

Professional Learning

Learning A-Z's dedicated team of expert professional learning and implementation specialists work closely with Texas districts to integrate Raz-Plus into each district's curriculum, culture, goals, standards, and technology. We work collaboratively with districts to develop an effective and personalized plan for implementation, professional learning, and ongoing success. Below, we have outlined the basic suggestions for a district-wide implementation. Note that this varies greatly on the scope and needs of the implementation. Along with the minimum recommended professional learning described below, we offer train –the-trainer models as well as curriculum mapping services.

Leadership Intro Session : Please complete the questions below as they apply to your recommended introductory professional development session(s) for a district that has adopted your materials. Information should apply to the minimum level needed for strong implementation of materials.

Duration (hours)	60-90 minutes
Cost (per)	Complimentary with school and district-level purchases
In person or virtual	Virtual
Other specifications	Depending on the needs of the district and size of the implementation, we recommend <i>at least</i> one planning/introductory session and needs assessment with Learning A-Z's project team, district leadership, and campus administrators as appropriate. In these sessions, Learning A-Z will lead the district in determining goals, creating an implementation and professional learning plan, as well as introducing administrators to the program.

Teacher Intro Session: Please complete the questions below as they apply to your recommended introductory professional development session(s) for a district that has adopted your materials. Information should apply to the minimum level needed for strong implementation of materials.

Duration (hours)	3 hours
Cost (per teacher)	Complimentary (Number of free sessions is dependent on purchase level.)
In person or virtual	In person
Other specifications	Before attending the in-person session, we ask that teachers watch the Blasting off with Raz-Plus recorded webinar, which provides an overview of Raz-Plus. We also strongly recommend teachers log in to the program and explore the many integrated online support tools. This is an introductory Teacher Product Orientation. The session is interactive and requires teachers bring their computers or mobile devices. Sessions are designed to be content and grade-span specific and designed to help teachers deliver TEKS-aligned instruction.



Ongoing/Follow-Up Training: Please complete the questions below as they apply to your recommended ongoing/follow-up professional development sessions for a district that has adopted your materials. Information applies to the minimum level needed for strong implementation of materials.

Duration (hours)	1 hour
Cost	Complimentary (Number of free webinars is dependent on purchase level.)
In person or virtual	Virtual
Other specifications	Follow-up webinars after the initial onsite training are designed to deepen teachers' knowledge of the program and provide teachers with opportunities ask questions of Learning A-Z expert professional learning specialists.

Ongoing/Follow-Up Training: Please complete the questions below as they apply to your recommended ongoing/follow-up professional development sessions for a district that has adopted your materials. Information applies to the minimum level needed for strong implementation of materials.

Duration (hours)	1 hour
Cost	\$200 per webinar
In person or virtual	Customized Webinar
Other specifications	These Customized Webinars are designed in collaboration with the district and address specific professional learning needs to provide deeper knowledge of specific content and implementation in the classroom. At the end of this document, we have included some examples of webinars and webinar series that we have designed specifically for Texas schools.

Ongoing/Follow-Up Training: Please complete the questions below as they apply to your recommended ongoing/follow-up professional development sessions for a district that has adopted your materials. Information applies to the minimum level needed for strong implementation of materials.

Duration (hours)	6 hours (or two, three-hour sessions)
Cost	\$2,500 per trainer, per day
In person or virtual	In person
Other specifications	In-person workshop sessions are built around needs of each school and district. The general goals of these sessions is to build awareness of best practices, expose teachers to new knowledge, skills and strategies and to facilitate product implementation related to specific initiatives and curriculum goals. These sessions are highly interactive with modeling of instructional activities, practice, and guided product exploration. Examples of past workshops include: Reading Between the Lines, Becoming a Strategic Reader, Modeling Guided Reading Lessons, How to and Modeling a Running Records, Using Assessments and Resources to Strengthen Gaps.

Coaching/Consulting Options: Please complete the questions below as they apply to any personalized coaching or consulting options available.

