The Strategic Instruction Model / SIM Content Enhancement Strategies

Planning Routines

Course Organizer Routine helps teachers plan the entire course around the essential learning and critical concepts for the standards addressed for that course, at that grade level.

Unit Organizer is used to plan units of study: introducing the big ideas and making explicit how the unit, critical information and concepts are related. Consistent use of this routine improves understanding and retention by low- achieving and average students as reflected in unit test scores.

Lesson Organizer helps teachers plan and connect the content of a specific lesson to the unit and the course understandings. Regular use by teachers can have a significant influence on student learning.

Routines for Exploring Text, Topics and Details

Clarifying Routine helps focus on a topic's critical ideas and concepts, especially targeted words and phrases.

Framing Routine supports the transformation of abstract ideas into concrete representation with development of key topic and the essential details to understand that topic.

Order Routine teaches students to organize and make sense of information that they have read, by taking a second pass through the material and filling in gaps in notes and outlines.

Survey Routine helps students construct an overview for a reading assignment to sort out important information.

Routines for Teaching Concepts

Anchoring Routine introduces a new concept and connects or anchors it to familiar content, leading to better understanding and higher retention of ideas.

Concept Comparison Routine is used to compare and contrast key concepts.

Concept Mastery Routine helps define, summarize and explain a major concept within a larger body of information.

Routines for Increasing Performance

Quality Assignment Routine is used to plan present and engage students in quality assignments and then evaluate student's work. It reviews the components of a good assignment and important elements for planning, presentation, completion and evaluation thereof.

Question Exploration Routine is a set of instructional methods that teachers use to help diverse groups of students understand the content information around a critical question to arrive at a main idea.

Recall Enhancement Routine focuses on procedures that teachers can use to increase students' recall of critical information and therefore increases performance.

Vocabulary Lincing Routine employs both a visual and auditory devices to remember complex terms.

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