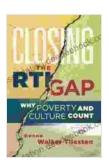
# Closing The RTI Gap: A Comprehensive Guide to Improving Reading Comprehension

The RTI (Response to Intervention) gap refers to the difference in reading comprehension between students with and without learning disabilities. This gap can have a significant impact on students' academic achievement and future success. However, there are a number of strategies, interventions, and resources that can be used to close this gap and help all students reach their full potential.



#### Closing the RTI Gap: Why Poverty and Culture Count

by Donna Walker Tileston

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### **Strategies for Closing The RTI Gap**

There are a number of different strategies that can be used to close the RTI gap. These strategies can be divided into three main categories:

1. **Prevention:** Strategies that prevent students from falling behind in reading in the first place.

- 2. **Early intervention:** Strategies that identify and provide support to students who are struggling with reading.
- 3. **Intensive intervention:** Strategies that provide more intensive support to students who are significantly behind in reading.

The most effective approach to closing the RTI gap is to use a combination of prevention, early intervention, and intensive intervention strategies.

#### **Prevention Strategies**

Prevention strategies are designed to prevent students from falling behind in reading in the first place. These strategies include:

- Providing high-quality early childhood education
- Teaching students the basics of reading, such as phonics and phonemic awareness
- Providing students with access to books and other reading materials
- Creating a positive and supportive learning environment

#### **Early Intervention Strategies**

Early intervention strategies are designed to identify and provide support to students who are struggling with reading. These strategies include:

- Screening students for reading difficulties
- Providing targeted interventions to students who are struggling
- Monitoring students' progress and adjusting interventions as needed

### **Intensive Intervention Strategies**

Intensive intervention strategies are designed to provide more intensive support to students who are significantly behind in reading. These strategies include:

- Providing one-on-one or small-group tutoring
- Using specialized reading programs
- Providing students with extra time and support in the classroom

#### Interventions for Closing The RTI Gap

There are a number of different reading interventions that can be used to close the RTI gap. These interventions can be divided into two main categories:

- 1. **Tier 1 interventions:** These interventions are provided to all students in the classroom.
- 2. **Tier 2 and Tier 3 interventions:** These interventions are provided to students who are struggling with reading.

#### **Tier 1 Interventions**

Tier 1 interventions are designed to improve the reading comprehension of all students in the classroom. These interventions include:

- Teaching students explicit reading strategies
- Providing students with opportunities to practice reading independently
- Creating a print-rich environment in the classroom

#### **Tier 2 and Tier 3 Interventions**

Tier 2 and Tier 3 interventions are designed to provide more intensive support to students who are struggling with reading. These interventions include:

- Providing students with one-on-one or small-group tutoring
- Using specialized reading programs
- Providing students with extra time and support in the classroom

#### **Resources for Closing The RTI Gap**

There are a number of different resources available to help educators and parents close the RTI gap. These resources include:

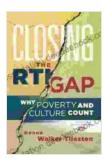
- Professional development opportunities for educators on how to teach reading effectively
- Reading intervention programs that can be used to provide targeted support to students who are struggling
- Websites and other online resources that provide information and support to educators and parents

Closing the RTI gap is a complex challenge, but it is one that can be overcome. By using a combination of prevention, early intervention, and intensive intervention strategies, educators and parents can help all students reach their full potential in reading.

**Closing the RTI Gap: Why Poverty and Culture Count** 

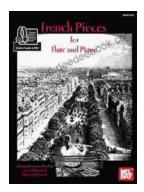
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