<p>Is coaching available for teachers implementing your materials? If yes, please describe.</p>	<p>Learning A-Z offers coaching in the form of job-embedded Lesson Modeling. Our professional development specialists work shoulder-to-shoulder modeling lessons in a classroom, participating in collaborative planning, and providing feedback and support to educators at every stage.</p> <p>Because each school’s needs are unique, job-embedded lesson modeling is collaboratively designed with school and district staff. Below we’ve described the typical flow of the process.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An individual teacher or a grade-level team of teachers is identified to receive Lesson Modeling. • The professional development manager consults with that teacher or grade level team to determine the specific pedagogical ELA strategy they would like to see modeled. • Once the strategy is determined, the resource from the Learning A-Z program will be identified (ie; the teachers want to work on strategies to support Close Reading, then we will model a lesson that utilizes our Close Reading Packs/Passages) • The lesson is built and discussed with the teacher and/or grade level team. • The Learning A-Z professional development manager models the lesson for the classroom teacher and up to four additional grade-level teachers. • The lesson is typically delivered in a 60 minute timeframe • The teachers take notes throughout observation • The professional development specialist will model “think a louds” to clearly reveals the <i>what</i>, <i>why</i>, and <i>when</i> of teaching during that lesson. • Immediately following the lesson, the professional development specialist will debrief with the teachers, reviewing the instructional strategies and helping teachers plan instructional next steps. <p>Two lessons with debrief consultation meetings can be modeled in one day.</p>
<p>Is coaching available for school leadership and district staff implementing your materials? If yes, please describe.</p>	<p>Learning A-Z offers introductory sessions and follow-up coaching for school leadership and district staff. Final design of sessions is dependent on district needs and typically includes the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborative planning and discussion of partnership goals and professional learning plan • Introduction to Learning A-Z’s Raz Plus program, the research behind the program, and a high level overview • Explanation of data reporting capability • Coaching for conducting classroom walkthroughs/observations



Learning A-Z



Texas Tools

Professional Learning – Suggested Topics

(These sessions are designed for 60-90 minute onsite or live webinar sessions).

Please contact [Angela Romano](#) or to schedule your session.

All Learning A-Z Resources



Professional Learning Collaboration

During this hour, call or log in to ask questions about implementing any of your Learning A-Z resources. Updates and new features will be shown. Come share your expertise.

Kids A-Z

The Kids A-Z Student Experience (Customized for your resource subscriptions).

Kids A-Z features a digital library of resources for students to read for fun and practice. It is easy for students to quickly find relevant, high-interest content that excites them! Raz Kids, SAZ Kids, and VAZ Kids also features a variety of customizable settings that enable teachers to tailor their students' learning to be more personalized and meaningful.

Our Goals and Objectives:

- Explore Level Up!, My Assignment, the Reading Room, and Flight Check/Assessments areas
- Explore the Science A-Z Assignments, Science Library and Science in the News
- Explore the Vocabulary A-Z portal to customize your lessons
- Provide an overview of how to utilize customizable settings to personalize your students' experience and best support targeted instruction and intentional practice
- Learn how to send messages and how students earn incentives in the Star Zone
- Encourage use of digital enhancements, including listening to stories and recording for fluency
- Show purposeful annotation suggestions using our eTools for any eBook that is being read, and our Vocabulary and Reflection eJournals
- Access and evaluate Student Reports

We will provide time for questions during the session.

How to Access and Analyze Reports in Kids A-Z

All Learning A-Z student-facing products accessed through the Kids A-Z student portal include a variety of reports, which allow teachers to monitor student activity and assignment progress. In this session, learn how to access and analyze the reports in Raz-Plus, Vocabulary A-Z, Writing A-Z and/or Science A-Z to inform your instruction.

Goals and Objectives

- Access the Reports Dashboard, which provides a quick overview of student performance and usage in the classroom
- Use the Student Activity Reports to monitor the number of logins, login time, and stars earned by students
- View class-wide performance on various skills in the Skill Report, available across all Learning A-Z product subscriptions
- View class wide performance on quizzes under the Assignments tab
- View student assessments such as Running Records, Alphabet Assessments and High Frequency word Assessments in the Assessments tab

We will provide time for questions during the session.

Please contact your [Professional Learning Team](#) for more information



Raz Plus or Reading A-Z

Getting Started with Raz Plus

Raz-Plus makes blended learning possible with thousands of differentiated reading resources that enable you to strengthen the connection between what is taught and what students practice on their own. In this session, we provide an *overview* of how Raz-Plus supports teacher-led instruction, independent reading practice, formative assessment, and data-driven reporting to inform instruction and improve students' reading skills. *This session is for brand new teacher users.*

Goals and Objectives

- Navigate the Raz-Plus teacher and student resources
- Create assignments
- Set up and customize student rosters
- Organize resources in the Digital File Cabinet
- Use reports to inform instruction

We will provide time for questions during the session.

