The 6 T's of Effective Literacy Instruction: Where To Go From Here?

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"AM I DOING THE BEST THAT I CAN FOR MY STUDENTS?"

"I don't feel that I'm doing enough"

"I'm so lost!"

-Teachers everywhere

•_•



If this is you, that is okay!



What are the 6 T's?



Time

At least half of the instructional time should be reading or writing.



Texts

Students need a wide variety of texts that they can read _____independently.



Teach

Instruction should be explicit and modeled!



Tasks

Tasks should be long and meaningful, rather than time fillers



Encourage talk between students and encourage open ended questions



Test

Grades for improvement and not just achievement

How Are We Doing Right Now? Take a moment and take inventory of your classroom.

- What are your students doing in their independent time time? Ex: What is their seat work while you are conducting reading groups?
- Are the texts accessible for our lower-achieving friends? In all subject areas?
- How much reading and writing are they actually doing during the day?





Instructional Strategy 1: Taking Time and

Thinking Texts



this?

- Students need a rich supply of books
 - Complex texts
- All students need a diet of texts
- Students are more motivated when they are successful
- More options are available to students
 - Multi-levels, diverse books
- "When Students who previously had not been engaged during language arts participated more during class discussions" (Wozniak, 2011)



Instructional Strategy 1: Taking Time and

Thinking Texts



How do we do this?

- Students need to be reading
 - Successfully and independently, guided reading, reading in all subjects, etc.
 - Successfully means that they can read with a 98% accuracy
 - Student choice
- MODEL, MODEL, MODEL



Instructional Strategy 1: Taking Time and

Thinking Texts



Implementation

- Independent reading can serve as a reading center
 - Independent reading can have a dedicated time in the classroom
 - Even 15-20 minutes will keep students engaged and motivated to read more (Wozniak, 2011)



"It is the high accuracy, fluent, and easily comprehended reading that provides the opportunities to integrate complex skills and strategies into an automatic, independent reading process"

(Allington, 2002)

Why/ How should we do this?

• Our goal as teachers is to create independent learners

Fasks

- We also want the focus to be centered on literacy
- These types of tasks can focus on literacy, but they also "foster self-regulated learning: authenticity, collaboration, challenge, an end product, self-direction, and sustained learning" (Parsons, 2008, p. 269)



How do we do this?

Fasks

- With longer, meaningful tasks, students are more likely to be engaged and have less off task behaviors
- By doing this, the work is more substantive, challenging, and requires students to have self-regulation and monitoring

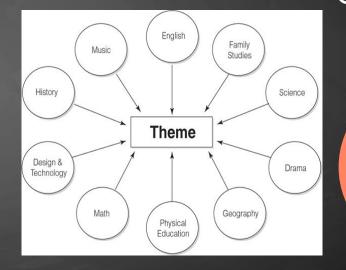


How does this impact our teaching?

- While students are rotating through literacy rotations (based on need, not level), they can be engaging in meaningful tasks
- My suggestions would be:

Fasks

- Research (independent or group) that ties into an integrated unit
- Independent Reading
- Real-life application writing
 - Letters, infographics, etc.



Let's Talk About

It



Tasks

Grab an SOL from the bin (science or social studies) Take about 10 minutes to think about different ways that you could integrate this into literacy instruction/ tasks that support literacy instruction

Why Does it Matter?

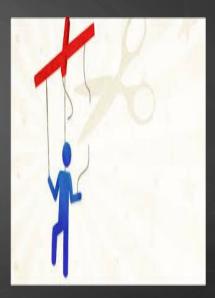
Who is Researching This and Who is it Impacting?

- Teachers of gifted students students are using the 6 T's to guide their instruction
 - According to their research talented readers seldomly receive instruction that challenges them. Instead they are receiving instruction that is not differentiated (Reis et al., 2004)
 - This is important because Allington mentioned that students need texts that challenge them.
 - This goes for all students
- Talk is another one of the T's (talk) which is beneficial for ELL students
 - Building communicative skills is great for oral language development and inclusion (Suleiman, 2013).



Impact on Student Learning

- Why is this PD important?
- More focus on literacy
- Students need to be READING
 - Independently, during guided reading
- Longer, more meaningful tasks to foster independence and self-regulation



References



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Thanks!

Questions? Let's Chat!

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