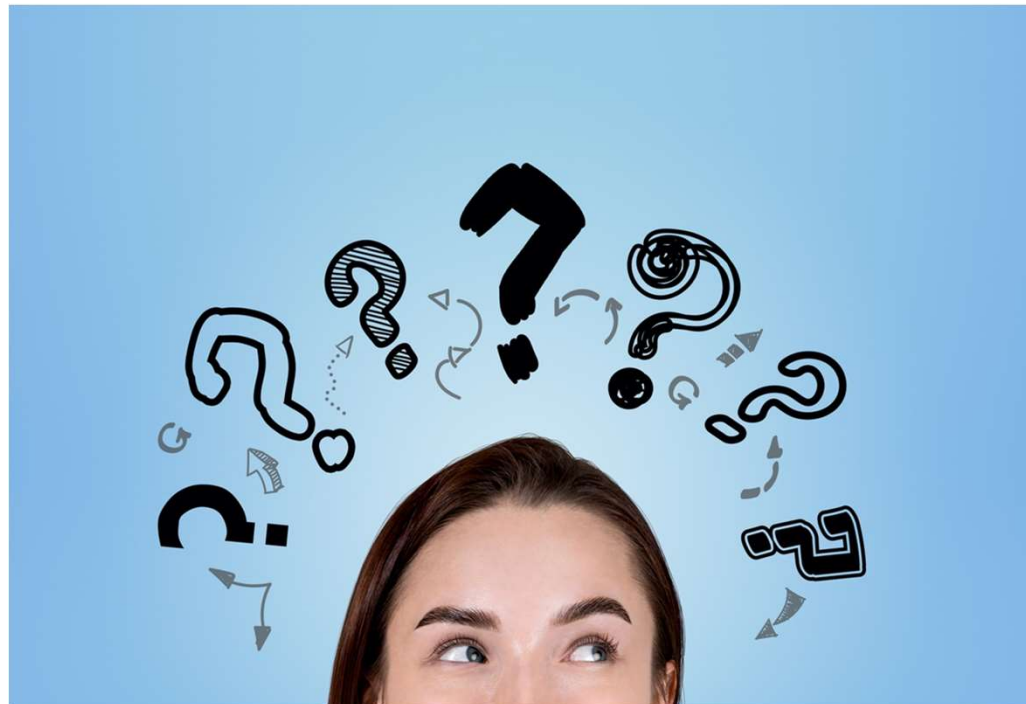How can we improve GED **persistence**?

Persistence is Futile.

BUT IT ISN'T!

How many/what percent of students persisted last year?

When do most students drop? Why?

Who persists? Why?

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What specific questions do you have about that area in your program you would like to improve?

Assess & Collect Data

Qualitative & Quantitative

What data do you need?

What relevant data sources do you have?

What trends do you see in your data?

"Maybe stories are just data
with a soul."

~ Brené Brown

What data can you collect or look at to gain insight into your program?

Persistence

How many/what percent of students persisted last year?

8 or %

When do most students drop? Why?

12 hours, High/Low CASAS & Stagnation >1 month

Who persists? Why?

High/Middle CASAS, Consistent improvement

Inspect & Specify Aim

What story is your data telling?

Based on your data, begin to focus in on areas you'd like to know more about.

GED Persistence

Problem: Stagnation

- How can I help students see and measure progress?

- Where should they start?

- When should they transition?

- How long should it take?

- Is there any way to give students ownership of the process to increase buy in and efficiency?

Problem: Low CASAS & Reading Skills

- How do we evaluate reading skills?

- What reading levels are students coming in with?

- What lexile level should students be at in order to pass the tests?

- What support do we have for students low literacy levels?

Think about your program:

- what areas do you think are currently having the biggest impact on persistence?

- What data are you collecting and analyzing?

Synthesize & Plan

GED Persistence

Problem: Stagnation

- How can I help students see and measure progress?
- Where should they start?
- When should they transition?
- How long should it take?
- Is there any way to give students ownership of the process to increase buy in and efficiency?