Getting Started with Reading A-Z (Teacher resource only)

This session provides an introductory overview of the wealth of reading resources and instructional tools in Reading A-Z. Gain the knowledge and confidence to flexibly and seamlessly use Reading A-Z to supplement your core reading instruction, target key reading skills, and move your students to new levels of reading proficiency.

Goals and Objectives

- Find and use resources that fit your curriculum
- Incorporate teaching strategies to guide students' reading using leveled text and resources
- Succeed using tried and true tips from other educators

We will provide time for questions during the session.

Raz-Plus: New Features

This class introduces participants to the new, enhanced features of Raz-Plus. Learn how these new features support what you already do in the classroom and make it easier for you to locate meaningful resources, create assignments that contain multiple resources, share resources and collaborate with fellow teachers, group students according to ability, and communicate with students.

Goals and Objectives

- Navigate Raz-Plus
- Investigate new resources
- Explore the student experience
- Use the interactive eTools
- Create a class roster and assign enhanced resources
- Incorporate instructional tips and ideas for implementation

We will provide time for questions during the session.

Guiding Early Literacy with Raz-Plus

Studies show a strong correlation between third-grade reading proficiency and future academic success. That is why it is so critical to provide students with quality PreK-2 literacy instruction that engages their curiosity and gets them excited about reading. In this session, learn how to use Raz-Plus to move your emergent readers toward reading proficiency.

Our Goals and Objectives:

- Utilize PreK-2 leveled readers and lesson resources
- Project resources for whole and small group instruction
- Incorporate a variety of text types to supplement phonological awareness, phonics, writing, and vocabulary

We will provide time for questions during the session.



Partnering Raz Plus and NWEA – Correlations and Resources to Support MAP

This session identifies Raz-Plus and Reading A-Z resources that support skills addressed in curricula and assessments, including NWEA, MAP, and core reading series.

Our Goals and Objectives:

- Understand NWEA correlations and how they indicate resources to use for targeted instruction based on students' RIT scores
- Navigate the correlations, which include the learning statements for each RIT level/band
- Use the learning statements and the correlated resources to differentiate instruction for individual students or groups of students
- Find useful resources that support many reading and language arts skills addressed in core program reading series
- Use the Search Bar to correlate with content or comprehension skills addressed in core reading programs

We will provide time for questions during the session.

Exploring the New Raz-Plus and Reading A-Z Literacy Curriculum Map

The new Literacy Curriculum Map makes it easy to meet K–5 ELA standards by providing teachers a week-by-week guide for the entire school year that details specific Raz-Plus and Reading A-Z resources to use for instruction and differentiation. In this session, learn how to use the Literacy Curriculum Map to quickly find standards-correlated resources to use in your classroom.

Our Goals and Objectives:

- Access the Literacy Curriculum Map
- Deliver social-emotional, science, social studies, and arts instruction within your literacy block
- Use the wide array of Raz-Plus and Reading A-Z books, passages, skill packs, and other resources to meet K–5 ELA standards
- Provide whole-class and differentiated instruction to students for an entire school year

We will provide time for questions during the session.

Raz-Plus Benchmark Assessments

This live webinar shows you how to save valuable instructional time and assess every student's reading performance with online running records in Raz-Plus. Learn how to assign assessments and have each student send recordings to your 'In Basket' in a three-part assessment process that provides you with a more complete picture of their reading abilities while making it easy to monitor their progress.

Our Goals and Objectives:

- Place students at the appropriate reading level to start
- Determine students' readiness to advance to the next level after they complete assignments
- Monitor student reading progress over time

We will provide time for questions during the session.

How to Access and Analyze Reports – Using Data to Inform Instruction

The Raz Plus Student Management page includes a variety of reports, which allow teachers to monitor student activity and assignment progress. In this session, learn how to access and analyze the reports in Raz-Plus to inform your instruction.

Goals and Objectives

- Access the Reports Dashboard, which provides a quick overview of student performance and usage in the classroom
- Use the Student Activity Reports to monitor the number of logins, login time, and stars earned by students
- View class-wide performance on various skills in the Skill Report
- Use the Assignments and Assessments tabs for real time data

We will provide time for questions during the session.



Raz-Plus Shared Files and Assignments

In this session, learn how to use the redesigned and enhanced Raz-Plus File Cabinet and added assignment functionality to organize resources, collaborate with other teachers, and assign groups of resources to your students.

Our Goals and Objectives:

- Add resources to folders and subfolders
- Share folders with other educators on your license
- Assign resources within a folder to individual students, groups of students, or the whole class
- Add due dates and send messages to students about assignments

We will provide time for questions during the session.

