

- **Name of the study:** Research Ethics: Boxed Breakthrough: Designing an Escape Box for Enhancing Reading Skills in Students with Intellectual Disability
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- **Type of research:** research
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### Abstract

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In this design-based study, the process of documenting the design and implementation of escape boxes to improve reading skills in students with intellectual disabilities was examined. The study involved a population of 11 students aged 10-16 years who attended schools to individuals with intellectual disabilities. Additionally, 11 special education reading teachers and two experts in reading and design were involved.

The findings indicate that the escape boxes designed for the participating students were enjoyable and fostered motivation for learning. The feedback provided by the teachers aided in customizing the escape box for each student, while the input from the experts helped refine the design to align with the latest research in the field of intellectual disabilities.

Although studies generally emphasize a phonetic approach in teaching reading to students with intellectual disabilities, the specific adjustments made based on the teachers' comments allowed for a personalized experience for each student.

Observations and the teachers' expressed need to expand the difficulty levels resulted in the inclusion of a game selection feature within the escape box. The design manufacturer's interdisciplinary expertise played a significant role in creating a solution that catered to the individual needs of each student. Collaboration with the teachers in the classroom, as well as input from an observer, provided valuable perspectives that contributed to the development of this reading teaching tool.

This research holds significant implications for the field of special education. The study serves as a potential model for teachers looking to create tools for teaching reading to students with intellectual disabilities. Furthermore, the model presented in this study could serve as a foundation for academic courses focusing on teaching reading to students with intellectual disabilities.

### **Keywords**

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escape boxes, intellectual disabilities, reading instruction, special education.

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