



INTERACTIVE INSTITUTE **2021**  
BUILDING AND SUSTAINING A CULTURE OF HIGH-QUALITY DATA

# Uncovering the Story Behind the Data: Supporting Effective Data Analysis and Use

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IDEA DATA  
CENTER

Collect, Report, Analyze, and  
Use High-Quality Part B Data





# Presenters

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# Agenda

- Rationale for a data analysis and use process as part of a data-driven culture
- Custom solutions for specific needs
- State example: Hawaii

# Intended Outcomes

- Understand the rationale for a structured data analysis and use process
- Become familiar with an example of a data analysis and use process
- Learn about a state's experience with a data analysis and use process

# Data Analysis and Use Supports Building a Data Culture



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# Why Is a Data Analysis and Use Process Helpful?

# Why Is a Data Analysis and Use Process Helpful? (cont.)

- Builds capacity of staff to conduct a thorough exploration and meaning-making of the data
- Creates common practice and language among users
- Supports implementation across all levels of the system: state, regional, local

# What Is Data-Driven Culture?

## Definition

- “A data-driven culture is a workplace environment that employs a consistent, repeatable approach to tactical and strategic decisionmaking through emphatic and empirical data proof.”\*
- Put simply, an organization with a data-driven culture bases decisions on data, not gut instinct or anecdotal information

\*Ramaswamy, P. (2015). Ramaswamy, P. (2015, September 29). 6 Steps to Creating a Data Culture That Will Help Your Company Survive and Thrive in this Digital Age. *Antill Magazine*. Retrieved from <http://anthillonline.com/6-steps-to-creating-a-data-culture-that-will-help-your-company-survive-and-thrive-in-this-digital-age/>.



# What Is Data-Driven?

## Definition

“To be data-driven requires an overarching data culture that couples a number of elements, including high-quality data, broad access and data literacy and appropriate data-driven decisionmaking processes.”\*

\*Anderson, C., and Li, M. (2017). *Five building blocks of a data-driven culture*. Retrieved from <https://techcrunch.com/2017/06/23/five-building-blocks-of-a-data-driven-culture/>.

# Building Blocks of Data-Driven Culture

- Single source of truth
- Data dictionary
- Broad data access
- Data literacy
- Decisionmaking

Anderson, C., and Li, M. (2017). *Five building blocks of a data-driven culture*. Retrieved from <https://techcrunch.com/2017/06/23/five-building-blocks-of-a-data-driven-culture/>.

# Poll: How Do Your State Staff Model Characteristics of a Data Culture?

- A. Incorporate data discussion in all your team meetings  
*(Results= 14% of respondents)*
- B. Share data regularly with stakeholders and provide opportunities to discuss  
*(Results= 8% of respondents)*
- C. Make decisions based on data  
*(Results= 28% of respondents)*
- D. Provide support for and build capacity for data literacy, use, and analysis  
*(Results= 14% of respondents)*
- E. Have documented processes for collecting and validating data  
*(Results= 36% of respondents)*

# Identifying Data Sources: Addressing Data Needs

## Considerations

- What are your program or policy questions?
- What data do you need?
- What is the data source?
- Is the data of high-quality?
- How many years of data do you need?

# Creating a Customized Solution



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# The Challenge

- Improving data literacy
- Building a foundation for a data culture
- Increasing data use
- Deepening root cause analysis
- Providing a process for data use that can be replicated easily
- Developing a structure to support facilitators in asking the right questions to improve engagement of participants

# The Building Blocks

- [Data Meeting Toolkit](#)
- Root cause analysis process
- Data analysis and use plan

# IDC *Data Meeting Toolkit*

- The [Data Meeting Toolkit](#) is a suite of tools that groups can use to guide conversation around data and support databased decisionmaking
- The toolkit provides resources to support success before, during, and after data meetings, including
  - A description of essential data meeting roles and responsibilities, including key stakeholders
  - A protocol of steps before, during, and after meetings to guide selection, analysis, and decisionmaking using data
  - Examples of how to use the toolkit to address a range of data meeting needs
  - Guidelines and editable templates for planning, facilitating, and documenting data meetings
  - Additional resources to support data use