Reaching the Intermediate Learner with Raz-Plus and Reading A-Z

In addition to an extensive collection of leveled books, Raz-Plus and Reading A-Z provide a wide variety of resources designed to promote higher-level thinking and help older students build 21st-century skills. This session will introduce you to 10 resources that are ideal for use with students in the intermediate grades.

Our Goals and Objectives:

- Access 10 resources ideal for use with older students: Paired Books, Classics, Content Area Reading, Multilevel Books, Close Reading Packs and Passages, Project-Based Learning Packs, Comprehension Skills Packs, Themed Nonfiction Series, Graphic Books, and Visual Devices
- Utilize best practices for integrating these resources into your curriculum
- Explore the interactivities for intentional practice

We will provide time for questions during the session.

Using Raz Plus to Support Differentiated Instruction

Are you planning for differentiated instruction or striving to provide integrated lessons? Are you searching for ways to address the needs of all your learners? In this session, learn how Raz Plus can be used to support your students and provide collaboration with classroom teachers.

Goals and Objectives

- Explore tools for aligning resources across levels or tiers of instruction
- Get ideas for working with and moving between whole and small groups
- Share tips to align vocabulary instruction with your reading and content area curriculum
- Gain ideas to build comprehension and vocabulary with short non-fiction science and social studies texts that hook your students and increase content area knowledge
- Explore Tutoring lesson plans and activities
- Use Learning Center Activities to support purposeful practice materials to help you in your intervention process
- Learn how to create differentiated groups based on student data
- Monitor progress and assess skill needs using Raz Kids data

We will provide time for questions during the session.

Spanish Resources in Reading A-Z and Raz-Plus

Reading A-Z and Raz-Plus include an extensive collection of Spanish resources to support the growth of Spanish reading and language skills for students in bilingual or dual-language programs. This session provides an overview of the available resources and tools you can use to help native and non-native Spanish speakers improve their Spanish skills.

Our Goals and Objectives:

- Locate and organize the different types of Spanish resources
- Assess student's Spanish reading level
- Assign resources to students

We will provide time for questions during the session.



Supporting Close Reading with Raz-Plus

This session explores how Raz-Plus Close Read Passages and Paired Books address today's rigorous standards in which students need to be able to think critically to uncover the layers of meaning within the text and deepen their comprehension. Learn how to use Close Reading Packs to help students build important 21st-century skills as they read related passages and collaborate to communicate their answer to an overarching Key Question. In addition, gain insights into using Paired Books to promote higher-order thinking, such as making comparisons among texts.

Our Goals and Objectives:

- Guide students to cite evidence in support of an answer
- Organize Paired Books and Close Reading Passages in the File Cabinet
- Create custom assignments using Close Reading Passages and Paired Books

We will provide time for questions during the session.

Using Raz-Plus Argumentation Skill Packs

Being able to analyze and respond to arguments is a key critical thinking skill students need throughout school and daily life. Raz-Plus Argumentation Skill Packs provide a comprehensive set of resources to support students as they learn to identify and explain claims, reasons, evidence, point of view, and much more.

Our Goals and Objectives:

- Locate and assign these new resources
- Incorporate new Interactivities to engage students in learning these new skills
- Use these time-saving instructional and practice resources

We will provide time for questions during the session.

Build Skills with Text Sets and Comprehension Skill Packs in Raz-Plus and Reading A-Z

This will introduce you to new Text Sets in Raz-Plus and Reading A-Z that help students build vocabulary knowledge and become more proficient at reading complex texts. In addition, you will explore the enhanced Comprehension Skill Packs for grades 3–5, and see how the new online independent practice activities help students more efficiently and effectively develop the skills and strategies to build meaning from text.

Our Goals and Objectives:

- Use sequenced texts, including books, passages, and visual devices, all centered around a specific standards-based topic, to build students' vocabulary and background knowledge
- Foster classroom discussion through text-dependent questions
- Provide direct and explicit instruction on key comprehension skills
- Extend student understanding of complex texts with short passages and online independent practice (Interactivities)

We will provide time for questions during the session.

Project-Based Learning with Raz-Plus and Reading A-Z

In this session, learn how to use Project-Based Learning (PBL) Packs in Reading A-Z and Raz-Plus, which task students with investigating a high-interest topic to discover an answer to a Driving Question. See how to use the numerous grade-appropriate resources in each pack to foster student collaboration. In addition, learn how you can use the PBL planning and organizing tools, along with guided inquiry, to develop student creativity, critical thinking, problem-solving, and communication skills.