Solution? Program Map (Progression) and Visual Data for Students
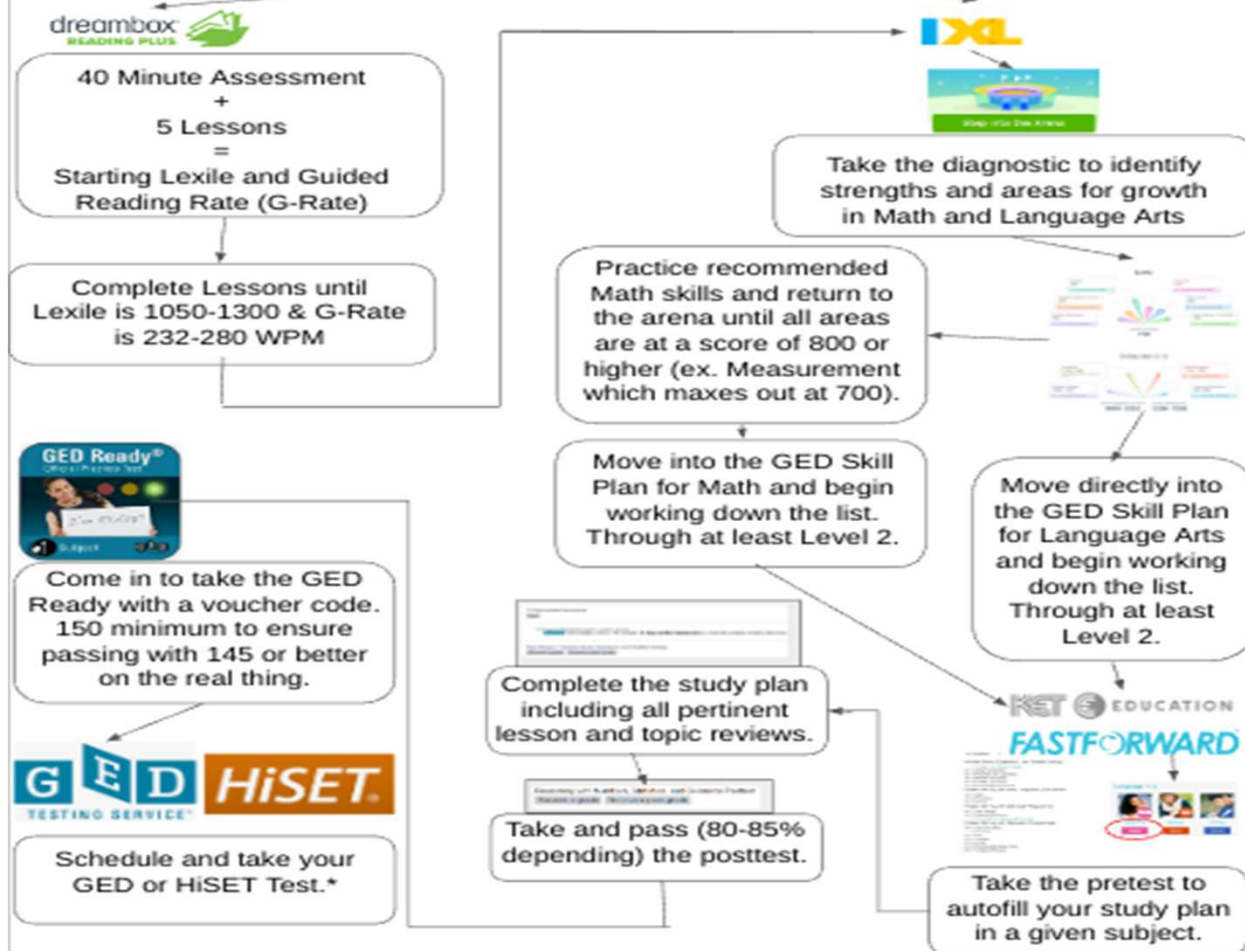
Problem: Low CASAS & Reading Skills