# Root Cause Analysis

- Requires spending time to identify the causes of the problem
  - Often multiple causes
  - Requires digging deeply to get to the root(s)
- Encourages systemic thinking
- Can eliminate wasted effort on patches that will not dissolve the roots
- Encourages reflection on current practices
- Provides rationale for strategy selection



# Share Data Analysis and Use Process

# Hawaii Example



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# Hawaii's Experience

- Hawaii State Department of Education (HIDOE) wanted to support users in conducting a deep exploration and root cause analysis of their own data
- HIDOE invited IDC to observe current practices and provide suggestions for deepening the process
- IDC recommended a structured process to support data analysis and use
- HIDOE decided to begin by having state staff use the process to examine SEA data

# HIDOE's Story

## Outcome B: Acquisition and use of knowledge and skills (including early language communication)

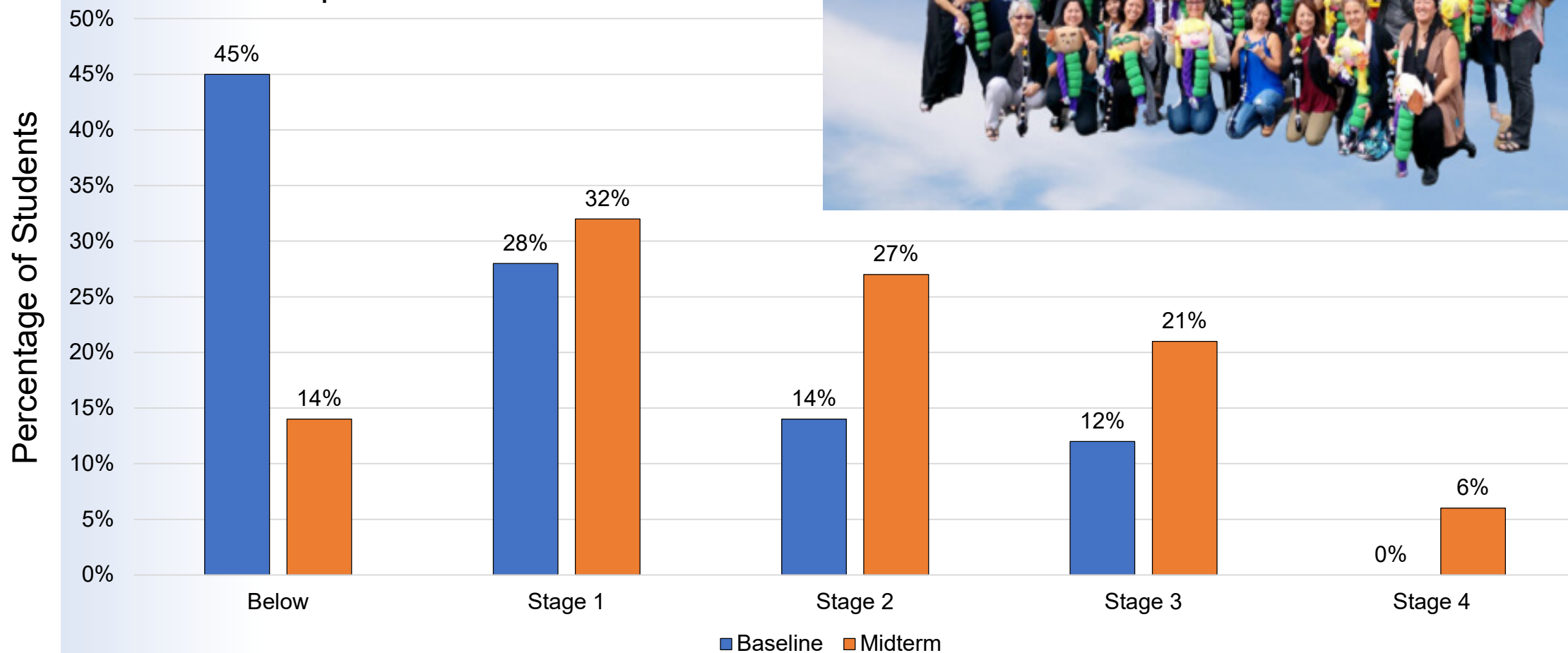
Outcome data	2018–19	2016–17
Did not improve functioning	13%	11%
Improved functioning but not sufficient to move to nearer to functioning comparable to same age peers	17%	16%
Moved closer to a level nearer to the same age but did not reach it	22%	19%
Statewide total	52%	48%