Our Goals and Objectives:

- Utilize the various components of PBL Packs
- Incorporate instructional practices using PBL in the classroom
- Extend student understanding of informational texts while investigating topic

We will provide time for questions during the session.



Implementing the TEKS - Using Raz-Plus to Support TEKS Mastery

Raz Plus designed to help implement our new TEKS and provide instructional support with intentional practice for students to *show what they know*. This session will help you navigate the site, learn the instructional purpose of the resources, and correlate teacher lessons and student materials to support mastery of grade level TEKS.

Our Goals and Objectives:

- Explore different resources and materials *and* their instructional purposes: Leveled Readers, Comprehension Skills and Interactivities, Close Reading Packs and Passages, Argumentation Skill Packs, Paired Books, Project-Based Learning Packs, Writing Resources, Visual Devices and Text Sets
- Explore *curative* handwriting resources enhancing academic vocabulary practice
- Review the Texas Literacy Curriculum Map and Units
- Provide purposeful annotation suggestions using projectable's and student resources
- Create folders to make planning easier
- Assign resources to provide customized instruction

We will provide time for questions during the session.

Using Raz-Plus in Dual-Language Classrooms

In this session, we will show you how to use the extensive collection of Spanish resources and features in Raz-Plus to support bilingual, dual-language, and immersion classrooms. You will learn best practices for customizing the student portal, creating assignments, setting up your student roster, and organizing resources to help students build English and Spanish reading skills. In addition, you will learn how to access reports to inform your instruction.

Our Goals and Objectives:

- Customize the student portal for dual-language students
- Create assignments for Spanish guided reading
- Set up and customize student rosters
- Organize resources in the File Cabinet for English and Spanish reading
- View Activity Reports to understand data for Spanish reading and inform instruction

We will provide time for questions during the session.

Summer Reading with Raz-Plus

We all know children lose literacy skills over the summer. But the skill loss can be avoided if students are encouraged to keep reading. With online student access to leveled reading resources, Raz-Plus provides great solutions to help students reinforce and build reading skills during summer months! This session will show you best practices and review the available resources you can use to encourage independent summer reading practice.

Goals and Objectives:

- Assign books for summer reading
- Expand the range of leveled books available to students over the summer
- Access additional summer reading resources
- Inform families about summer reading opportunities
- Explore the Summer School Theme Packs for summer school sessions

We will provide time for questions during the session.



Raz Plus ELL Edition

Getting Started with Raz Plus ELL Edition

This session provides ELL educators a deep dive into using the research-based resources that are included in Raz-Plus ELL Edition. Explore the resources and strategies you need to reduce ELL students' anxiety about learning and encourage their curiosity about vocabulary, reading, and writing.

Goals and Objectives:

- Navigate Raz-Plus ELL Edition
- Identify resources and activities to address the specific learning needs of ELL students
- Incorporate cooperative learning activities with heterogeneous groupings for sheltered instruction
- Organize content for authentic reading and writing focused on big ideas
- Plan hands-on activities using authentic materials, modeling, and demonstrations
- Use strategies for building academic language and key content vocabulary
- Make connections between academic content and home/community literacy

Supporting Bilingual, Dual-Language and Immersion Programs

The Raz-Plus ELL Edition provides reading, listening, speaking, and writing resources organized into content area topics at varying grade ranges. The ELL Edition combines all the resources of Raz-Plus, as well as a collection of resources designed specifically for ELLs. With the ELL Edition, you have access to hundreds of time-saving ELL-specific resources with integrated grammar and vocabulary support to help your students attain success.

Goals and Objectives

- Explore the many resources available in listening, speaking, reading and writing
We will provide time for questions during the session.

Vocabulary A-Z

Introducing the New Vocabulary A-Z

The new Vocabulary A-Z introduces a new design for teachers and an all-new online student experience for individual practice. This session will introduce you to these exciting enhancements and show you how you can use the new Vocabulary A-Z to engage students and effectively support vocabulary and literacy learning.

Our Goals and Objectives:

- Implement strategies and resources for whole-class, small-group, and individual vocabulary lessons and practice
- Use premade word lists and lessons aligned with Learning A-Z products or reading series resources
- Build customized word lists and lessons
- Assign vocabulary lessons for individual online student practice using game-based activities and quizzes
- Access and monitor reports to inform instruction

We will provide time for questions during the session.