- How do we evaluate reading skills?
- What reading levels are students coming in with?
- What lexile level should students be at in order to pass the tests?
- What support do we have for students' low literacy levels?
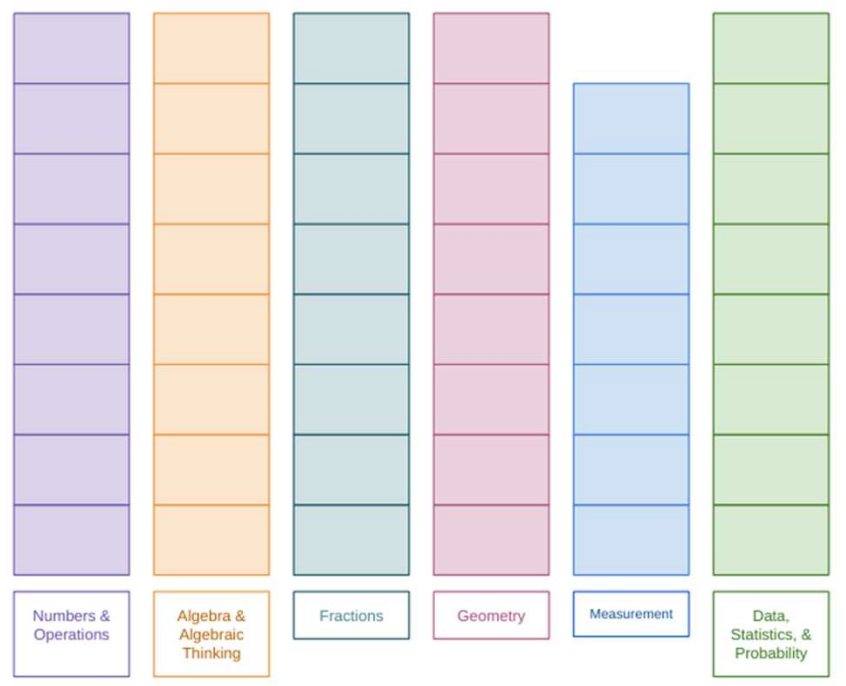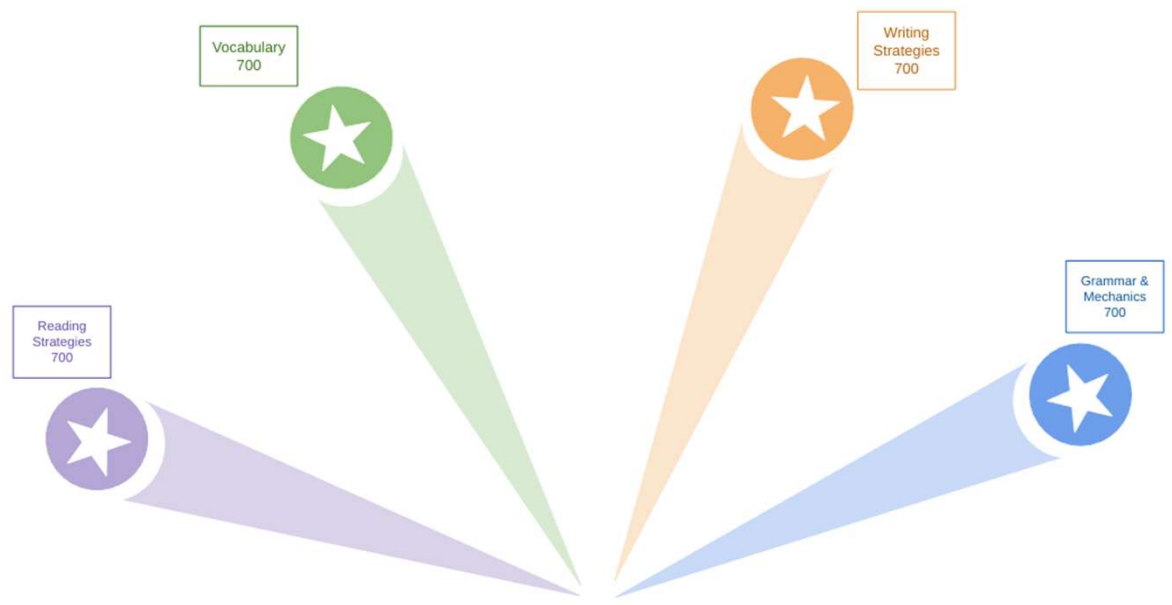
Solution? Reading Skills Intervention

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GED/Hiset Prep Map

CASAS

dreambox READING PLUS

40 Minute Assessment
+
5 Lessons
=
Starting Lexile and Guided Reading Rate (G-Rate)

Complete Lessons until Lexile is 1050-1300 & G-Rate is 232-280 WPM

GED Ready®

Come in to take the GED Ready with a voucher code. 150 minimum to ensure passing with 145 or better on the real thing.

GED TESTING SERVICE **HiSET®**

Schedule and take your GED or HiSET Test.*

IXL

Take the diagnostic to identify strengths and areas for growth in Math and Language Arts

Practice recommended Math skills and return to the arena until all areas are at a score of 800 or higher (ex. Measurement which maxes out at 700).

Move into the GED Skill Plan for Math and begin working down the list. Through at least Level 2.

Move directly into the GED Skill Plan for Language Arts and begin working down the list. Through at least Level 2.

Complete the study plan including all pertinent lesson and topic reviews.

Take and pass (80-85% depending) the posttest.

KET EDUCATION

FASTFORWARD

Take the pretest to autofill your study plan in a given subject.