**91%** of all preschool age children receive speech and language service  
HIDOE eCSSS

# Lessons Learned

Stages of Narrative Development Statewide Data

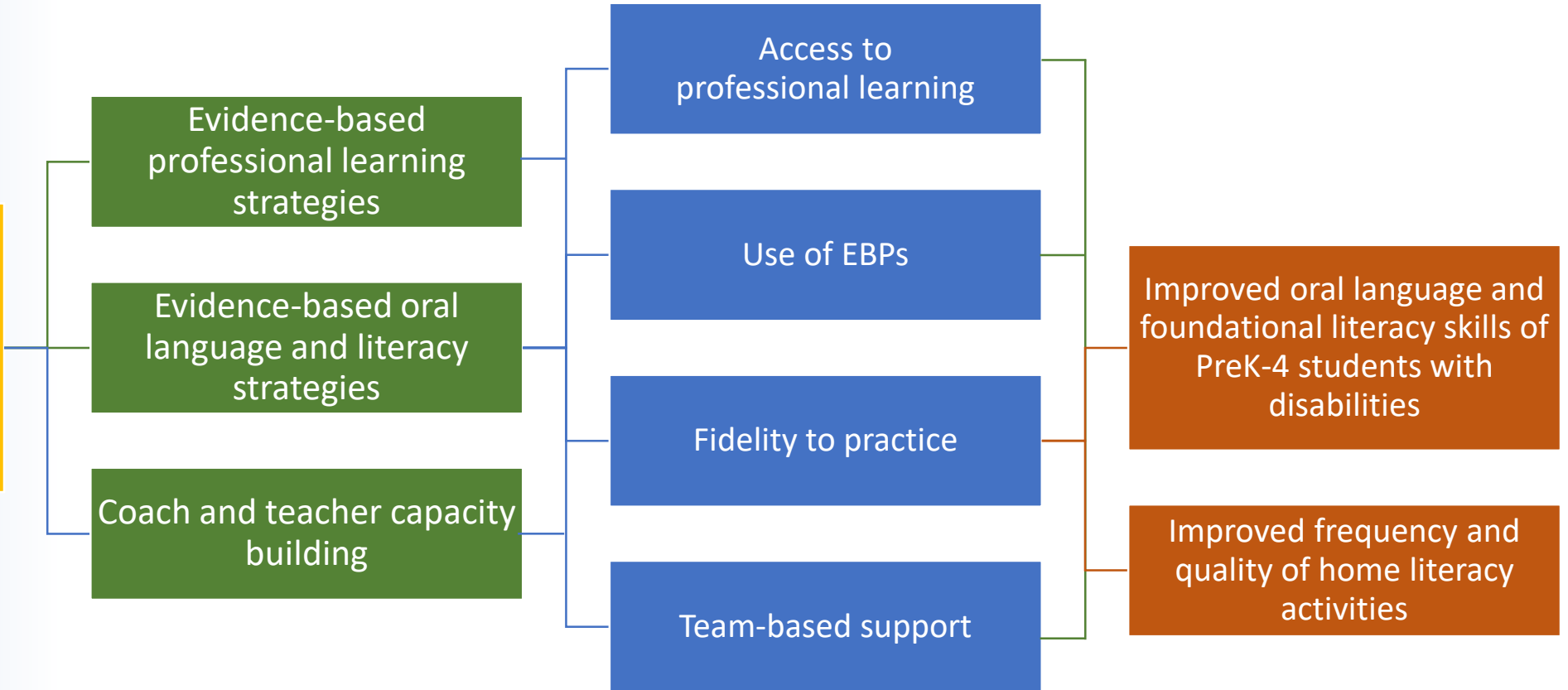


# Following the Process



# Theory of Change

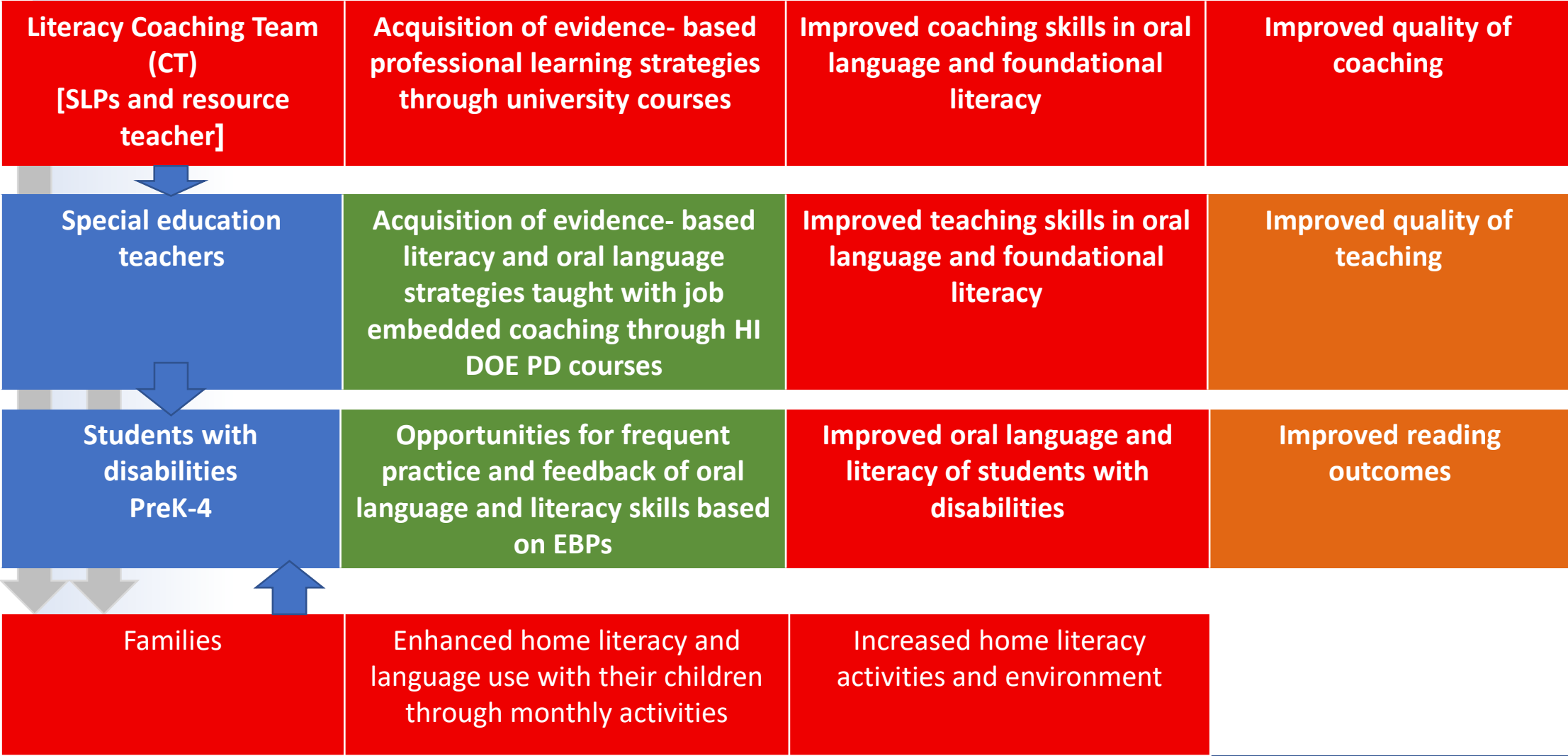
Hawaii's data indicate a persistent achievement gap between students with and without disabilities, particularly in reading



Evidence-based practices (EBPs)



# Conceptual Model



Speech  
Language  
Pathologists  
(SLPs),  
Professional  
development  
(PD)

# Questions



# Conclusion

- Having a standard data analysis and use process creates common language and practices across departments and between state and local educators and stakeholders
- In-depth data analysis is a critical feature of building a data culture and supporting continuous improvement

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# For More Information



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