Student Action Plans

Springboard helps children cultivate new reading habits by emphasizing the same skill or behavior at school and at home. When all adults in a child's life put energy toward the same goal, momentum builds in the child's development. Student Action Plans are shared between the teacher, student, and family to identify one important reading skill or habit to focus on during Springboard.

The best strategies are temporary, authentic, and applicable to all contexts or books. The Action Plan is a scaffold supporting the child in solidifying a new reading skill. Over time the skill will become habit and the strategy will no longer be needed. This can be applied to all learning. For instance, when children are first learning to tie shoes, they may need to remind themselves of the steps by thinking about bunny ears and loops going through holes. As shoe-tying becomes habitual, the child no longer needs the bunny ears technique. No adult thinks about bunny ears when tying shoes – the shoe-tying is just a habit. That's the same idea with a Student Action Plan: it's a temporary strategy – a *springboard* – to be used in the service of a new, permanent reading habit.

Creating Student Action Plans

Teachers create plans after listening to the child read, analyzing errors, and deciding the highest leverage skill that will push the scholar to become a better reader. Springboard Teachers synthesize assessment data and analyze miscues to gather information about scholars' strengths and needs. To select the best action plan strategy, Springboard Teachers combine student data and insights from home visits with their knowledge of reading behaviors at different levels. By practicing the action plans at home and at school, children internalize the skills and develop new habits as readers.

Teachers create at least one Student Action Plan for each scholar early in the Springboard session, ideally in the first week or two. Some children develop new skills and habits so quickly that they're ready for a new Action Plan before the program is over. Other scholars keep working on the same Action Plan for all of the program. In any case, teachers should review the plans during PLCs and revisit them regularly with families during family workshops.

Helping 100,000 students reach reading goals and 30,000 students read on grade level by 2023

Teachers use Slinky to record and capture all Student Action Plans. Slinky guides teachers towards skills and habits that are appropriate for each child's goal level and uses the plan input by the teacher to generate a digital action plan letter for each family, which can be downloaded and printed.

Student Action Plans and the App Overview (Springboard Connect)

Springboard helps families set goals and create a game plan to help their child become a better reader. Our app provides joyful and effective strategies to support families reading with their children at home. The Springboard Connect web app is delivered via text message right to families' fingertips – at home or on the go – as a reading reminder and resource.

Every week, families will get a text reminder with a link to open their child's Action Plan on their phone's web browser. There is no sign-in required. Families can always change the reminder time. Then, families will learn joyful and effective ways to help their child get better at reading. They can practice reading together with their child using the reading tips sent to them. The app will track progress as the families are prompted to click "We Did It!" when finished, by sharing how many minutes they've read together, which helps inform the teacher if their child is on track or needs more support. Teachers can use families' progress reports along with other student data to better connect and communicate with families.

The teacher's role in the app

Teachers select an individual reading strategy or "Action Plan" for each scholar. Families receive an initial letter, and then a series of weekly reminders via text message. To support teachers, Slinky holds a bank of Student Action Plan strategies. In order for these systems to talk to one another, please do not edit the pre-populated family explanation if your site is using the app. Action Plan selections will have a deadline in order to pull the data needed for the time frame and messaging schedule to stay on track.

If teachers are interested in learning about the scholars' progress (recorded and noted by the families explained earlier), teachers can access the family reports on Slinky. Go to the "resources" tab and click on the "Springboard Connect" box. You will be directed to the family reports dashboard. Teachers can use the family feedback along with other student data to identify which scholars or families need additional support, praise, or encouragement.