*Return to KET and repeat for remaining subjects

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Vocabulary
700

Writing
Strategies
700

Reading
Strategies
700

Grammar &
Mechanics
700

Numbers & Operations	Algebra & Algebraic Thinking	Fractions	Geometry	Measurement	Data, Statistics, & Probability

GED

Language Arts	Language Arts
Social Studies	Social Studies
Science	Science
Math	Math
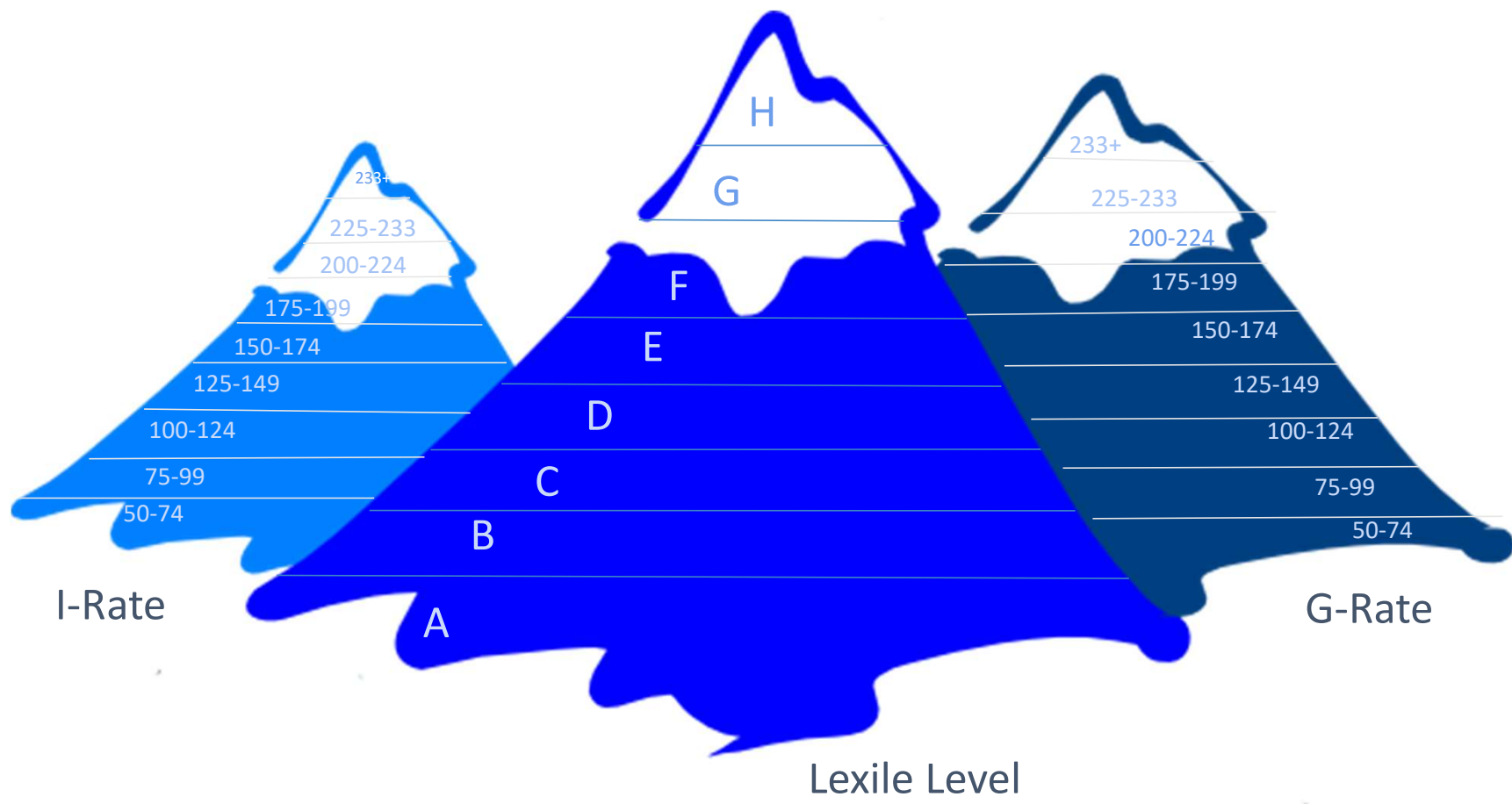
**Increased the minimum study time per week.
6+ hours requirement**

Enact & Evaluate

Continuous Improvement

Put the plan into action and evaluate its effectiveness.

Presentation will be available to conference attendees

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1prOIHI06MHJK0Q2m5_gML4gjZUo024QovOai58aktY8/edit?usp=sharing

Aaron

"Courage: Face anxiety purposefully,
fearing only a future filled with regret."

Contact Us

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Session Survey

Session Survey

Your feedback is important. Please scan the QR code below to rate this session.

QR C███████ER