I have two different small groups in my RTI class. My first small group has five students and then two students in my second small group. In my first small group the grades range from second grade to third grade, so these students are 7-9 years old. In my second small group I have one boy and one girl and they are both in 3rd grade.

In my first class RTI there are four white boys and one white girl who are at the tier two and three reading. In my second small group both of my students are at tier three reading.

Both of my small groups take place in the RTI room, so the relevant features of these small groups are they are in the reading program. My first small group is for a half an hour and my second whole group is for 15 minutes. The instructional challenges I meet are both of my groups are at tier two reading or tier three reading. My first small group works out of a workbook, I put the different diphthongs or diagraphs that we are working on for the day on the board and I time them on reading them, then we go through and talk about the ones they missed and then I allow them to be timed again if they want to try again. While we are working out of our workbook I allow extra time to break apart words and have the students sound them out. I also have them go back and read sentences with fluency and expression. With my second small group we work on fluency. The students are given a passage and they are given one minute to read. When they are done we go back and talk about the words that they missed.

I think that my small group lessons are going well. There is not much I can really change because I have to follow the workbook, but I try to make them fun with timing them when we are practicing different diagraphs and sight words. They really enjoy being timed and want to know if I can time them on everything. Some of my students are not a fan of reading with expression, but I model it for them before I have them do it. I do wish I could add some of my own stuff to the lessons because I’m sure the students get tired of doing the same things day after day, but they are very good sports about it. They seem to enjoy being there and we have fun together.