

# HOW WE RHYME



## Best Practices from **RHYMES** WITH **REASON** Educators



### Submitted By:

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### Learning Environment:

Downtown Boxing Gym (Detroit, Michigan)

## GETTING STARTED

### Set Up the Classroom

All students were entered into the class for RWR.

### Make a Plan for Lost Logins

Staff recorded login information to create a backup for their students.

*Students will inevitably forget which email they used or their login information, or end up locked out of email addresses!*

### Build Trust & Accountability

Be sure to inform students that their progress and achievements are visible to the instructors.

## SHARED PURPOSE

### Explain the Program & Goals

It's important to explain the motivation behind Rhymes With Reason. It's a fun way to learn vocabulary, and will help with reading comprehension and standardized test scores.

### Offer Additional Benefits

Rhymes With Reason is a great after-school program aid because the students who really enjoy it can continue it on their own time as well!



**P1 SUBMIT YOUR BEST PRACTICES!** Send to [lindsay@rhymeswithreason.com](mailto:lindsay@rhymeswithreason.com)

# STUDENT CHOICE

## Let Students Choose

Students were given the option to work on Rhymes With Reason with the available chromebooks and headphones for the first 20 minutes of class.

## Provide One Technology-Based Option

Give students the choice to do academic work but only one option for technology. This helps guide students toward productive work that can be monitored.

*The other options provided were silent reading or work on homework (without technology).*

# MOTIVATION

## Music as a Motivator

Students could only listen to music from the program if they did Rhymes with Reason; this was a built in incentive for the students!

## Create Rewards

We periodically offered rewards to students making the most progress in the program, such as \$25 gift cards.

### REWARDS IN PRACTICE: National Reading Month (March)

Students making the most progress in Rhymes With Reason during March would be offered Amazon gift cards. Each gift card was tied to a metric in the Rhymes With Reason educator dashboard:

Words Learned	Average Quiz Score	Time Spent
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Throughout March, we maintained a physical leaderboard so students could see who was ahead for the Words Learned metric. This ‘gamification’ was a big hit for competitive-minded students and those for whom recognition fosters confidence.

Gift cards were distributed to student achievers during a group workout when everyone present - this helped them feel recognized and appreciated for their dedication.

