User’s Guide: Getting the Most Out of this Series

Why this series?

The goal of this series is to provide clear and easy-to-access information on how to build evidence on programs that support educator effectiveness. The series includes videos and resources that are written in plain language and designed to be watched or read in a short amount of time – approximately 5 minutes for each resource. The series is built around suites. A suite is a group of resources that address a single topic.

What is in a suite?

Each suite is:

- Based on a particular evaluation topic and organized by the evaluation life cycle
- Consistent with the U.S. Department of Education’s What Works Clearinghouse Standards
- A group of related resources including:
  - At least one 5 minute video and video script
  - Brief resources that go in to more detail on topics introduced in the video
  - A quick reference sheet of technical terms related to the topic
  - A link to a specifically crafted database of additional relevant resources

What is the easiest way for me to use these suites?

The suites are designed to provide helpful information on how to conduct or interpret rigorous evaluations. One strategy for using this suite effectively is to begin by watching the video or reading the video script. Then access resources listed by double clicking on the Inside this Suite page to learn more about specific topics mentioned in the video. You can review these resources online or print and take them with you.

What if the resources don’t directly answer my questions or I want to go deeper in the subject?

An evaluation resource database has been developed to complement the 5 Minute Evaluation Suite Series and can be accessed here. The database allows users to search and access resources such as research guides, reports, tools, and webinars that provide in-depth coverage of specific evaluation topics. See the Database User’s Guide for more information on how to most effectively use this database.